## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## **HOUSE BILL**

No. 836

Session of 1991

INTRODUCED BY MICHLOVIC, CIVERA, MAIALE, McNALLY, JOHNSON, DeLUCA, E. Z. TAYLOR, HALUSKA, COWELL, VEON, HAYDEN, KUKOVICH, PISTELLA, RAYMOND, GIGLIOTTI, JAROLIN, TIGUE, CORNELL, CAPPABIANCA, LAUGHLIN, PESCI, MIHALICH, JOSEPHS, PRESTON, LINTON, CAWLEY, LEVDANSKY, ROBINSON, STABACK, J. TAYLOR, THOMAS AND RICHARDSON, MARCH 18, 1991

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER AFFAIRS, MARCH 18, 1991

## AN ACT

- 1 Regulating retail consumer leases of motor vehicles; requiring 2 and excluding certain lease provisions; and providing for
- 3 remedies and penalties.
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- 12 Section 501. Violation bar to recovery.
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- 14 Section 503. Failure to make refund.
- 15 Section 504. Failure to return vehicle.
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- 17 Section 506. Application of Unfair Trade Act.
- 18 Chapter 11. Miscellaneous Provisions
- 19 Section 1101. Reservation of rights.
- 20 Section 1102. Applicability.
- 21 Section 1103. Repeals.
- 22 Section 1104. Effective date.
- 23 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
- 24 hereby enacts as follows:
- 25 CHAPTER 1
- 26 PRELIMINARY PROVISIONS
- 27 Section 101. Short title.
- This act shall be known and may be cited as the Consumer
- 29 Motor Vehicle Retail Leasing Act.
- 30 Section 102. Definitions.

- 1 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
- 2 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
- 3 context clearly indicates otherwise:
- 4 "Adjusted capitalized cost." The initial capitalized cost
- 5 less any capitalized cost reduction made by the lessee at the
- 6 inception of the lease and any trade-in allowance granted by the
- 7 lessor.
- 8 "Adjusted lease balance." At any given time during the lease
- 9 term, the difference between the initial adjusted capitalized
- 10 cost and the sum of all depreciation amounts accrued as of that
- 11 date and the first base rental payment. The periodic lease
- 12 charge calculations are based on the assumption that the lessor
- 13 or holder will receive the rental payments on their exact due
- 14 dates.
- 15 "Base rental payment." That portion of the monthly or other
- 16 periodic rental payment which is equal to the sum of the average
- 17 monthly or other periodic lease charge and the average monthly
- 18 or other periodic depreciation.
- 19 "Capitalized cost." The price at which the lessor would
- 20 offer to sell the leased vehicle to the lessee at the time the
- 21 lease is executed and shall include any taxes, registration,
- 22 license and other fees and charges for insurance, accessories
- 23 and their installation, delivering, servicing, repairing or
- 24 improving the motor vehicle and other services incidental to the
- 25 lease. Any balances owed on prior loans are not to be included
- 26 in the capitalized cost figure.
- 27 "Capitalized cost reduction." Payments made by cash, check
- 28 or similar means that are in the nature of down payments,
- 29 including the value credited for any trade-in, made by the
- 30 lessee at the inception of the lease for the purpose of reducing

- 1 the capitalized cost.
- 2 "Constant yield method." That method of determining the
- 3 lease charge and depreciation portions of each base rental
- 4 payment pursuant to which the lease charge portion of any base
- 5 rental payment is figured by multiplying the rate which provides
- 6 a constant yield by the adjusted lease balance as it declines
- 7 during the lease term.
- 8 "Consumer lease" or "lease." A written contract entered into
- 9 in this Commonwealth for the lease of a motor vehicle by a
- 10 natural person, primarily for personal, family or household use,
- 11 which may include the purchase of goods or services incidental
- 12 thereto, for a scheduled term exceeding four months. The term
- 13 includes this agreement, wherever entered into, if executed by
- 14 the lessee in this Commonwealth and if solicited in person by a
- 15 person acting on his own behalf or that of the lessor. The term
- 16 does not include a retail installment contract as defined in the
- 17 act of October 28, 1966 (1st Sp.Sess., P.L.55, No.7), known as
- 18 the Goods and Services Installment Sales Act, nor does it
- 19 include a rental purchase agreement.
- 20 "Consumer lessee" or "lessee." A natural person who leases a
- 21 motor vehicle from a lessor primarily for personal, family or
- 22 household use and who executes a consumer lease in connection
- 23 therewith.
- 24 "Holder." The lessor of a motor vehicle under or subject to
- 25 a lease or, if the lease is purchased by an assignee, the
- 26 assignee.
- 27 "Lease charge." The portion of the base rental payment
- 28 allocated to the cost of money and profit. The term does not
- 29 include an amount included in the capitalized cost for a
- 30 delinquency or collection charge.

