

SENATE BILL 834

R4

5lr3049

By: **Senator Waldstreicher**

Introduced and read first time: January 28, 2025

Assigned to: Judicial Proceedings

Committee Report: Favorable

Senate action: Adopted

Read second time: February 24, 2025

CHAPTER _____

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Vehicle Laws – Manufacturers and Dealers – Prices Listed on Dealer Websites**

3 FOR the purpose of providing that a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch may not
4 take an adverse action against a dealer for disclosing certain information on prices
5 listed on its website; and generally relating to prices listed on dealer websites.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,

7 Article – Transportation

8 Section 15–207(h)

9 Annotated Code of Maryland

10 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

11 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

12 Article – Transportation

13 Section 15–313(a) and (b)

14 Annotated Code of Maryland

15 (2020 Replacement Volume and 2024 Supplement)

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

17 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

18 **Article – Transportation**

19 15–207.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.

Underlining indicates amendments to bill.

~~Strike out~~ indicates matter stricken from the bill by amendment or deleted from the law by amendment.



1 (h) (1) (i) Any consumer rebates, dealer incentives, price or interest rate
2 reductions, or finance terms that a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch offers or
3 advertises, or allows its dealers to offer or advertise, shall be offered to all dealers of the
4 same line make.

5 (ii) Any manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch that denies the
6 benefit of any consumer rebates, dealer incentives, price or interest rate reductions, or
7 finance terms to a dealer on the basis that the dealer failed to comply with performance
8 standards has the burden of proving that the performance standards comply with the
9 provisions of this section.

10 (2) Unless a dealer violates a State or local law intended to protect the
11 public, a manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch may not:

12 (i) Require a dealer to alter or replace an existing dealership
13 facility; or

14 (ii) Deny, or threaten to deny, any benefit generally available to all
15 dealers for a dealer's failure to alter or replace an existing dealership facility.

16 **(3) UNLESS A DEALER VIOLATES § 15-313(A) OR (B) OF THIS TITLE**
17 **OR A STATE OR LOCAL LAW INTENDED TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, A MANUFACTURER,**
18 **DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH MAY NOT TAKE AN ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST**
19 **A DEALER FOR DISCLOSING ON ITS WEBSITE THAT THE ADVERTISED PRICE OF A**
20 **VEHICLE IS THE MANUFACTURER'S MINIMUM ALLOWABLE ADVERTISED PRICE AND**
21 **THAT THE DEALER MAY OFFER A LOWER PRICE FOR THE VEHICLE.**

22 ~~[(3)]~~ (4) A manufacturer, distributor, or factory branch may not reduce
23 the price of a motor vehicle charged to a dealer or provide different financing terms to a
24 dealer in exchange for the dealer's agreement to:

25 (i) Maintain an exclusive sales or service facility;

26 (ii) Build or alter a sales or service facility; or

27 (iii) Participate in a floor plan or other financing arrangement.

28 **(5) NOTHING IN THIS SUBSECTION PROHIBITS A MANUFACTURER,**
29 **DISTRIBUTOR, OR FACTORY BRANCH FROM REQUIRING ALL DEALERS TO INCLUDE**
30 **FREIGHT OR DEALER PROCESSING CHARGES IN THE PRICES LISTED ON A DEALER'S**
31 **WEBSITE.**

32 15-313.

33 (a) A dealer or an agent or employee of a dealer may not use any advertisement
34 that is in any way false, deceptive, or misleading.

1 (b) A dealer or an agent or employee of a dealer may not by any means advertise
2 or offer to the public any vehicle without intent to sell it as advertised or offered.

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2025.

Approved:

Governor.

President of the Senate.

Speaker of the House of Delegates.