HB0431/213224/1

BY: Finance Committee

AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL 431

(Third Reading File Bill)

AMENDMENT NO. 1

On page 1, strike line 2 in its entirety and substitute:

"Consumer Protection - Consumer Contracts - Limitation Periods";

strike beginning with "establishing" in line 3 down through "contracts" in line 7 and substitute "prohibiting a consumer contract from setting a shorter time to bring an action under or on the consumer contract than required by the law of the State; excluding certain entities from the application of this Act; and generally relating to consumer contracts".

On pages 1 and 2, strike in their entirety the lines beginning with line 8 on page 1 through line 11 on page 2, inclusive, and substitute:

"BY adding to

<u>Article – Commercial Law</u>

Section 14–1328

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2013 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)".

AMENDMENT NO. 2

On page 2, strike in their entirety lines 15 through 22, inclusive, and substitute:

"14-1328.";

in line 26, after "(B)" insert "THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO:

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(1) ANY CONSUMER CONTRACT PROVIDED BY A BUSINESS, INCLUDING AN AFFILIATE OR A SUBSIDIARY OF THE BUSINESS, THAT IS DOING BUSINESS UNDER A LICENSE, FRANCHISE AGREEMENT, CERTIFICATE, OR OTHER AUTHORIZATION ISSUED BY A STATE AGENCY, POLITICAL SUBDIVISION, OR PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION;

(2) A SERVICE REGULATED BY:

- (I) THE MARYLAND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION;
- (II) THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION; OR
- (III) THE FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION; OR
- (3) A PERSON OR BUSINESS LICENSED TO PROVIDE SECURITY SYSTEM SERVICES UNDER TITLE 18 OF THE BUSINESS OCCUPATIONS AND PROFESSIONS ARTICLE.

(C)";

in the same line, strike "ANY" and substitute "A"; in line 27, strike "PERIOD OF"; in line 28, strike "UNDER" and substitute "BY"; in the same line, strike "AT THE TIME" and substitute "WHEN"; in line 29, after "AGAINST" insert "STATE"; in the same line, after "POLICY" insert ", ILLEGAL,"; and in line 30, strike "(C)" and substitute "(D)".

On page 3, strike in their entirety lines 4 through 9, inclusive; and in line 14, strike "October 1, 2025" and substitute "June 1, 2026".