1 AN ACT 2 relating to commercial motor vehicle installment sales. 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTION 1. Section 14.107(b), Finance Code, is amended to 4 5 read as follows: 6 The finance commission by rule shall set the fees for (b) 7 licensing and examination, as applicable, under Chapter 342, 347, 348, 351, 353, or 371 at amounts or rates necessary to recover the 8 9 costs of administering those chapters. The rules may provide that the amount of a fee charged to a license holder is based on the 10 11 volume of the license holder's regulated business and other key 12 factors. The commissioner may provide for collection of a single annual fee from a person licensed under Chapter 342, 347, 348, 351, 13 14 or 371 to include amounts due for both licensing and examination. SECTION 2. Sections 303.001(b) and (c), Finance Code, are 15 amended to read as follows: 16 (b) A contract that is subject to Chapter 342, 345, 347, 17 [or] 348, or 353, including a contract for an open-end account, may, 18

18 [or] 348, or 353, including a contract for an open-end account, may, 19 as an alternative to an interest rate or amount of time price 20 differential allowed under that chapter, provide for a simple or 21 precomputed rate or amount of time price differential that does not 22 exceed the applicable ceiling provided by this chapter or by the 23 equivalent yield authorized by Chapter 342, 345, 347, [or] 348, or 24 <u>353</u>.

(c) Except as inconsistent with this chapter, a party to a
 contract that is subject to Chapter 342, 345, 347, [or] 348, or 353,
 or the party's assignee, has all rights, duties, and obligations
 under the applicable chapter, including those relating to refund
 credits on prepayment or acceleration.

6 SECTION 3. Section 303.002, Finance Code, is amended to 7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 303.002. WEEKLY CEILING. The parties to a written 9 agreement may agree to an interest rate, or in an agreement 10 described by Chapter 345, 347, [or] 348, <u>or 353</u>, an amount of time 11 price differential producing a rate, that does not exceed the 12 applicable weekly ceiling.

13 SECTION 4. Section 303.402(a), Finance Code, is amended to 14 read as follows:

(a) A person who contracts for, charges, or receives under a contract subject to Chapter 342, 345, 346, 347, [or] 348, <u>or 353,</u> including a contract for an open-end account, a rate or amount of time price differential that exceeds the maximum applicable rate or amount authorized by the applicable chapter or this chapter is subject to a penalty for that violation determined under Chapter 349.

22 SECTION 5. Section 307.051(f), Finance Code, is amended to 23 read as follows:

24 (f) Collateral protection insurance does not include 25 insurance coverage that:

(1) is purchased by the creditor for which the debtoris not charged;

1 (2) is purchased at the inception of a credit 2 transaction in which the debtor is a party or to which the debtor 3 agrees, whether or not costs are included in a payment plan under 4 the credit transaction;

5 (3) is maintained by the creditor for the protection 6 of collateral that comes into the possession or control of the 7 creditor through foreclosure, repossession, or a similar event;

8 (4) is credit insurance, mortgage protection 9 insurance, insurance issued to cover the life or health of the 10 debtor, or any other insurance maintained to cover the inability or 11 failure of the debtor to make payment under the credit agreement;

12

(5) is title insurance;

13 (6) is flood insurance required to be placed by 14 creditors under Section 102, National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 15 (42 U.S.C. Section 4012a); or

16 (7) is insurance on a commercial vehicle securing a
17 retail installment contract under Chapter <u>353</u> [348].

18 SECTION 6. Section 341.502(a), Finance Code, is amended to 19 read as follows:

(a) A contract for a loan under Chapter 342, a retail
installment transaction under Chapter 348 [other than a contract
for a commercial vehicle], or a home equity loan regulated by the
Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner must be:

(1) written in plain language designed to be easilyunderstood by the average consumer; and

(2) printed in an easily readable font and type size.
 SECTION 7. Section 348.001(1-a), Finance Code, as added by

H.B. No. 2559 Chapter 238 (S.B. 1965), Acts of the 81st Legislature, Regular 1 Session, 2009, and Section 348.001(2), Finance Code, are amended to 2 3 read as follows: 4 (1-a) "Commercial vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 353.001 [means a motor vehicle that is not used primarily 5 for personal, family, or household use. The term includes: 6 7 [(A) a motor vehicle with a gross vehicular 8 weight of 10,001 pounds or more; 9 [(B) a motor vehicle that will be owned by a corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, or 10 other business entity formed, organized, or registered in this 11 12 state, another state, or another country; and [(C) a motor vehicle that will be part of a fleet 13 14 of five or more vehicles owned by the same person]. 15 (2) "Heavy commercial vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 353.001 [means: 16 17 [(A) a truck or truck tractor that: [(i) has a gross vehicular weight of 19,000 18 19 pounds or more; and 20 [(ii) is not used primarily for personal, family, or household use; or 21 [(B) a trailer or semitrailer designed for use in 22 combination with a vehicle described by Paragraph (A)]. 23 24 SECTION 8. Section 348.0015(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows: 25 26 (a) A motor vehicle that is not described by Section 353.001(1)(A) [348.001(1-a)(A)], (B), or (C) or a motor vehicle 27

H.B. No. 2559 1 that is of a type typically used for personal, family, or household use, as determined by finance commission rule, is presumed not to be 2 3 a commercial vehicle. SECTION 9. Section 348.006(c), Finance Code, is amended to 4 5 read as follows: (c) For a documentary fee to be included in the principal 6 balance of a retail installment contract: 7 8 (1) the retail seller must charge the documentary fee to cash buyers and credit buyers; 9 10 (2) the documentary fee may not exceed[+ [(A) for a motor vehicle retail installment 11 12 contract other than a contract for a commercial vehicle,] a reasonable amount agreed to by the retail seller and retail buyer 13 for the documentary services; [or 14 15 [(B) for a commercial vehicle retail installment 16 contract, an amount agreed to in writing by the retail seller and 17 retail buyer; and [except for a buyer's order or retail installment 18 (3) 19 contract for a commercial vehicle,] the buyer's order and the retail installment contract must include: 20 21 a statement of the amount of the documentary (A) fee; and 22 23 in reasonable proximity to the place in each (B) 24 where the amount of the documentary fee is disclosed, the following notice in type that is bold-faced, capitalized, underlined, or 25 26 otherwise conspicuously set out from surrounding written material: "A DOCUMENTARY FEE IS NOT AN OFFICIAL FEE. A DOCUMENTARY FEE 27

IS NOT REQUIRED BY LAW, BUT MAY BE CHARGED TO BUYERS FOR HANDLING
 DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE SALE. A DOCUMENTARY FEE MAY NOT EXCEED A
 REASONABLE AMOUNT AGREED TO BY THE PARTIES. THIS NOTICE IS REQUIRED
 BY LAW."

5 SECTION 10. Section 348.007, Finance Code, is amended by 6 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

7 (d) A retail installment transaction in which a retail buyer
8 purchases a motor vehicle that is a commercial vehicle is not
9 subject to this chapter and is subject to Chapter 353 if the retail
10 installment contract states that Chapter 353 applies.

11 SECTION 11. Sections 348.104(b) and (c), Finance Code, are 12 amended to read as follows:

(b) The add-on charge is \$7.50 per \$100 per year on the principal balance for a new motor vehicle[, other than a heavy commercial vehicle,] designated by the manufacturer by a model year that is not earlier than the year in which the sale is made.

17 (c) The add-on charge is \$10 per \$100 per year on the 18 principal balance for:

19 (1) a new motor vehicle not covered by Subsection (b);
20 <u>or</u>

(2) a used motor vehicle designated by the manufacturer by a model year that is not more than two years before the year in which the sale is made[; or;

24 [(3) a new or used heavy commercial vehicle designated 25 by the manufacturer by a model year that is not more than two years 26 before the year in which the sale is made].

27 SECTION 12. Section 348.107(a), Finance Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

(a) A retail installment contract may provide that if an
installment remains unpaid after the [10th day after the maturity
of the installment for a heavy commercial vehicle or after the] 15th
day after the maturity of the installment [for any other motor
wehicle] the holder may collect:

7 (1) a delinquency charge that does not exceed five8 percent of the amount of the installment; or

9 (2) interest on the amount of the installment accruing 10 after the maturity of the installment and until the installment is 11 paid in full at a rate that does not exceed the maximum rate 12 authorized for the contract.

13 SECTION 13. Section 348.109, Finance Code, is amended to 14 read as follows:

15 Sec. 348.109. ACCELERATION OF DEBT MATURITY. A retail 16 installment contract may not authorize the holder to accelerate the 17 maturity of all or a part of the amount owed under the contract 18 unless:

19 (1) the retail buyer is in default in the performance
20 of any of the buyer's obligations; <u>or</u>

21 (2) the holder believes in good faith that the 22 prospect of buyer's payment or performance is impaired[; or

[(3) if the retail installment contract is for a commercial vehicle, the retail buyer or an affiliate of the retail buyer is in default in its obligations under another financing agreement or leasing agreement held by the same holder or an affiliate of the holder].