- 1 "Lessor." Any person or business which, during the previous
- 2 12-month period, leased or offered to lease three or more motor
- 3 vehicles or has assigned three or more leases to a holder.
- 4 "Motor vehicle" or "vehicle." Any self-propelled, motorized
- 5 conveyance driven upon public roads, streets or highways which
- 6 is designed to transport not more than 15 persons, which is
- 7 leased in this Commonwealth and which is leased for use
- 8 primarily for personal, family or household purposes. The term
- 9 does not include motorcycles, off-road vehicles or that portion
- 10 of a motor home that is designated, used or maintained primarily
- 11 as a mobile dwelling.
- 12 "Realized value." The average retail value of the vehicle,
- 13 as listed in the National Auto Dealers Association Used Car
- 14 Guide, or other comparable guide, as adjusted for mileage,
- 15 improvements and any major physical or mechanical defects in the
- 16 vehicle at the time of termination of the lease.
- 17 "Residual value." The value of the vehicle which is
- 18 predesignated in the lease as the value of the car at the end of
- 19 the lease term.
- 20 CHAPTER 3
- 21 MOTOR VEHICLE LEASES
- 22 Section 301. Requirements.
- 23 (a) General rule.--A lease shall be in writing and shall be
- 24 signed by the lessor and the lessee. Except as provided in this
- 25 act, a lease shall contain, in a single document, all the
- 26 agreements of the parties.
- 27 (b) Format.--A lease shall be written and organized in a
- 28 clear and coherent manner, shall be written in plain language
- 29 and shall use:
- 30 (1) Short sentences and paragraphs and everyday words.

- 1 (2) Simple and active verb forms.
- 2 (3) Readable type size.
- 3 (4) Ink which contrasts with the paper used.
- 4 (5) Captions and headings for sections and subdivisions
- 5 which are in boldface type or which otherwise stand out
- 6 significantly from the text.
- 7 (6) Layout and spacing which separate the paragraphs and
- 8 sections of the lease from each other and from the borders of
- 9 the paper.
- 10 (c) Required items. -- The printed portion of the lease shall
- 11 be in at least eight-point type. The lease shall contain the
- 12 following items printed or written in a size equal to at least
- 13 ten-point bold type:
- 14 (1) Both at the top of the lease and directly above the
- space reserved for the signature of the lessee, the words
- 16 "CONSUMER MOTOR VEHICLE LEASE."
- 17 (2) A specific statement that physical damage or
- 18 liability insurance coverage for bodily injury and property
- damage caused to others is not included, if that is the case.
- 20 (3) Directly above the acknowledgment described in
- 21 subsection (d), to appear above the space reserved for the
- 22 signature of the lessee, shall appear a written notice
- 23 informing the lessee that the lessee should not sign the
- lease before reading it or if it contains any blank space and
- 25 that the lessee is entitled to a completely filled-in copy of
- the lease when he signs it. A notice substantially similar to
- 27 the following notice complies with the requirements of this
- 28 paragraph:
- 29 NOTICE TO THE LESSEE
- 30 (1) Do not sign this lease before you read it or if

- 1 it contains any blank space.
- 2 (2) You are entitled to a completely filled-in copy
- of this lease when you sign it.
- 4 (d) Delivery and acknowledgment.--The lessor shall deliver
- 5 to the lessee, or mail to the lessee at the lessee's address
- 6 shown on the lease, a copy of the lease signed by the lessor.
- 7 Any acknowledgment by the lessee of delivery of a copy of the
- 8 lease shall be printed or written in a size equal to at least
- 9 eight-point bold type and, if contained in the lease, shall
- 10 appear directly above the legend required by subsection (c)(1).
- 11 Section 302. Content.
- 12 (a) Parties and vehicles. -- The lease shall contain the names
- 13 of the lessor and the lessee, the place of business of the
- 14 lessor, the residence or place of business of the lessee as
- 15 specified by the lessee and a description of the motor vehicle,
- 16 including its make, year, model and vehicle identification
- 17 number or marks.
- 18 (b) Additional specific provisions. -- The lease shall also
- 19 contain the following:
- 20 (1) The capitalized cost of the leased vehicle, and a
- 21 description of that term using the definition given in this
- 22 act, including a dollar amount for each item comprising the
- 23 capitalized cost figure. The lease must also contain a
- 24 conspicuous statement, in close proximity to the capitalized
- cost information, that the capitalized cost figure is
- 26 negotiable.
- 27 (2) A provision permitting a lessee, whose default
- 28 consists solely of the failure to make timely rental
- 29 payments, to cure his default and reinstate the lease,
- 30 without losing any rights or options previously acquired

