
This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

Act No. 63 (S.47). Motor vehicles; dealers; manufacturers

An act relating to motor vehicle manufacturers, dealers, and warranty or service facilities

This act amends the definition of “new motor vehicle dealer” in 9 V.S.A. § 4085(13) for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors, and Dealers Franchising Practices Act, 9 V.S.A. chapter 108, and explicitly prohibits certain manufacturers from competing with new motor vehicle dealers by engaging in the activities listed in the amended definition of new motor vehicle dealer, with the explicit prohibition on these manufacturers engaging in the retail sale of parts and accessories and offering new motor vehicles through a subscription agreement not becoming effective until July 1, 2022.

This act also adds a definition for “non-franchised zero-emission vehicle manufacturer” as 9 V.S.A. § 4085(18) for purposes of the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors, and Dealers Franchising Practices Act, 9 V.S.A. chapter 108, and adds an exemption to allow non-franchised zero-emission vehicle manufacturers to own, operate, or control a warranty or service facility center in specific instances.

This act also expresses the General Assembly’s intent to amend the Motor Vehicle Manufacturers, Distributors, and Dealers Franchising Practices Act, 9 V.S.A. chapter 108, in the 2021 Adjourned Session and establishes a process for persons to make suggestions on amendments to the same and the establishment of a direct shipper license through the Department of Motor Vehicles for consideration by the General Assembly and requires that the Department of Motor Vehicles compile those suggestions and file a written report with all of the suggestions with the House and Senate Committees on Transportation, the House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development, and the Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs not later than January 15, 2022.

Multiple effective dates, beginning on June 7, 2021