1 SECTION 14. Section 348.120(b), Finance Code, is amended to 2 read as follows:

3 (b) On a contract for a motor vehicle [other than a heavy 4 commercial vehicle] the minimum amount of the refund credit is 5 computed by:

6 (1) subtracting an acquisition cost of \$25 from the 7 original time price differential; and

8 (2) multiplying the amount computed under Subdivision9 (1) by the percentage of refund computed under Subsection (d).

10 SECTION 15. Section 348.213(b), Finance Code, is amended to 11 read as follows:

(b) A policy of insurance described by Subsection (a) must comply with the applicable requirements of Sections 348.201, 348.203, [and] 348.208, and[, except if the policy relates to a retail installment contract for a commercial vehicle, Section] 348.209.

SECTION 16. Section 348.413(b), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) The holder may charge for the transfer of equity an
amount that does not exceed[+

21 [(1)] \$25 [for a motor vehicle that is not a heavy 22 commercial vehicle; or

23

[(2) \$50 for a heavy commercial vehicle].

24 SECTION 17. Subtitle B, Title 4, Finance Code, is amended by 25 adding Chapter 353 to read as follows:

1	CHAPTER 353. COMMERCIAL MOTOR VEHICLE INSTALLMENT SALES
2	SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
3	Sec. 353.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
4	(1) "Commercial vehicle" means a motor vehicle that is
5	not used primarily for personal, family, or household use. The term
6	includes:
7	(A) a motor vehicle with a gross vehicular weight
8	of 10,001 pounds or more;
9	(B) a motor vehicle that will be owned by a
10	corporation, limited liability company, limited partnership, or
11	other business entity formed, organized, or registered in this
12	state, another state, or another country; and
13	(C) a motor vehicle that will be part of a fleet
14	of five or more vehicles owned by the same person.
15	(2) "Debt cancellation agreement" means an agreement
16	of the holder of the retail installment contract to waive:
17	(A) all or part of the difference between the
18	amount owed under a retail installment contract and the amount paid
19	under a physical damage insurance policy maintained by the retail
20	buyer or its assign, in the event of a total loss or theft of the
21	<pre>commercial vehicle;</pre>
22	(B) all or part of the amount owed under the
23	retail installment contract, in the event of the death of the retail
24	buyer; or
25	(C) one or more payments owed under the retail
26	installment contract, in the event of the disability of the retail
27	buyer.

1	(3) "Heavy commercial vehicle" means:
2	(A) a commercial vehicle that has a gross
3	vehicular weight of 19,000 pounds or more; or
4	(B) a trailer or semitrailer designed for use in
5	combination with a vehicle described by Paragraph (A).
6	(4) "Holder" means a person who is:
7	(A) a retail seller; or
8	(B) the assignee or transferee of a retail
9	installment contract.
10	(5) "Motor vehicle" has the meaning assigned by
11	<u>Section 348.001.</u>
12	(6) "Precomputed earnings method" means a method of
13	computing the time price differential in which the time price
14	differential is computed at the inception of the contract based on
15	the principal balance for the full contract term, as if the
16	principal balance under the contract will not decline over the term
17	of the contract, and in which the retail buyer agrees to pay the
18	total of payments that includes both the principal balance of the
19	contract and the time price differential.
20	(7) "Retail buyer" means a person who purchases or
21	agrees to purchase a commercial vehicle from a retail seller in a
22	retail installment transaction.
23	(8) "Retail installment contract" means one or more
24	instruments entered into in this state that evidence a retail
25	installment transaction. The term includes a security agreement and
26	a document that evidences a bailment or lease described by Section
27	353.003.

H.B. No. 2559 1 (9) "Retail installment transaction" means a 2 transaction in which a retail buyer purchases a commercial vehicle from a retail seller other than principally for the purpose of 3 resale and agrees with the retail seller to pay part or all of the 4 5 cash price in one or more deferred installments. 6 (10) "Retail seller" means a person in the business of 7 selling commercial vehicles to retail buyers in retail installment 8 transactions. (11) "Scheduled installment earnings method" means a 9 10 method of computing the time price differential by applying a daily rate to the unpaid principal balance as if each scheduled payment 11 12 will be paid on the payment's scheduled installment date. (12) "Time price differential" means the total amount 13 14 added to the principal balance to determine the balance of the 15 retail buyer's indebtedness under a retail installment contract. 16 (13) "True daily earnings method" means a method of 17 computing the time price differential by applying a daily rate to the unpaid principal balance based on the actual payment date as 18 19 provided by Section 353.016. Sec. 353.002. PRESUMPTION REGARDING NONCOMMERCIAL 20 VEHICLES; EXCEPTION. (a) A motor vehicle that is not described by 21 Section 353.001(1)(A), (B), or (C) or a motor vehicle that is of a 22 type typically used for personal, family, or household use, as 23 24 determined by finance commission rule, is presumed not to be a 25 commercial vehicle. 26 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), if a retail buyer represents in writing that a motor vehicle is not for personal, 27

1 family, or household use, or that the vehicle is for commercial use, a retail seller or holder may rely on that representation unless the 2 retail seller or holder, as applicable, has actual knowledge that 3 4 the representation is not true. 5 Sec. 353.003. BAILMENT OR LEASE AS RETAIL INSTALLMENT TRANSACTION. (a) A bailment or lease of a commercial vehicle is a 6 7 retail installment transaction if the bailee or lessee: 8 (1) contracts to pay as compensation for use of the vehicle an amount that is substantially equal to or exceeds the 9 10 value of the vehicle; and (2) on full compliance with the bailment or lease is 11 12 bound to become the owner or, for no or nominal additional consideration, has the option to become the owner of the vehicle. 13 14 (b) An agreement for the lease of a commercial vehicle does 15 not create a retail installment transaction by merely providing that the rental price is permitted or required to be adjusted under 16 17 the agreement as determined by the amount realized on the sale or other disposition of the vehicle, as provided by Section 501.112, 18 19 Transportation Code. Sec. 353.004. CLASSIFICATION AS RETAIL 20 INSTALLMENT TRANSACTION UNAFFECTED. A transaction is not excluded as a retail 21 22 installment transaction because: 23 (1) the retail seller arranges to transfer the retail 24 buyer's obligation; 25 (2) the amount of any charge in the transaction is 26 determined by reference to a chart or other information furnished 27 by a financing institution;

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1	(3) a form for all or part of the retail installment
2	contract is furnished by a financing institution; or
3	(4) the credit standing of the retail buyer is
4	evaluated by a financing institution.
5	Sec. 353.005. CASH PRICE. (a) The cash price is the price
6	at which the retail seller offers in the ordinary course of business
7	to sell for cash the goods or services that are subject to the
8	transaction. An advertised price does not necessarily establish a
9	cash price.
10	(b) The cash price does not include any finance charge.
11	(c) At the retail seller's option, the cash price may
12	include:
13	(1) the price of accessories;
14	(2) the price of services related to the sale;
15	(3) the price of service contracts;
16	(4) taxes; and
17	(5) fees for license, title, and registration.
18	Sec. 353.006. ITEMIZED CHARGE. An amount in a retail
19	installment contract is an itemized charge if the amount is not
20	included in the cash price and is the amount of:
21	(1) fees for registration, certificate of title, and
22	license and any additional registration fees charged by a full
23	service deputy under Section 502.114, Transportation Code;
24	(2) any taxes;
25	(3) fees or charges prescribed by law and connected
26	with the sale or inspection of the commercial vehicle;
27	(4) charges authorized for insurance, service

1	contracts, and warranties by Subchapter C; and
2	(5) advances or payments authorized under Section
3	353.402(b) or (c) made by the retail seller to or for the benefit of
4	the retail buyer.
5	Sec. 353.007. ADDITIONAL CHARGES PERMITTED. (a) In
6	addition to the amounts allowed under Sections 353.005 and 353.006,
7	the following amounts may be included as an itemized charge or in
8	the cash price in a retail installment contract for a commercial
9	vehicle:
10	(1) any fees prescribed by law;
11	(2) any amounts charged by a titling or registration
12	service relating to the sale;
13	(3) any other amount agreed to by the retail buyer and
14	retail seller, including amounts payable to the retail seller or
15	another person for the provision of goods or services relating to:
16	(A) the commercial vehicle;
17	(B) the sale or use of the commercial vehicle; or
18	(C) the retail buyer's business in which the
19	commercial vehicle will be used; and
20	(4) an amount paid to the retail seller or other person
21	as consideration for a debt cancellation agreement.
22	(b) If a charge for a debt cancellation agreement is
23	included in the contract, the contract and debt cancellation
24	agreement must each conspicuously disclose that the debt
25	cancellation agreement is optional.
26	(c) Notwithstanding any other law, a charge for a debt
27	cancellation agreement is not a charge for insurance, and the sale,