- 1 under the lease, by paying all past due rental and
- delinquency charges and the reasonable costs of repossession,
- 3 within 25 days after the lessee is given written notice of
- 4 his reinstatement rights. For purposes of this paragraph, a
- 5 rental charge is past due if it is not paid within ten days
- of its scheduled due date unless a longer grace period is
- 7 specified in the lease.
- 8 (3) A statement that the lessee may terminate the lease
- 9 prior to the end of the lease term and the amounts which the
- 10 lessee is required to pay upon early termination, based on
- 11 six-month intervals.
- 12 Section 303. Insurance.
- 13 (a) General rule. -- The amount, if any, included for
- 14 insurance shall not exceed the premiums chargeable in accordance
- 15 with rate filings made with the Insurance Department for the
- 16 insurance. The holder, if liability insurance or insurance on
- 17 the motor vehicle is included in the lease, shall, within 30
- 18 days after execution of the lease, send or cause to be sent to
- 19 the lessee a policy or policies or certificate of insurance,
- 20 written by an insurance company authorized to do business in
- 21 this Commonwealth, clearly setting forth the amount of the
- 22 premium, the kind or kinds of insurance and the scope of the
- 23 coverage and all the terms, exceptions, limitations,
- 24 restrictions and conditions of the contract or contracts of
- 25 insurance. The lessee of a motor vehicle under a lease shall
- 26 have the privilege of purchasing insurance from an agent or
- 27 broker of his own selection and of selecting an insurance
- 28 company acceptable to the lessor. The inclusion of the insurance
- 29 premium in the lease when the lessee selects the agent, broker
- 30 or company shall, however, be optional with the lessor and, in

- 1 that case, the lessor or assignee shall have no obligation to
- 2 send or cause to be sent to the lessee the policy or certificate
- 3 of insurance.
- 4 (b) Cancellation.--If any policy or certificate of liability
- 5 insurance or insurance on the motor vehicle is canceled, the
- 6 unearned insurance premium refund received or receivable by the
- 7 lessor or holder or, if the amount included for that purpose in
- 8 the lease exceeds the cost to the lessor or holder for the
- 9 insurance, the unearned portion of the amount so included,
- 10 together with the unearned portion of the lease charge
- 11 applicable thereto, shall be credited to the final maturing
- 12 rental payments of the lease except to the extent applied toward
- 13 payment for similar insurance protecting the interests of the
- 14 lessee and the lessor or holder or either of them. No credit
- 15 need be made if the amount thereof would be less than \$1.
- 16 (c) Group credit or other insurance. -- The amount, if any,
- 17 included for group credit insurance or for insurance other than
- 18 on the motor vehicle shall not exceed the premiums chargeable in
- 19 accordance with rate filings made with the Insurance Department
- 20 for such insurance by the insurer. If the group credit or other
- 21 insurance is canceled, the refund or unearned insurance premiums
- 22 received or receivable by the lessor or holder, or the excess of
- 23 the amount included in the lease for group credit or other
- 24 insurance over the premiums paid or payable by the lessor or
- 25 holder therefor, together with, in either case, the unearned
- 26 portion of the lease charge applicable thereto, shall be
- 27 credited to the final maturing rental payments of the lease. No
- 28 credit need be made if the amount thereof would be less than \$1.
- 29 Section 304. Insurance required under lease.
- If the lessee is obligated in connection with the lease to

