

SENATE BILL 525

R4, D3

9lr1087
CF 9lr3138

By: **Senators Hough, Benson, Lee, Waldstreicher, and Washington**

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2019

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Manufacturers and Dealers – Violations – Award of Damages**

3 FOR the purpose of establishing a certain minimum threshold for damages awarded to a
4 person who suffers financial injury or other damages as a result of certain violations
5 of certain provisions of law governing relationships between vehicle manufacturers
6 and dealers; and generally relating to the award of damages for certain violations
7 involving vehicle manufacturers and dealers.

8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

9 Article – Transportation

10 Section 15–213

11 Annotated Code of Maryland

12 (2012 Replacement Volume and 2018 Supplement)

13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,

14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

15 **Article – Transportation**

16 15–213.

17 (A) Notwithstanding any administrative or criminal sanctions imposed by this
18 subtitle, if a person suffers financial injury or other damage as a result of a violation of this
19 subtitle by any other person, whether or not that other person has been found guilty of a
20 criminal violation, the injured person may recover damages and reasonable attorneys' fees
21 in any court of competent jurisdiction.

22 (B) **DAMAGES AWARDED UNDER THIS SECTION FOR A VIOLATION**
23 **COMMITTED BY A MANUFACTURER, DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH SHALL BE**
24 **IN AN AMOUNT THAT IS AT LEAST TRIPLE THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF ALL FINANCIAL**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 INJURIES AND OTHER DAMAGES SUFFERED BY THE PERSON AS A RESULT OF THE
2 VIOLATION.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2019.