1	provision, or waiving of a balance owed or other action relating to
2	a debt cancellation agreement is not considered insurance or
3	engaging in the business of insurance.
4	Sec. 353.008. PRINCIPAL BALANCE; INCLUSION OF DOCUMENTARY
5	FEE. (a) The principal balance under a retail installment contract
6	is computed by:
7	(1) adding:
8	(A) the cash price of the commercial vehicle;
9	(B) each amount included in the retail
10	installment contract for an itemized charge; and
11	(C) subject to Subsection (c), a documentary fee
12	for services rendered for or on behalf of the retail buyer in
13	handling and processing documents relating to the sale of the
14	commercial vehicle; and
15	(2) subtracting from the results under Subdivision (1)
16	the amount of the retail buyer's down payment in money, goods, or
17	both.
18	(b) The computation of the principal balance may include an
19	amount authorized under Section 353.402(b).
20	(c) For a documentary fee to be included in the principal
21	balance of a retail installment contract:
22	(1) the retail seller must charge the documentary fee
23	to cash buyers and credit buyers; and
24	(2) the documentary fee may not exceed an amount
25	agreed to in writing by the retail seller and retail buyer.
26	Sec. 353.009. APPLICABILITY OF CHAPTER. (a) Except as
27	provided by this section, this chapter applies to a retail

1	installment transaction for a commercial vehicle if the retail
2	installment contract states that this chapter applies.
3	(b) If a retail installment contract does not state that
4	this chapter applies, the transaction is governed by Chapter 348,
5	and this chapter does not apply.
6	(c) This chapter does not affect or apply to a loan made or
7	the business of making loans under other law of this state and does
8	not affect a rule of law applicable to a retail installment sale
9	that is not a retail installment transaction.
10	(d) The provisions of this chapter defining specific rates
11	and amounts of charges and requiring certain credit disclosures to
12	be made control over any contrary law of this state respecting those
13	subjects.
14	Sec. 353.010. APPLICABILITY OF OTHER STATUTES TO RETAIL
15	INSTALLMENT TRANSACTION. (a) A loan or interest statute of this
16	state, other than Chapter 303, does not apply to a retail
17	installment transaction subject to this chapter.
18	(b) Except as provided by this chapter, an applicable
19	statute, including Title 1 and Chapter 322, Business & Commerce
20	Code, or a principle of common law continues to apply to a retail
21	installment transaction unless it is displaced by this chapter.
22	Sec. 353.011. FEDERAL DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS. If a
23	disclosure requirement of this chapter and one of a federal law,
24	including a regulation or an interpretation of federal law, are
25	inconsistent or conflict, federal law controls and the inconsistent
26	or conflicting disclosures required by this chapter need not be
27	given.

1	Sec. 353.012. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ALLOWED IN CONTRACT.
2	Information not required by this chapter may be included in a retail
3	installment contract.
4	Sec. 353.013. ORDER OF ITEMS IN CONTRACT. Items required by
5	this chapter to be in a retail installment contract are not required
6	to be stated in the order set forth in this chapter.
7	Sec. 353.014. APPLICABILITY OF INSURANCE PREMIUM FINANCING
8	PROVISIONS. Chapter 651, Insurance Code, does not apply to a retail
9	installment transaction.
10	Sec. 353.015. CONDITIONAL DELIVERY AGREEMENT. (a) In this
11	section, "conditional delivery agreement" means a contract between
12	a retail seller and prospective retail buyer under the terms of
13	which the retail seller allows the prospective retail buyer the use
14	and benefit of a commercial vehicle for a specified term.
15	(b) A retail seller and prospective retail buyer may enter
16	into a conditional delivery agreement.
17	(c) A conditional delivery agreement is:
18	(1) an enforceable contract; and
19	(2) void on the execution of a retail installment
20	contract between the parties to the conditional delivery agreement
21	for the sale of the commercial vehicle that is the subject of the
22	conditional delivery agreement.
23	(d) A conditional delivery agreement may only confer rights
24	consistent with this section and may not confer any legal or
25	equitable rights of ownership, including ownership of the
26	commercial vehicle that is the subject of the conditional delivery
27	agreement.

1	(e) A conditional delivery agreement may not exceed a term
2	of 15 days.
3	(f) If a prospective retail buyer tenders to a retail seller
4	a trade-in motor vehicle in connection with a conditional delivery
5	agreement:
6	(1) the parties must agree on the value of the trade-in
7	motor vehicle;
8	(2) the conditional delivery agreement must contain
9	the agreed value of the trade-in motor vehicle described by
10	Subdivision (1); and
11	(3) the retail seller must use reasonable care to
12	conserve the trade-in motor vehicle while the vehicle is in the
13	retail seller's possession.
14	(g) If the parties to a conditional delivery agreement do
15	not subsequently enter into a retail installment contract for the
16	sale of the commercial vehicle that is the subject of the
17	conditional delivery agreement, the retail seller shall, not later
18	than the seventh day after termination of the conditional delivery
19	agreement:
20	(1) deliver to the prospective retail buyer any
21	trade-in motor vehicle that the prospective retail buyer tendered
22	in connection with the conditional delivery agreement in the same
23	or substantially the same condition as it was at the time of
24	execution of the agreement and shall return any down payment or
25	other consideration received from the prospective retail buyer in
26	connection with the agreement; or
27	(2) if the trade-in motor vehicle cannot be returned

1 in the same or substantially the same condition as it was at the 2 time of execution of the conditional delivery agreement, deliver to 3 the prospective retail buyer a sum of money equal to the agreed value of the trade-in motor vehicle as described by Subsection (f) 4 5 and shall return any down payment or other consideration described 6 by Subdivision (1). 7 (h) Any money that a retail seller is obligated to provide a 8 prospective retail buyer under Subsection (g) must be tendered at the same time that the trade-in motor vehicle is delivered for 9 10 return to the prospective retail buyer or when the trade-in motor vehicle would have been delivered if the vehicle was damaged or 11 12 could not be returned. (i) If a prospective retail buyer returns a commercial 13 vehicle under a conditional delivery agreement at the request of 14 the retail seller, the retail seller, notwithstanding the period 15 prescribed by Subsection (g), must return the trade-in vehicle at 16 17 the same time that the commercial vehicle under the conditional delivery agreement is returned by the prospective retail buyer. 18 19 (j) The prospective retail buyer shall return the commercial vehicle received under the conditional delivery 20 agreement in the same or substantially the same condition as it was 21 22 at the time of the execution of the conditional delivery agreement. (k) An amount paid or required to be paid by the retail 23 24 seller under Subsection (g) is subject to review by the commissioner. If the commissioner determines that the retail 25 26 seller in fact owes the prospective retail buyer a certain amount under Subsection (g), the commissioner may order the retail seller 27

1 to pay the amount to the prospective retail buyer. If the trade-in motor vehicle is not returned by the retail seller in accordance 2 3 with this section and the retail seller does not pay the prospective retail buyer an amount equal to the agreed value of the trade-in 4 5 motor vehicle within the period prescribed by this section, the commissioner may assess an administrative penalty against the 6 7 retail seller in an amount that is reasonable in relation to the value of the trade-in motor vehicle. The commissioner shall 8 provide notice to the retail seller and the prospective retail 9 10 buyer of the commissioner's determination under this subsection.

11 (1) Not later than the 30th day after the date the parties 12 receive notice of the commissioner's determination under Subsection (k), the retail seller or prospective retail buyer may 13 file with the commissioner an appeal of the commissioner's 14 15 determination requesting a time and place for a hearing before a hearings officer designated by the commissioner. A hearing under 16 17 this subsection is governed by Chapter 2001, Government Code. After the hearing, based on the findings of fact, conclusions of 18 19 law, and recommendations of the hearings officer, the commissioner shall enter a final order. 20

(m) A person who files an appeal under Subsection (1) is required to pay a deposit to secure the payment of the costs of the hearing in a reasonable amount as determined by the commissioner, unless the person cannot afford to pay the deposit and files an affidavit to that effect with the hearings officer in the form and content prescribed by finance commission rule. The entire deposit must be refunded to the person if the person prevails at the

H.B. No. 2559 hearing. If the person does not prevail, any portion of the deposit 1 2 in excess of the costs of the hearing assessed against the person is 3 refundable. 4 (n) Notice of the commissioner's final order under 5 Subsection (1), given to the person in accordance with Chapter 2001, Government Code, must include a statement of the person's 6 7 right to judicial review of the order. 8 (o) The hearings officer may order the retail seller or the prospective retail buyer, or both, to pay reasonable expenses 9 incurred by the commissioner in connection with obtaining a final 10 order under Subsection (1), including attorney's fees, 11 12 <u>investigative costs, and</u> witness fees. (p) This section does not: 13 14 (1) apply to a bailment agreement under Section 15 353.003; or (2) create a private right of action. 16 17 (q) Except as otherwise provided by this section, the commissioner has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce this section. 18 19 Sec. 353.016. COMPUTATION OF TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL USING TRUE DAILY EARNINGS METHOD. Under the true daily earnings method, 20 the earned time price differential is computed by multiplying the 21 daily rate of the time price differential by the number of days the 22 actual unpaid principal balance is outstanding. Under this method: 23 24 (1) a payment is credited at the time received, with a payment received before the scheduled installment date resulting in 25 26 a greater reduction in the unpaid principal balance than otherwise scheduled, and a payment received after the scheduled installment 27

