UNOFFICIAL COPY OF HOUSE BILL 588

5lr1438 CF 5lr2801

By: Delegate James

Introduced and read first time: February 4, 2005 Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concernin	ıg
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2 3	Consumer Protection - Claims and Defenses in Consumer Credit Contracts - Businesses					
4 5 6 7 8	OR the purpose of altering the definition of "consumer" to include a certain business for the purpose of preserving a consumer's claims and defenses in a consumer credit contract; specifying the rights and remedies provided to a certain consumer protected under a certain provision of law; and generally relating to consumer protection and consumer credit contracts.					
9 10 11 12 13	 Section 13-301(14)(vii) Annotated Code of Maryland 					
14 15 16 17 18	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments, Article - Commercial Law Section 14-1302 Annotated Code of Maryland (2000 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)					
 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows: 						
21	Article - Commercial Law					
22	13-301.					
23	Unfair or deceptive trade practices include any:					
24	(14) Violation of a provision of:					
25	(vii) Section 14-1302 of this article;					

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1	14-1302.		
2	(a)	(1)	In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.
3 4	organization	. (2)	"Person" means an individual, corporation, or any other business
5		(3)	"Consumer" means [a natural person]:
6 7	personal, fan	nily, or h	(I) AN INDIVIDUAL who seeks or acquires goods or services for ousehold use; OR
	FOR WHICI GUARANT		(II) A BUSINESS THAT ENTERS INTO A LOAN, CONTRACT, OR LEASE DIVIDUAL IS PERSONALLY LIABLE AS EITHER A SIGNATORY OR A
13	deferred pay	ment bas	"Creditor" means a person who, in the ordinary course of business, y or finances the sale of goods or services to consumers on a sis if that person is not acting, for the purposes of a particular pacity of a credit card issuer.
17 18	consumer in Act and Reg goods or ser	gulation Z	"Purchase money loan" means a cash advance which is received by a or a "finance charge" within the meaning of the Truth in Lending Z, which is applied, in whole or substantial part, to a purchase of m a seller who (i) refers consumers to the creditor or (ii) is editor by common control, contract, or business arrangement.
			"Financing a sale" means extending credit to a consumer in redit sale" within the meaning of the Truth in Lending Act and
25	between a c	ctivity in	"Contract" means any oral or written agreement, formal or informal, and a seller, which contemplates or provides for cooperative or connection with the sale of goods or services to consumers or the
	course of de		"Business arrangement" means any understanding, procedure, arrangement, formal or informal, between a creditor and a seller, e sale of goods or services to consumers or the financing thereof.
30 31		(9) a credit c	"Credit card issuer" means a person who extends to cardholders the ard in connection with purchases of goods or services.
	or embodies		"Consumer credit contract" means any instrument which evidences rising from a "purchase money loan" transaction or a "financed ragraphs (5) and (6) of this subsection.
35 36	goods or ser	(11) vices to c	"Seller" means a person who, in the ordinary course of business, sells consumers.

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1 (12) "Amounts paid by the debtor" shall include all amounts paid by the 2 debtor and any remaining amount due under the contract.

3 (b) In connection with any sale or lease in this State of goods or services to 4 consumers, it is an unfair or deceptive trade practice within the meaning of Title 13 of 5 this article for a seller, directly or indirectly, to:

6 (1) Take or receive a consumer credit contract which fails to contain the 7 following provision in at least ten point, boldface type:

8

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NOTICE

9 Any holder of this consumer credit contract is subject to all claims and defenses

10 which the debtor could assert against the seller of goods or services obtained pursuant

11 hereto or with the proceeds hereof. Recovery hereunder by the debtor shall not exceed

12 amounts paid by the debtor hereunder.

13 Or,

14 (2) Accept, as full or partial payment for such sale, the proceeds of any 15 purchase money loan, unless any consumer credit contract made in connection with 16 such purchase money loan contains the following provision in at least ten point, 17 boldface type:

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NOTICE

19 Any holder of this consumer credit contract is subject to all claims and defenses

20 which the debtor could assert against the seller of goods or services obtained with the

21 proceeds hereof. Recovery hereunder by the debtor shall not exceed amounts paid by

22 the debtor hereunder.

23 (c) (1) The provisions of this section do not apply where the seller:

24 [(1)] (I) Does not require a consumer credit contract which is a

25 negotiable instrument or which contains any provision pursuant to which the

26 consumer agrees to limit or waive claims or defenses which he may have against the

27 seller as to any holder of the consumer credit contract; and

28 [(2)] (II) Does not transfer, sell, pledge or assign a consumer credit

29 contract except under conditions where any transferee is subject to all claims and

30 defenses which the consumer has against the seller to the same extent as provided in 31 this section.

32 (2) ALL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES UNDER TITLE 13 OF THIS ARTICLE
 33 SHALL APPLY TO A VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION.

34 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 35 October 1, 2005.