- 1 maintain liability insurance or insurance on the motor vehicle
- 2 that is the subject of the lease and if subsequent to the
- 3 execution of the lease the lessee fails to maintain the required
- 4 insurance, the lessor or holder may make advances to procure the
- 5 equivalent limits of insurance for either the interests of the
- 6 lessee and the lessor or holder or the interest of either of
- 7 them, and any amount so advanced may be the subject of a lease
- 8 charge as though that amount was part of the capitalized cost.
- 9 Each amount so advanced shall be subject to the default
- 10 provisions of the lease if so provided in the lease and if the
- 11 lessor or holder notified the lessee in writing of the advance
- 12 of that amount and of his option to repay that amount in any one
- 13 of the following ways:
- 14 (1) Full payment within ten days from the date of giving
- or mailing the notice.
- 16 (2) Full amortization during the term of the insurance
- or the remaining term of the lease, at the option of the
- 18 lessor or holder.
- 19 (3) If offered by the lessor or holder, as a final
- 20 balloon payment payable one month after the last scheduled
- 21 payment under the lease.
- 22 (4) If offered by the lessor or holder, full
- amortization after the term of the lease, to be made in
- 24 periodic payments which do not exceed the average periodic
- 25 payment under the lease.
- 26 (5) If offered by the lessor or holder, any other
- 27 amortization plan. If the lessee neither pays in full the
- amount so advanced nor notifies the lessor or holder in
- 29 writing of his choice regarding the amortization options
- 30 before the expiration of ten days from the date of giving or

- 1 mailing the notice by the lessor or holder, the lessor or
- 2 holder shall amortize the amount so advanced pursuant to
- 3 paragraph (2).
- 4 Section 305. Charges and fees.
- 5 (a) Maximum rates.--The lessor or holder of a lease may, if
- 6 the lease so provides, collect a delinquency charge on each
- 7 rental payment in default for a period of not less than ten days
- 8 in an amount not more than 5% of the base rental payment or \$20,
- 9 whichever is less. In addition to a delinquency charge, the
- 10 lease may provide for the payment of reasonable attorney fees,
- 11 not more than 15% of the amount due and payable under the lease
- 12 where the lease is referred to an attorney who is not a salaried
- 13 employee of the lessor or holder for collection, plus court
- 14 costs.
- 15 (b) Collection.--A delinquency charge under subsection (a)
- 16 may not be collected on a rental payment paid in full within ten
- 17 days after its scheduled or deferred due date even though an
- 18 earlier maturing rental payment or a delinquency, collection or
- 19 deferral charge on an earlier rental payment has not been paid
- 20 in full. For purposes of this subsection, a payment is deemed to
- 21 have been applied first to any rental payment due in the
- 22 computational period in which it is received and then to
- 23 delinquent rental payments or charges.
- 24 Section 306. Blank spaces.
- 25 A lease shall not be signed by any party thereto when it
- 26 contains blank spaces to be filled in after it has been signed,
- 27 except that, if delivery of the motor vehicle is not made at the
- 28 time of the execution of the lease, the vehicle identification
- 29 number of the motor vehicle or similar information and the due
- 30 date of the first payment may be inserted in the lease after its

- 1 execution. The lessee's written acknowledgment, conforming to
- 2 the requirements of this act, of delivery of a copy of the lease
- 3 shall be conclusive proof of the delivery and of compliance with
- 4 this section in any action or proceeding by or against an
- 5 assignee of the lease without knowledge to the contrary when he
- 6 purchases the lease.
- 7 Section 307. Rights and remedies.
- 8 (a) Claims, defenses and third parties.--A lease shall not
- 9 contain any provision by which the lessee agrees not to assert
- 10 against an assignee a claim or defense arising out of the lease
- 11 or require or entail the execution of any note or series of
- 12 notes which, when separately negotiated, will cut off as to
- 13 third parties any right or action or defense which the lessee
- 14 may have against the lessor. The assignee of a lease shall be
- 15 subject to all claims and defenses of the lessee against the
- 16 lessor arising from the lease, notwithstanding any agreement to
- 17 the contrary, but the assignee's liability under this section
- 18 shall not exceed the amount of the lessee's total payments under
- 19 the lease. The assignee shall have recourse against the lessor
- 20 to the extent of any liability incurred by the assignee pursuant
- 21 to this section, regardless of whether the assignment of the
- 22 lease was with or without recourse.
- 23 (b) Purchase of lease. -- Notwithstanding any contrary
- 24 provision of law:
- 25 (1) A person may purchase a lease from a lessor on terms
- and conditions and for a price as may be mutually agreed
- 27 upon.
- 28 (2) A filing of an assignment, a notice to the lessee of
- an assignment, and a requirement that the lessor be deprived
- 30 of dominion over payments under the lease or over the vehicle