1	date resulting in less of a reduction in the unpaid principal
2	balance than otherwise scheduled;
3	(2) a partial payment is applied first to time price
4	differential with any remainder applied to the unpaid principal
5	balance; and
6	(3) accrued but unpaid time price differential is not:
7	(A) added to the unpaid principal balance; or
8	(B) compounded.
9	[Sections 353.017-353.100 reserved for expansion]
10	SUBCHAPTER B. RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACT
11	Sec. 353.101. RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACT GENERAL
12	REQUIREMENTS. (a) A retail installment contract is required for
13	each retail installment transaction in which the retail buyer is
14	purchasing a commercial vehicle. A retail installment contract may
15	be more than one document.
16	(b) A retail installment contract must be:
17	(1) in writing;
18	(2) dated;
19	(3) signed by the retail buyer and retail seller; and
20	(4) completed as to all essential provisions before it
21	is signed by the retail buyer except as provided by Subsection (d).
22	(c) The printed part of a retail installment contract, other
23	than instructions for completion, must be in at least eight-point
24	type unless a different size of type is required under this
25	subchapter.
26	(d) If the commercial vehicle is not delivered when the
27	retail installment contract is executed, the following information

H.B. No. 2559 may be inserted after the contract is executed: 1 2 (1) the identifying numbers or marks of the vehicle or 3 similar information; and 4 (2) the due date of the first installment. 5 Sec. 353.102. CONTRACT CONDITIONED ON SUBSEQUENT ASSIGNMENT PROHIBITED. (a) A retail installment contract may not 6 7 be conditioned on the subsequent assignment of the contract to a 8 holder. (b) A provision in violation of this section is void. This 9 subsection does not affect the validity of other provisions of the 10 contract that may be given effect without the voided provision, and 11 12 to that extent those provisions are severable. (c) This section does not create a private right of action. 13 14 (d) The commissioner has exclusive jurisdiction to enforce 15 this section. 16 Sec. 353.103. TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL FOR RETAIL 17 INSTALLMENT CONTRACT. (a) A retail installment contract may provide for: 18 (1) any amount of time price differential permitted 19 under Section 353.104, 353.105, or 353.106; or 20 21 (2) any rate of time price differential not exceeding a yield permitted under Section 353.104, 353.105, or 353.106. 22 (b) The time price differential may be computed using the: 23 24 precomputed earnings method; (2) scheduled installment earnings method; or 25 26 (3) true daily earnings method. Sec. 353.104. TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL FOR CONTRACT WITH 27

H.B. No. 2559 EQUAL MONTHLY SUCCESSIVE PAYMENTS. (a) A retail installment 1 contract that is payable in substantially equal successive monthly 2 3 installments beginning one month after the date of the contract may provide for a time price differential that does not exceed the 4 5 add-on charge provided by this section. 6 (b) The add-on charge is \$7.50 per \$100 per year on the 7 principal balance for a new commercial vehicle, other than a heavy commercial vehicle, designated by the manufacturer by a model year 8 that is not earlier than the year in which the sale is made. 9 10 (c) The add-on charge is \$10 per \$100 per year on the principal balance for: 11 12 (1) a new commercial vehicle not covered by Subsection 13 (b); 14 (2) a used commercial vehicle designated by the 15 manufacturer by a model year that is not more than two years before the year in which the sale is made; or 16 17 (3) a new or used heavy commercial vehicle designated by the manufacturer by a model year that is not more than two years 18 19 before the year in which the sale is made. (d) The add-on charge is \$12.50 per \$100 per year on the 20 principal balance for a used commercial vehicle not covered by 21 Subsection (c) that is a commercial vehicle designated by the 22 manufacturer by a model year that is not more than four years before 23 24 the year in which the sale is made. 25 (e) For a used commercial vehicle not covered by Subsection 26 (c) or (d), the add-on charge is: 27 (1) \$15 per \$100 per year on the principal balance; or

1 (2) \$18 per \$100 per year on the principal balance if 2 the principal balance under the retail installment contract does 3 not exceed \$300. 4 (f) The time price differential is computed on the original 5 principal balance under the retail installment contract from the date of the contract until the maturity of the final installment, 6 7 notwithstanding that the balance is payable in installments. (g) If the retail installment contract is payable for a 8 period that is shorter or longer than a year or is for an amount that 9 is less or greater than \$100, the amount of the maximum time price 10 differential computed under this section is decreased or increased 11 12 proportionately. (h) For the purpose of a computation under this section, 16 13 14 or more days of a month may be considered a full month. 15 Sec. 353.105. USE OF OPTIONAL CEILING. As an alternative to the maximum rate or amount authorized for a time price differential 16 17 under Section 353.104 or 353.106, a retail installment contract may provide for a rate or amount of time price differential that does 18 19 not exceed the rate or amount authorized by Chapter 303. Sec. 353.106. TIME PRICE DIFFERENTIAL FOR OTHER CONTRACTS. 20 A retail installment contract that is payable other than in 21 substantially equal successive monthly installments or the first 22 installment of which is not payable one month from the date of the 23 24 contract may provide for a time price differential that does not exceed an amount that, having due regard for the schedule of 25 26 payments, provides the same effective return as if the contract were payable in substantially equal successive monthly 27

1	installments beginning one month from the date of the contract.
2	Sec. 353.107. CHARGE FOR DEFAULT IN PAYMENT OF INSTALLMENT.
3	(a) A retail installment contract may provide that if an
4	installment remains unpaid after the 10th day after the maturity of
5	the installment for a heavy commercial vehicle or after the 15th day
6	after the maturity of the installment for any other commercial
7	vehicle the holder may collect:
8	(1) a delinquency charge that does not exceed five
9	percent of the amount of the installment; or
10	(2) interest on the amount of the installment accruing
11	after the maturity of the installment and until the installment is
12	paid in full at a rate that does not exceed the maximum rate
13	authorized for the contract.
14	(b) A retail installment contract that provides for the true
15	daily earnings method or the scheduled installment earnings method
16	may provide for the delinquency charge authorized by Subsection
17	(a)(1), the interest authorized by Subsection (a)(2), or both.
18	(c) Only one delinquency charge under Subsection (a)(1) may
19	be collected on an installment under this section regardless of the
20	duration of the default.
21	Sec. 353.108. CHARGES FOR COLLECTING DEBT. A retail
22	installment contract may provide for the payment of:
23	(1) reasonable attorney's fees if the contract is
24	referred for collection to an attorney who is not a salaried
25	employee of the holder;
26	(2) court costs and disbursements; and
27	(3) reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in

1 connection with the repossession or sequestration of the commercial vehicle securing the payment of the contract or foreclosure of a 2 security interest in the vehicle, including the costs of storing, 3 reconditioning, and reselling the vehicle, subject to the standards 4 5 of good faith and commercial reasonableness set by Title 1, Business & Commerce Code. 6 Sec. 353.109. ACCELERATION OF DEBT MATURITY. A retail 7 8 installment contract may not authorize the holder to accelerate the maturity of all or a part of the amount owed under the contract 9 10 unless: (1) the retail buyer is in default in the performance 11 12 of any of the buyer's obligations; (2) the holder believes in good faith that the 13 14 prospect of the buyer's payment or performance is impaired; or 15 (3) the retail buyer or an affiliate of the retail buyer is in default in its obligations under another financing 16 17 agreement or leasing agreement held by the same holder or an affiliate of the holder. 18 19 Sec. 353.110. DELIVERY OF COPY OF CONTRACT. A retail seller 20 shall: 21 (1) deliver to the retail buyer a copy of the retail 22 installment contract as accepted by the retail seller; or (2) mail to the retail buyer at the address shown on 23 24 the retail installment contract a copy of the retail installment contract as accepted by the retail seller. 25 26 Sec. 353.111. BUYER'S RIGHT TO RESCIND CONTRACT. Until the retail seller complies with Section 353.110, a retail buyer who has 27

1 not received delivery of the commercial vehicle is entitled to: 2 (1) rescind the contract; 3 (2) receive a refund of all payments made under or in contemplation of the contract; and 4 5 (3) receive the return of all goods traded in to the retail seller under or in contemplation of the contract or, if those 6 7 goods cannot be returned, to receive the value of those goods. Sec. 353.112. BUYER'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF DELIVERY 8 OF CONTRACT COPY. (a) Any retail buyer's acknowledgment of delivery 9 10 of a copy of the retail installment contract must: (1) be in at least 10-point type that is boldfaced, 11 12 capitalized, or underlined or otherwise conspicuously set out from the surrounding written material; and 13 14 (2) appear directly above the buyer's signature. 15 (b) Any retail buyer's acknowledgment conforming to this section of delivery of a copy of the retail installment contract is, 16 17 in an action or proceeding by or against a holder of the contract who was without knowledge to the contrary when the holder purchased 18 19 it, conclusive proof: 20 (1) that the copy was delivered to the buyer; 21 (2) that the contract did not contain a blank space 22 that was required to have been completed under this chapter when the contract was signed by the buyer; and 23 24 (3) of compliance with Sections 353.011, 353.101, 353.205, 353.403, 353.404, and 353.405. 25 26 Sec. 353.113. AMENDMENT OF RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACT. On