- 1 if repossessed by or returned to the lessor, shall not be
- 2 necessary to the validity of a written assignment of a lease
- 3 as against creditors, subsequent purchasers, pledgees,
- 4 mortgagees or encumbrancers of the lessor.
- 5 (c) Subsequent holders or assignees.--
- 6 (1) Unless the lessee has notice of actual or intended
- 7 assignment of a lease, payment thereunder made by the lessee
- 8 to the last known holder of the lease shall be binding upon
- 9 all subsequent holders or assignees. A notification which
- does not reasonably identify the rights assigned is
- ineffective. If requested by the lessee, the assignee shall
- 12 furnish reasonable proof that the assignment has been made
- and, unless he does so, the lessee may pay the original
- lessor.
- 15 (2) Upon written request from the lessee, the holder of
- 16 a lease shall give or forward to the lessee a written
- statement of the dates and amount of payments and the total
- amount unpaid under the lease. A lessee shall be given a
- 19 written receipt for any payment when made in cash.
- 20 Section 308. Payment or trade-in pending execution of lease.
- 21 (a) Refunds.--
- 22 (1) Any payment, including a trade-in, made to a lessor
- 23 pending the execution of a lease shall be refunded to the
- lessee in the event the lease is not executed. Any refund
- required by this section shall be made by the lessor within
- 26 five days after the consumer requests a refund. If a lessee
- is required to make a payment to a lessor pending the
- 28 execution of a lease, the lessor shall notify the lessee in
- 29 writing before or upon execution of the lease that the lessee
- 30 has the right to request a refund or the return of any

- 1 traded-in vehicle in the event a lease is not executed.
- 2 (2) Any payment, including a trade-in, made to a lessor
- 3 pending, or upon, the execution of a lease shall be refunded
- 4 to the lessee in the event the lease application is not
- 5 approved. Any refund required by this section shall be made
- 6 by the lessor within five days after the lease application is
- 7 rejected. If a lessee is required to make a payment to a
- 8 lessor pending, or upon, the execution of a lease, the lessor
- 9 shall notify the lessee in writing before or upon the
- 10 execution of the lease that the lessee has the right to a
- 11 refund or the return of any traded-in vehicle in the event
- 12 the lease application is rejected.
- 13 (b) Right to cancel lease. -- A lessee has the right to cancel
- 14 an executed lease within three business days from the date the
- 15 lease is executed, provided that the lessee has not taken
- 16 possession of the leased vehicle. A refund or return of any
- 17 traded-in vehicle shall be made within five days from receipt of
- 18 the lessee's notice of cancellation. The lessor shall give
- 19 written, conspicuous notice to the lessee before or upon the
- 20 execution of the lease of the rights under this subsection.
- 21 (c) Possession of traded vehicle.--If a lessee leaves his
- 22 motor vehicle with the lessor in lieu of, or in addition to, a
- 23 payment pending, or upon, execution of a lease, the lessor shall
- 24 not sell or transfer the traded-in vehicle until the later of
- 25 one of the following:
- 26 (1) The execution of the lease.
- 27 (2) The approval of the lessee's lease application.
- 28 (3) The lessee's taking possession of the leased
- vehicle.
- 30 Section 309. Total loss of leased vehicle.

- 1 In the event the leased vehicle is totally destroyed or
- 2 irrevocably lost as the result of theft, accident or other
- 3 misfortune, the damage to the leased vehicle or loss shall not
- 4 constitute a default by the lessee under the lease. The lease
- 5 shall be terminated as of the date of the loss or total damage,
- 6 and the lessor shall retain the amount of any insurance proceeds
- 7 payable on the loss or damage. The lessee shall have no further
- 8 liability under the lease other than the amount of any
- 9 deductible for insurance coverage and any unpaid lease payments
- 10 accrued up to the date of the loss. The lessor shall give the
- 11 lessee written, conspicuous notice before or upon execution of
- 12 lease of the rights under this section.
- 13 Section 310. Prohibited provisions.
- 14 (a) Provisions enumerated.--A lease shall not contain a
- 15 provision by which:
- 16 (1) The lessor or holder may accelerate the maturity of
- any part or all of the amount owing thereon.
- 18 (2) A power of attorney is given to confess judgment or
- an assignment of wages is given.
- 20 (3) The lessor or holder of the lease or other person
- acting on his behalf is given authority to enter upon the
- lessee's premises unlawfully or to commit any breach of the
- 23 peace in the repossession of the motor vehicle.
- 24 (4) The lessee waives any right of action against the
- lessor or holder of the lease, or other person acting on his
- 26 behalf, for any illegal act committed in the collection of
- 27 payments under the lease or in the repossession of the motor
- vehicle.
- 29 (5) The lessee executes a power of attorney appointing
- 30 the lessor or holder of the lease, or other person acting on