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request by a retail buyer, the holder may agree to one or more

H.B. No. 2559 1 amendments to the retail installment contract to: 2 (1) extend or defer the scheduled due date of all or a 3 part of one or more installments; or 4 (2) renew, restate, or reschedule the unpaid balance 5 under the contract. 6 Sec. 353.114. CHARGES FOR DEFERRING INSTALLMENT. (a) If a 7 retail installment contract is amended to defer all or a part of one 8 or more installments for not longer than three months, the holder may collect from the retail buyer: 9 (1) an amount computed on the amount deferred for the 10 period of deferment at a rate that does not exceed the effective 11 12 return for time price differential permitted for a monthly payment retail installment contract; and 13 14 (2) the amount of the additional cost to the holder 15 for: 16 (A) premiums for continuing in force any 17 insurance coverages provided for by the contract; and 18 (B) any additional necessary official fees. 19 (b) The minimum charge under Subsection (a)(1) is \$1. Sec. 353.115. CHARGE FOR OTHER AMENDMENT. (a) If the 20 unpaid balance of a retail installment contract is extended, 21 renewed, restated, or rescheduled under this subchapter and Section 22 353.114 does not apply, the holder may collect an amount computed on 23 24 the principal balance of the amended contract for the term of the amended contract at the time price differential for a retail 25 26 installment contract that is applicable after reclassifying the commercial vehicle by its model year at the time of the amendment. 27

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1	(b) The principal balance of the amended contract is
2	computed by:
3	(1) adding:
4	(A) the unpaid balance as of the date of
5	amendment;
6	(B) the cost of any insurance incidental to the
7	amendment;
8	(C) the amount of each additional necessary
9	official fee; and
10	(D) the amount of each accrued delinguency or
11	collection charge; and
12	(2) if the time price differential was computed using
13	the precomputed earnings method or the scheduled installment
14	earnings method, subtracting from the total computed under
15	Subdivision (1) an amount equal to the prepayment refund credit
16	required by Section 353.120 or 353.121, as applicable.
17	(c) Subsection (b)(2) does not apply to a retail installment
18	contract in which the time price differential is computed using the
19	true daily earnings method.
20	(d) The provisions of this chapter relating to acquisition
21	costs under the refund schedule under Section 353.120 do not apply
22	in computing the principal balance of the amended contract.
23	Sec. 353.116. CONFIRMATION OF AMENDMENT. An amendment to a
24	retail installment contract must be confirmed in a writing signed
25	by the retail buyer. The holder shall:
26	(1) deliver a copy of the confirmation to the buyer; or
27	(2) mail a copy of the confirmation to the buyer at the

1	buyer's most recent address shown on the records of the holder.
2	Sec. 353.117. CONTRACT AFTER AMENDMENT. After amendment
3	the retail installment contract is the original contract and each
4	amendment to the original contract.
5	Sec. 353.118. PREPAYMENT OF CONTRACT. A retail buyer may
6	prepay a retail installment contract in full at any time before
7	maturity. This section prevails over a conflicting provision of the
8	contract.
9	Sec. 353.119. REFUND CREDIT ON PREPAYMENT. (a) This
10	section does not apply to a retail installment contract in which the
11	time price differential is computed using the true daily earnings
12	method.
13	(b) If a retail buyer prepays a retail installment contract
14	in full or if the holder of the contract demands payment of the
15	unpaid balance of the contract in full before the contract's final
16	installment is due and the time price differential is computed
17	using the precomputed earnings method or the scheduled installment
18	earnings method, the buyer is entitled to receive a refund credit as
19	provided by Section 353.120 or 353.121, as applicable.
20	Sec. 353.120. AMOUNT OF REFUND CREDIT FOR MONTHLY
21	INSTALLMENT CONTRACT. (a) This section:
22	(1) applies only to a refund credit on the prepayment
23	of a retail installment contract that is payable in substantially
24	equal successive monthly installments beginning one month after the
25	date of the contract; and
26	(2) does not apply to a retail installment contract in
27	which the time price differential is computed using the true daily

1	earnings method or the scheduled installment earnings method.
2	(b) On a contract for a commercial vehicle other than a
3	heavy commercial vehicle the minimum amount of the refund credit is
4	computed by:
5	(1) subtracting an acquisition cost of \$25 from the
6	original time price differential; and
7	(2) multiplying the amount computed under Subdivision
8	(1) by the percentage of refund computed under Subsection (d).
9	(c) On a contract for a heavy commercial vehicle the minimum
10	amount of the refund credit is computed by:
11	(1) multiplying the amount of the original time price
12	differential by the percentage of refund computed under Subsection
13	(d); and
14	(2) subtracting an acquisition cost of \$150 from the
15	amount computed under Subdivision (1).
16	(d) The percentage of refund is computed by:
17	(1) computing the sum of all of the monthly balances
18	under the contract's schedule of payments; and
19	(2) dividing the amount computed under Subdivision (1)
20	into the sum of the unpaid monthly balances under the contract's
21	schedule of payments beginning:
22	(A) on the first day, after the date of the
23	prepayment or demand for payment in full, that is the date of a
24	month that corresponds to the date of the month that the first
25	installment is due under the contract; or
26	(B) if the prepayment or demand for payment in
27	full is made before the first installment date under the contract,

H.B. No. 2559 1 one month after the next monthly anniversary date of the contract 2 occurring after the prepayment or demand. (e) A refund credit is not required if the amount of the 3 refund credit is less than \$1. 4 5 Sec. 353.121. REFUND ON CONTRACTS USING SCHEDULED INSTALLMENT EARNINGS METHOD. (a) This section: 6 7 (1) applies to a retail installment contract: 8 (A) that includes precomputed time price differential; and 9 10 (B) to which Section 353.120 does not apply; and 11 (2) does not apply to a retail installment contract in 12 which the time price differential is computed using the true daily earnings method. 13 14 (b) If a retail installment contract is prepaid in full or 15 if the holder demands payment in full of the unpaid balance before final maturity of the contract, the holder earns time price 16 17 differential for the period beginning on the date of the contract and ending on the date of the earlier of the prepayment or demand, 18 19 in an amount that does not exceed the amount allowed by this section. 20 21 (c) If prepayment in full or demand for payment in full occurs during an installment period, the holder may retain, in 22 addition to time price differential that accrued during any elapsed 23 24 installment periods, an amount computed by: 25 (1) multiplying the simple annual rate under the 26 contract by the unpaid principal balance of the contract determined according to the schedule of payments to be outstanding on the 27

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1	preceding installment due date;
2	(2) dividing 365 into the product computed under
3	Subdivision (1); and
4	(3) multiplying the number of days in the period,
5	beginning on the day after the installment due date and ending on
6	the date of the earlier of the prepayment or demand, by the result
7	obtained under Subdivision (2).
8	(d) In addition to the earned time price differential
9	computed under this section, the holder may also earn a \$150
10	acquisition fee for a heavy commercial vehicle, or a \$25
11	acquisition fee for other commercial vehicles, if the sum of the
12	earned time price differential and the acquisition fee does not
13	exceed the time price differential disclosed in the contract.
14	(e) The holder shall refund or credit, as applicable, to the
15	retail buyer the amount computed by subtracting the total amount
16	earned or retained under Subsections (b), (c), and (d) from the
17	total amount of time price differential contracted for and
18	precomputed in the contract.
19	Sec. 353.122. REINSTATEMENT OF CONTRACT AFTER DEMAND FOR
20	PAYMENT. After a demand for payment in full under a retail
21	installment contract, the retail buyer and holder of the contract
22	may:
23	(1) agree to reinstate the contract; and
24	(2) amend the contract as provided by Section 353.113.
25	[Sections 353.123-353.200 reserved for expansion]
26	SUBCHAPTER C. INSURANCE
27	Sec. 353.201. PROPERTY INSURANCE. (a) A holder may require

1	a retail buyer to insure the commercial vehicle purchased under a
2	retail installment transaction and accessories and related goods
3	subject to the holder's security interest.
4	(b) The holder may offer to provide insurance on a
5	commercial vehicle purchased under a retail installment
6	transaction and accessories and related goods subject to the
7	holder's security interest, regardless of whether the holder
8	requires a retail buyer to insure the commercial vehicle.
9	(c) The insurance required by the holder, and the premiums
10	or charges for any insurance that is provided by the holder, must
11	bear a reasonable relationship to:
12	(1) the amount, term, and conditions of the retail
13	installment contract; and
14	(2) the existing hazards or risk of loss, damage, or
15	destruction.
16	(d) Any insurance under this section may not:
17	(1) cover unusual or exceptional risks; or
18	(2) provide coverage not ordinarily included in
19	policies issued to the public or for commercial purposes.
20	(e) The holder may include the cost of the insurance as a
21	separate charge in the contract.
22	Sec. 353.202. CREDIT LIFE AND CREDIT HEALTH AND ACCIDENT
23	INSURANCE. (a) A holder may require a retail buyer to provide
24	credit life insurance and credit health and accident insurance.
25	(b) The holder may offer to provide credit life insurance
26	and credit health and accident insurance, regardless of whether the
27	holder requires a retail buyer to provide the insurance under

1	Subsection (a).
2	(c) A retail seller may offer involuntary unemployment
3	insurance to the buyer at the time the contract is negotiated or
4	executed.
5	(d) A holder may include the cost of insurance provided
6	under this section, and a policy or agent fee charged in connection
7	with insurance provided under Subsection (b) or (c), as a separate
8	charge in the contract.
9	Sec. 353.203. MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF CREDIT LIFE AND CREDIT
10	HEALTH AND ACCIDENT COVERAGE. (a) At any time the total amount of
11	the policies of credit life insurance in force on one retail buyer
12	on one retail installment contract may not exceed:
13	(1) the total amount repayable under the contract; and
14	(2) the greater of the scheduled or actual amount of
15	unpaid indebtedness if the indebtedness is repayable in
16	substantially equal installments.
17	(b) At any time the total amount of the policies of credit
18	health and accident insurance in force on one retail buyer on one
19	retail installment contract may not exceed the total amount payable
20	under the contract, and the amount of each periodic indemnity
21	payment may not exceed the scheduled periodic payment on the
22	indebtedness.
23	Sec. 353.204. INSURANCE STATEMENT. (a) If insurance is
24	required in connection with a retail installment contract, the
25	holder shall give to the retail buyer a written statement that
26	clearly and conspicuously states that:
27	(1) insurance is required in connection with the

1 contract; and 2 (2) the buyer as an option may furnish the required 3 insurance through: 4 (A) an existing policy of insurance owned or 5 controlled by the buyer; or 6 (B) an insurance policy obtained through an 7 insurance company authorized to do business in this state. 8 (b) A statement under Subsection (a) may be provided with or as part of the retail installment contract or separately. 9 10 Sec. 353.205. STATEMENT IF LIABILITY INSURANCE NOT INCLUDED IN CONTRACT. If liability insurance coverage for bodily injury and 11 12 property damage caused to others is not included in a retail installment contract, the retail installment contract or a separate 13 14 writing must contain, in at least 10-point type that is boldfaced, 15 capitalized, underlined, or otherwise conspicuously set out from the surrounding written material, a specific statement that 16 17 liability insurance coverage for bodily injury and property damage caused to others is not included. 18 19 Sec. 353.206. BUYER'S FAILURE TO PROVIDE EVIDENCE OF INSURANCE. (a) If a retail buyer fails to present to the holder 20 reasonable evidence that the buyer has obtained or maintained a 21 coverage required by the retail installment contract, the holder 22

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23 <u>may</u>:

24 (1) obtain substitute insurance coverage that is
25 substantially equal to or more limited than the coverage required;
26 and
27 (2) add the amount of the premium advanced for the

1	substitute insurance to the unpaid balance of the contract.
2	(b) Substitute insurance coverage under Subsection (a)(1):
3	(1) may at the holder's option be limited to coverage
4	only of the interest of the holder or the interest of the holder and
5	the buyer; and
6	(2) must be written at lawful rates in accordance with
7	the Insurance Code by a company authorized to do business in this
8	state.
9	(c) If substitute insurance is obtained by the holder under
10	Subsection (a), the amendment adding the premium or rescheduling
11	the contract is not required to be signed by the retail buyer. The
12	holder shall deliver to the buyer or send to the buyer's most recent
13	address shown on the records of the holder specific written notice
14	that the holder has obtained substitute insurance.
15	Sec. 353.207. CHARGES FOR OTHER INSURANCE AND FORMS OF
16	PROTECTION INCLUDED IN RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACT. (a) A retail
17	installment contract may include as a separate charge an amount for
18	insurance coverage that is:
19	(1) for a risk of loss or liability reasonably related
20	<u>to:</u>
21	(A) the commercial vehicle;
22	(B) the use of the commercial vehicle; or
23	(C) goods or services that:
24	(i) are related to the commercial vehicle;
25	and
26	(ii) may ordinarily be insured with a
27	commercial vehicle;

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1	(2) written on policies or endorsement forms
2	prescribed or approved by the commissioner of insurance; and
3	(3) ordinarily available in policies or endorsements
4	offered to the public or for commercial purposes.
5	(b) A retail installment contract may include as a separate
6	charge an amount for:
7	(1) motor vehicle property damage or bodily injury
8	<pre>liability insurance;</pre>
9	(2) mechanical breakdown insurance;
10	(3) participation in a motor vehicle theft protection
11	<pre>plan;</pre>
12	(4) insurance to pay all or part of the amount computed
13	by subtracting the proceeds of the retail buyer's basic collision
14	policy on the commercial vehicle from the amount owed on the vehicle
15	in the event of a total loss or theft of the vehicle;
16	(5) a warranty or service contract relating to the
17	<pre>commercial vehicle;</pre>
18	(6) an identity recovery service contract defined by
19	Section 1306.003, Occupations Code; or
20	(7) a debt cancellation agreement.
21	(c) Notwithstanding any other law, service contracts and
22	debt cancellation agreements sold by a retail seller of a
23	commercial vehicle to a retail buyer are not subject to Chapter 101
24	or 226, Insurance Code.
25	(d) In addition to the charges for insurance coverage
26	permitted under Subsection (a) or (b), a retail installment
27	contract may include a charge for insurance coverage relating to:

1	(1) the commercial vehicle;
2	(2) the use of the commercial vehicle; or
3	(3) the retail installment contract.
4	(e) Insurance coverage under Subsection (d) may be provided
5	only by:
6	(1) an insurer authorized under the Insurance Code to
7	engage in the business of insurance in this state; or
8	(2) if permitted under the Insurance Code, a surplus
9	lines insurer eligible to provide the insurance under Chapter 981,
10	Insurance Code.
11	(f) A retail installment contract must set forth the amount
12	of each charge for insurance coverage under Subsection (d) and the
13	type of the coverage provided for that charge.
14	Sec. 353.208. HOLDER'S DUTY IF INSURANCE IS ADJUSTED OR
15	TERMINATED. (a) If insurance for which a charge is included in or
16	added to a retail installment contract is canceled, adjusted, or
17	terminated, the holder shall, at the holder's option:
18	(1) apply the amount of the refund for unearned
19	insurance premiums received by the holder to replace required
20	insurance coverage; or
21	(2) credit the refund to the final maturing
22	installments of the retail installment contract.
23	(b) If the amount to be applied or credited under Subsection
24	(a) is more than the amount unpaid on the retail installment
25	contract, the holder shall refund to the retail buyer the
26	difference between those amounts.
27	(c) A cash refund is not required under this section if the

1 amount of the refund is less than \$1. 2 Sec. 353.209. GAIN OR ADVANTAGE FROM INSURANCE NOT 3 ADDITIONAL CHARGE. Any gain or advantage to the holder or the holder's employee, officer, director, agent, general agent, 4 5 affiliate, or associate from insurance or the provision or sale of insurance under this subchapter is not an additional charge or 6 7 additional time price differential in connection with a retail 8 installment contract except as specifically provided by this 9 chapter. 10 Sec. 353.210. ADDING TO RETAIL INSTALLMENT CONTRACT PREMIUMS FOR INSURANCE ACQUIRED AFTER TRANSACTION. (a) A retail 11 12 buyer and holder may agree to add to the unpaid balance of a retail installment contract premiums for insurance policies obtained 13 after the date of the retail installment transaction for coverages 14 of the types allowed under Sections 353.201, 353.202, and 353.207, 15 including premiums for the renewal of a policy included in the 16 17 contract. (b) A policy of insurance described by Subsection (a) must 18 19 comply with the requirements of Sections 353.201, 353.202, 353.203, and 353.207, as applicable. 20 21 Sec. 353.211. EFFECT OF ADDING PREMIUM TO CONTRACT. If a premium is added to the unpaid balance of a retail installment 22 contract under Section 353.206 or 353.210, the rate applicable to 23 24 the time price differential agreed to in the retail installment contract remains in effect and shall be applied to the new unpaid 25 26 balance, or the contract may be rescheduled in accordance with Sections 353.114 and 353.115, without reclassifying the commercial 27