- his behalf, as the lessee's agent in collection of payments under the lease or in the repossession of the motor vehicle.
- 3 (6) The lessor is relieved from liability for any legal 4 remedy which the lessee may have had against the lessor under 5 the lease or under any separate instrument executed in 6 connection therewith.
  - (7) The lessee waives any right to a trial by jury in any action or proceeding arising out of the lease.

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- (8) The lessee is required to pay an excess mileage charge for any mileage under 20,000 miles per year.
- (9) The lessee is required to pay an excess mileage rate for any mileage above 20,000 miles per year at a rate of more than seven cents per mile.
  - (10) A lessor may collect, upon termination of the lease, an amount for damages beyond normal wear and tear which shall exceed an amount for major physical or mechanical defects in the vehicle as determined by one of the following:
    - (i) The actual cost of repairs, reduced by all discounts, paid by the lessor or holder.
    - (ii) A true itemized estimate, prepared by an independent appraiser or repair shop, of the cost of repairs. If the lessee disagrees with that estimate, the lessee may obtain an estimate at his own expense from an independent third party who is agreeable to both the lessor or holder and the lessee, in which case the estimate obtained by the lessee shall be the basis for the amount charged to the lessee for repairs.
- 28 (11) The lessor or holder disclaims any express or 29 implied warranty.
- 30 (12) The lessee is prohibited from terminating a lease 19910H0836B0919 - 16 -

- 1 prior to its scheduled termination.
- 2 (13) Early termination by the lessee may serve as a
- 3 basis for default under the lease.
- 4 (b) Provisions and waivers unenforceable.--A lease term
- 5 inconsistent with the provisions of this act and a waiver of the
- 6 protections of this act shall not be enforceable.
- 7 Section 311. Void provisions not to affect valid provisions.
- 8 Any provisions prohibited by this act shall be void but shall
- 9 not otherwise affect the validity of the lease, if the lessee
- 10 makes whatever payments are required under this act.
- 11 Section 312. Security interest prohibited.
- 12 A lease, or any other agreement executed by the lessee in
- 13 connection therewith, shall not provide for the creation of a
- 14 security interest in any personal or real property to secure the
- 15 payment of the debt arising from the lease. This prohibition
- 16 shall not apply to the taking of a security deposit, advance
- 17 payment of rent or other prepayment by cash, check or similar
- 18 means. A security interest taken in violation of this section
- 19 shall be void but shall not otherwise affect the validity of the
- 20 lease.
- 21 Section 313. Notice of lessee's reinstatement rights.
- 22 After a lessee has been in default for ten days solely by
- 23 reason of his failure to make timely rental payment, the lessor
- 24 or holder of any lease shall mail or deliver to the lessee at
- 25 his last known address a written notice conspicuously setting
- 26 forth the right of the lessee to reinstate the lease, the dollar
- 27 amount necessary to reinstate the lease and the name, address
- 28 and telephone number of the lessor or holder from which
- 29 information may be obtained regarding the reinstatement. No
- 30 notice of reinstatement need be given if the lessor or holder