1	vehicle by its year model at the time of the amendment.
2	Sec. 353.212. FINANCING ENTITY MAY NOT REQUIRE INSURANCE
3	FROM PARTICULAR SOURCE. If a retail installment contract presented
4	to a financing entity for acceptance includes any insurance
5	coverage, the financing entity may not directly or indirectly
6	require, as a condition of its agreement to finance the commercial
7	vehicle, that the retail buyer purchase the insurance coverage from
8	a particular source.
9	[Sections 353.213-353.300 reserved for expansion]
10	SUBCHAPTER D. ACQUISITION OF CONTRACT OR BALANCE
11	Sec. 353.301. AUTHORITY TO ACQUIRE. A person may acquire a
12	retail installment contract or an outstanding balance under a
13	contract from another person on the terms, including the price, to
14	which they agree. Notwithstanding any other law of this state, a
15	person acquiring or assigning a retail installment contract, or any
16	balance under a contract, does not have a duty to disclose to any
17	other person the terms on which a contract or balance under a
18	contract is acquired or assigned, including the consideration for
19	the acquisition or assignment and any discount or difference
20	between the rates, charges, or balance under the contract and the
21	consideration rates, charges, or balance acquired or assigned, as
22	applicable.
23	Sec. 353.302. LACK OF NOTICE DOES NOT AFFECT VALIDITY AS TO
24	CERTAIN CREDITORS. Notice to a retail buyer of an assignment or
25	negotiation of a retail installment contract or an outstanding
26	balance under the contract or a requirement that the retail seller
27	be deprived of dominion over payments on a retail installment

contract or over the commercial vehicle if returned to or 1 2 repossessed by the retail seller is not necessary for a written 3 assignment or negotiation of the contract or balance to be valid as against a creditor, subsequent purchaser, pledgee, mortgagee, or 4 5 lien claimant of the retail seller. 6 Sec. 353.303. PAYMENT BY BUYER. Unless a retail buyer has 7 notice of the assignment or negotiation of the buyer's retail 8 installment contract or an outstanding balance under the contract, a payment by the buyer to the most recent holder known to the buyer 9 10 is binding on all subsequent holders. 11 [Sections 353.304-353.400 reserved for expansion] 12 SUBCHAPTER E. HOLDER'S RIGHTS, DUTIES, AND LIMITATIONS Sec. 353.401. SELLER'S PROMISE TO PAY OR TENDER OF CASH TO 13 BUYER AS PART OF TRANSACTION. A retail seller may not promise to 14 pay, pay, or otherwise tender cash to a retail buyer as a part of a 15 transaction under this chapter unless specifically authorized by 16 17 this chapter. Sec. 353.402. SELLER'S ACTION FOR INCENTIVE PROGRAM OR TO 18 PAY FOR BUYER'S MOTOR VEHICLE. (a) A retail seller may pay, 19 promise to pay, or tender cash or another thing of value to the 20 manufacturer, distributor, or retail buyer of the product if the 21 payment, promise, or tender is made in order to participate in a 22 financial incentive program offered by the manufacturer or 23 24 distributor of the vehicle to the buyer. 25 (b) A retail seller, in connection with a retail installment 26 transaction, may: 27 (1) advance money to retire:

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1	(A) an amount owed against a motor vehicle used
2	as a trade-in or a motor vehicle owned by the buyer that has been
3	declared a total loss by the buyer's insurer; or
4	(B) the retail buyer's outstanding obligation
5	under a motor vehicle lease contract, a credit transaction for the
6	purchase of a motor vehicle, or another retail installment
7	transaction; and
8	(2) finance repayment of that money in a retail
9	installment contract.
10	(c) A retail seller may pay in cash to the retail buyer any
11	portion of the net cash value of a motor vehicle owned by the buyer
12	and used as a trade-in in a transaction involving the sale of a
13	commercial vehicle. In this subsection, "net cash value" means the
14	cash value of a motor vehicle after payment of all amounts secured
15	by the motor vehicle.
16	Sec. 353.403. STATEMENT OF PAYMENTS AND AMOUNT DUE UNDER
17	CONTRACT. (a) On written request of a retail buyer, the holder of a
18	retail installment contract shall give or send to the buyer a
19	written statement of the dates and amounts of payments and the total
20	amount unpaid under the contract.
21	(b) A retail buyer is entitled to one statement during a
22	six-month period without charge. The charge for each additional
23	requested statement may not exceed \$1.
24	Sec. 353.404. RECEIPT FOR CASH PAYMENT. A holder of a
25	retail installment contract shall give the retail buyer a written
26	receipt for each cash payment.
27	Sec. 353.405. OUTSTANDING BALANCE INFORMATION; PAYMENT IN

H.B. No. 2559 1 FULL. (a) The holder of a retail installment contract who gives 2 the retail buyer or the buyer's designee outstanding balance information relating to the contract is bound by that information 3 and shall honor that information for a reasonable time. 4 5 (b) If the retail buyer or the buyer's designee tenders to the holder as payment in full an amount derived from that 6 7 outstanding balance information, the holder shall: 8 (1) accept the amount as payment in full; and 9 (2) release the holder's lien against the commercial vehicle within a reasonable time not later than the 10th day after 10 the date on which the amount is tendered. 11 12 (c) A retail seller must pay in full the outstanding balance of a vehicle traded in to the retail seller as part of the retail 13 installment transaction not later than the 25th day after the date 14 15 that: (1) the retail installment contract is signed by the 16 17 retail buyer and the retail buyer receives delivery of the commercial vehicle; and 18 19 (2) the retail seller receives delivery of the motor vehicle traded in and the necessary and appropriate documents to 20 transfer title from the buyer. 21 Sec. 353.406. LIABILITY RELATING TO OUTSTANDING BALANCE 22 INFORMATION. A holder who violates Section 353.405 is liable to the 23 24 retail buyer or the buyer's designee in an amount computed by 25 adding: 26 (1) three times the difference between the amount tendered and the amount sought by the holder at the time of tender; 27

H.B. No. 2559 1 (2) i<u>nterest;</u> 2 (3) reasonable attorney's fees; and (4) <u>costs</u>. 3 4 Sec. 353.407. PROHIBITION ON POWER OF ATTORNEY TO CONFESS 5 JUDGMENT OR ASSIGNMENT OF WAGES. A retail installment contract may 6 not contain: 7 (1) a power of attorney to confess judgment in this 8 state; or 9 (2) an assignment of wages. 10 Sec. 353.408. PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN ACTS OF REPOSSESSION. A retail installment contract may not: 11 12 (1) authorize the holder or a person acting on the 13 holder's behalf to: 14 (A) enter the retail buyer's premises in 15 violation of Chapter 9, Business & Commerce Code; or 16 (B) commit a breach of the peace in the 17 repossession of the commercial vehicle; or (2) contain, or provide for the execution of, a power 18 19 of attorney by the retail buyer appointing, as the buyer's agent in the repossession of the vehicle, the holder or a person acting on 20 the holder's behalf. 21 Sec. 353.409. BUYER'S WAIVER. (a) A retail installment 22 23 contract may not: 24 (1) provide for a waiver of the retail buyer's rights of action against the holder or a person acting on the holder's 25 26 behalf for an illegal act committed in: 27 (A) the collection of payments under the

H.B. No. 2559 1 contract; or 2 (B) the repossession of the commercial vehicle; 3 or 4 (2) provide that the retail buyer agrees not to assert 5 against the holder a claim or defense arising out of the sale. 6 (b) An act or agreement of the retail buyer before or at the 7 time of the making of a retail installment contract or a purchase 8 under the contract does not waive any provision of this chapter. Sec. 353.410. TRANSFER OF EQUITY. (a) With the written 9 10 consent of the holder, a retail buyer may transfer at any time the buyer's equity in the commercial vehicle subject to the retail 11 12 installment contract to another person. (b) The holder may charge for the transfer of equity an 13 14 amount that does not exceed: 15 (1) \$25 for a commercial vehicle that is not a heavy 16 commercial vehicle; or 17 (2) \$50 for a heavy commercial vehicle. [Sections 353.411-353.500 reserved for expansion] 18 19 SUBCHAPTER F. LICENSING; ADMINISTRATION OF CHAPTER Sec. 353.501. LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) A person may not act 20 as a holder under this chapter unless the person: 21 22 (1) is an authorized lender or a credit union; or (2) holds a license issued under Chapter 348 or this 23 24 chapter. (b) A person who is required to hold a license under this 25 26 chapter must ensure that each office at which retail installment transactions are made, serviced, held, or collected under this 27

1 chapter is licensed or otherwise authorized to make, service, hold, 2 or collect retail installment transactions in accordance with this 3 chapter and rules implementing this chapter. 4 (c) A person may not use any device, subterfuge, or pretense 5 to evade the application of this section. 6 Sec. 353.502. APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS. (a) The 7 application for a license under this chapter must: 8 (1) be under oath; 9 (2) identify the applicant's principal parties in 10 interest; and (3) contain other relevant information that the 11 12 commissioner requires. (b) On the filing of a license application, the applicant 13 14 shall pay to the commissioner: 15 (1) an investigation fee not to exceed \$200; and 16 (2) for the license's year of issuance, a license fee 17 in an amount determined as provided by Section 14.107. Sec. 353.503. INVESTIGATION OF APPLICATION. On the filing 18 of an application and payment of the required fees, the 19 commissioner shall conduct an investigation to determine whether to 20 issue the license. 21 Sec. 353.504. APPROVAL OR DENIAL OF APPLICATION. (a) The 22 commissioner shall approve the application and issue to the 23 24 applicant a license under this chapter if the commissioner finds that the financial responsibility, experience, character, and 25 26 general fitness of the applicant are sufficient to: 27 (1) command the confidence of the public; and

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1	(2) warrant the belief that the business will be
2	operated lawfully and fairly, within the purposes of this chapter.
3	(b) If the commissioner does not find the eligibility
4	requirements of Subsection (a), the commissioner shall notify the
5	applicant.
6	(c) If an applicant requests a hearing on the application
7	not later than the 30th day after the date of notification under
8	Subsection (b), the applicant is entitled to a hearing not later
9	than the 60th day after the date of the request.
10	(d) The commissioner shall approve or deny the application
11	not later than the 60th day after the date of the filing of a
12	completed application with payment of the required fees, or if a
13	hearing is held, after the date of the completion of the hearing on
14	the application. The commissioner and the applicant may agree to a
15	later date in writing.
16	Sec. 353.505. DISPOSITION OF FEES ON DENIAL OF APPLICATION.
17	If the commissioner denies the application, the commissioner shall
18	retain the investigation fee and shall return to the applicant the
19	license fee submitted with the application.
20	Sec. 353.506. ANNUAL LICENSE FEE. Not later than December
21	1, a license holder shall pay to the commissioner for each license
22	held an annual fee for the year beginning the next January 1, in an
23	amount determined as provided by Section 14.107.
24	Sec. 353.507. EXPIRATION OF LICENSE ON FAILURE TO PAY
25	ANNUAL FEE. If the annual fee for a license is not paid before the
26	16th day after the date on which the written notice of delinquency
27	of payment has been given to the license holder, the license expires

1	on the later of:
2	(1) that day; or
3	(2) December 31 of the last year for which an annual
4	fee was paid.
5	Sec. 353.508. LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. After
6	notice and a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a
7	license if the commissioner finds that:
8	(1) the license holder failed to pay the annual
9	license fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the
10	commissioner;
11	(2) the license holder, knowingly or without the
12	exercise of due care, violated this chapter or a rule adopted or
13	order issued under this chapter; or
14	(3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed
15	or had been known to exist at the time of the original application
16	for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's
17	denial of the application.
18	Sec. 353.509. REINSTATEMENT OF SUSPENDED LICENSE; ISSUANCE
19	OF NEW LICENSE AFTER REVOCATION. The commissioner may reinstate a
20	suspended license or issue a new license on application to a person
21	whose license has been revoked if at the time of the reinstatement
22	or issuance no fact or condition exists that clearly would have
23	justified the commissioner's denial of an original application for
24	the license.
25	Sec. 353.510. SURRENDER OF LICENSE. A license holder may
26	surrender a license issued under this chapter by delivering to the
27	commissioner:

1	(1) the license; and
2	(2) a written notice of the license's surrender.
3	Sec. 353.511. EFFECT OF LICENSE SUSPENSION, REVOCATION, OR
4	SURRENDER. (a) The suspension, revocation, or surrender of a
5	license issued under this chapter does not affect the obligation of
6	a contract between the license holder and a retail buyer entered
7	into before the suspension, revocation, or surrender.
8	(b) Surrender of a license does not affect the license
9	holder's civil or criminal liability for an act committed before
10	surrender.
11	Sec. 353.512. TRANSFER OR ASSIGNMENT OF LICENSE. A license
12	may be transferred or assigned only with the approval of the
13	commissioner.
14	Sec. 353.513. ADOPTION OF RULES. (a) The finance
15	commission may adopt rules to enforce this chapter.
16	(b) The commissioner shall recommend proposed rules to the
17	finance commission.
18	Sec. 353.514. GENERAL INVESTIGATION. To discover a
19	violation of this chapter or to obtain information required under
20	this chapter, the commissioner or the commissioner's
21	representative may investigate the records, including books,
22	accounts, papers, and correspondence, of a person, including a
23	license holder, who the commissioner has reasonable cause to
24	believe is violating this chapter, regardless of whether the person
25	claims to not be subject to this chapter.
26	Sec. 353.515. SHARING OF INFORMATION. To ensure consistent
27	enforcement of law and minimization of regulatory burdens, the

H.B. No. 2559 commissioner and the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles may share 1 information, including criminal history information, relating to a 2 person licensed under this chapter. Information otherwise 3 confidential remains confidential after it is shared under this 4 5 section. 6 SECTION 18. Section 411.095, Government Code, is amended to 7 read as follows: Sec. 411.095. 8 ACCESS ТО CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD INFORMATION: CONSUMER CREDIT COMMISSIONER. The consumer credit 9 commissioner is entitled to obtain from the department criminal 10 history record information that relates to a person who is an 11 12 applicant for or holder of a license under Chapter 342, 347, 348, 351, 353, or 371, Finance Code. 13 14 SECTION 19. Section 1304.003(b), Occupations Code, is 15 amended to read as follows: A service contract may also provide for: 16 (b) 17 (1) incidental payment or indemnity under limited including towing, rental, and emergency road 18 circumstances, 19 service; (2) the repair or replacement of a product for damage 20 resulting from a power surge or for accidental damage incurred in 21 handling the product; or 22 identity recovery, as defined by Section 1306.002, 23 (3) 24 if the service contract is financed under Chapter 348 or 353, Finance Code. 25 26 SECTION 20. Section 1306.003, Occupations Code, is amended 27 to read as follows:

H.B. No. 2559 Sec. 1306.003. IDENTITY RECOVERY SERVICE CONTRACT. In this 1 chapter, "identity recovery service contract" means an agreement: 2 3 (1) to provide identity recovery; 4 (2) that is entered into for a separately stated 5 consideration and for a specified term; and 6 (3) that is financed through a retail installment 7 contract under Chapter 348 or 353, Finance Code. 8 SECTION 21. Section 2305.007(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows: 9 10 (b) For the purposes of tracing or locating a stolen motor vehicle on the premises of a person engaging in a business or 11 12 activity regulated under this chapter who is also licensed under Chapter 348 or 353, Finance Code, only an officer of the Department 13 14 of Public Safety may at a reasonable time: 15 (1)enter the premises of the person's business; and 16 inspect or copy any document, record, vehicle, (2) 17 part, or other item regulated under: (A) this chapter; or 18 Chapter 348 or 353, Finance Code. 19 (B) SECTION 22. Section 2306.003(c), Occupations Code, 20 is 21 amended to read as follows: A vehicle protection product may also include identity 22 (c) recovery, as defined by Section 1306.002, if the vehicle protection 23 24 product is financed under Chapter 348 or 353, Finance Code. SECTION 23. Section 152.002(b), Tax Code, is amended to 25 26 read as follows: (b) "Total consideration" does not include: 27

1

a cash discount;

2 (2) a full cash or credit refund to a customer of the3 sales price of a motor vehicle returned to the seller;

4 (3) the amount charged for labor or service rendered
5 in installing, applying, remodeling, or repairing the motor vehicle
6 sold;

7 (4) a financing, carrying, or service charge or
8 interest on credit extended on a motor vehicle sold under a
9 conditional sale or other deferred payment contract;

10 (5) the value of a motor vehicle taken by a seller as 11 all or a part of the consideration for sale of another motor 12 vehicle, including any cash payment to the buyer under Section 13 348.404 <u>or 353.402</u>, Finance Code;

14 (6) a charge for transportation of the motor vehicle15 after a sale;

16

(7) motor vehicle inventory tax; or

17 (8) an amount made available to the customer under18 Subchapter G, Chapter 382, Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 24. Section 501.115(a), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) When a debt or claim secured by a lien has been
satisfied, the lienholder shall, within a reasonable time not to
exceed the maximum time allowed by Section 348.408 or 353.405(b),
Finance Code, as applicable, execute and deliver to the owner, or
the owner's designee, a discharge of the lien on a form prescribed
by the department.

27 SECTION 25. Section 26.342(7), Water Code, is amended to

H.B. No. 2559 read as follows: 1 (7) "Lender" means: 2 3 (A) a state or national bank; 4 (B) a state or federal savings and loan 5 association or savings bank; 6 (C) a credit union; 7 (D) a state or federal agency that customarily 8 provides financing; or 9 (E) an entity that is registered with the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner pursuant to Chapter 348 or 353, 10 Finance Code, if the entity is regularly engaged in the business of 11 extending credit and if extending credit represents the majority of 12 the entity's total business activity. 13 14 SECTION 26. The following provisions of the Finance Code 15 are repealed: 16 Section 348.007(a-2), as added by Chapter 238 (1)17 (S.B. 1965), Acts of the 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009; (2) Section 348.007(a-2), as added by Chapter 676 18 (H.B. 2438), Acts of the 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009; 19 20 and 21 (3) Sections 348.0051, 348.006(j), 348.120(c), and 348.208(d), (e), and (f). 22 23 SECTION 27. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2559 was passed by the House on April 19, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 148, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2559 was passed by the Senate on May 10, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED:

Date

Governor