- 1 does not declare the lessee to be in default under the lease for
- 2 the lessee's failure to make timely rental payments.
- 3 Section 314. Restriction on early termination liability.
- 4 (a) Maximum amount. -- The obligation of the lessee upon early
- 5 termination of a lease may not exceed an amount equal to the sum
- 6 of the following:
- 7 (1) Any unpaid rental payments that accrued through the
- 8 date of early termination.
- 9 (2) Any other unpaid charges due and payable, other than
- 10 excess wear and tear or excess mileage charges, arising from
- 11 the failure of the lessee to fulfill his obligations under
- 12 the lease.
- 13 (3) An early termination charge not to exceed the
- 14 difference, if any, between:
- 15 (i) the initial adjusted capitalized cost; and
- 16 (ii) the sum of all depreciation amounts accrued
- 17 through the date of early termination, calculated in
- 18 accordance with the constant yield method and the
- 19 realized value of the leased vehicle.
- 20 (b) Security deposit.--Any refundable security deposit or
- 21 advance rental payment held by the lessor or holder may be
- 22 retained by the lessor or holder and shall be credited against
- 23 the early termination obligation of the lessee.
- 24 Section 315. Option to purchase.
- 25 Within 15 days after the expiration of the lease, the lessee
- 26 shall have the option to purchase the motor vehicle from the
- 27 lessor or holder at the residual value stated in the consumer
- 28 lease.
- 29 Section 316. Assignment of consumer leases.
- 30 With prior consent of the lessor or holder, a lessee may

- 1 assign a consumer lease with an initial term of one year or more
- 2 by giving written notice of the proposed assignment to the
- 3 lessor or holder. The lessor or holder shall not unreasonably
- 4 withhold his consent to the assignment. If the lessor or holder
- 5 unreasonably withholds his consent, the lessee has the option to
- 6 terminate the lease.
- 7 Section 317. Cancellation of lease.
- 8 After the payment of all sums for which the lessee is
- 9 obligated under a lease and upon written demand made by the
- 10 lessee, the holder of the lease shall mail to the lessee at his
- 11 last known address good and sufficient instruments to indicate
- 12 payment in full.
- 13 Section 318. Renegotiations and extensions.
- 14 A renegotiation is a new lease which is subject to the
- 15 disclosure requirements of this act. These disclosure
- 16 requirements are not applicable to any extension of an existing
- 17 lease.
- 18 CHAPTER 5
- 19 ENFORCEMENT
- 20 Section 501. Violation bar to recovery.
- 21 A violation of any provision of this act by a lessor or
- 22 holder shall bar his recovery of any lease charge, delinquency
- 23 or extension charge on the lease involved.
- 24 Section 502. Damages.
- 25 A lessee who has suffered a loss due to a violation of any
- 26 provision of this act by a lessor or holder is entitled to
- 27 recover his actual damages or \$100, whichever is greater, from
- 28 the lessor or holder.
- 29 Section 503. Failure to make refund.
- 30 A lessor who fails to refund any payment made pending the

- 1 execution of a lease within the time required by section 308
- 2 shall be liable to the lessee for twice the amount of the
- 3 payment not refunded within the time required.
- 4 Section 504. Failure to return vehicle.
- 5 A lessor who fails to return a vehicle which the lessee left
- 6 with the lessor pending the execution of a lease, or who sells
- 7 or transfers such a vehicle contrary to the provisions of
- 8 section 308, shall be liable to the lessee for:
- 9 (1) The value, attributed in writing by the lessor and
- 10 lessee, of the traded-in vehicle, or, if no value has been
- 11 attributed to the traded-in vehicle, the value determined by
- 12 reference to the National Auto Dealers Association Used Car
- Guide's Average Retail Value, as adjusted for mileage,
- improvements and any major physical or mechanical defects.
- 15 (2) All other costs and expenses incurred by the lessee
- because of the loss of the vehicle.
- 17 Section 505. Award of fees and costs.
- 18 In an action or proceeding in which it is determined that a
- 19 lessor or holder has violated this act, the court shall award to
- 20 the lessee the costs of the action or proceeding and reasonable
- 21 attorney fees. In determining the award of attorney fees, the
- 22 amount of the recovery on the behalf of the lessee is not
- 23 controlling.
- 24 Section 506. Application of Unfair Trade Act.
- 25 A violation of this act shall also constitute a violation of
- 26 the act of December 17, 1968 (P.L.1224, No.387), known as the
- 27 Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Law.
- 28 CHAPTER 11
- 29 MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS
- 30 Section 1101. Reservation of rights.

- 1 Nothing in this act shall be construed so as to nullify or
- 2 impair any right or rights which a lessee may have against a
- 3 lessor or holder at common law, by statute or otherwise.
- 4 Section 1102. Applicability.
- 5 This act shall apply to all motor vehicle leases executed on
- 6 and after the effective date of this act.
- 7 Section 1103. Repeals.
- 8 All acts and parts of acts are repealed insofar as they are
- 9 inconsistent with this act.
- 10 Section 1104. Effective date.
- 11 This act shall take effect in 90 days.