

Prior law defined "converter" or "secondary manufacturer" as a person who prior to the retail sale of motor vehicles, assembles, installs, or affixes a body, cab, or special equipment to a chassis, or who substantially adds, subtracts from, or modifies a previously assembled or manufactured motor vehicle.

New law adds trailers to the definition of converter or secondary manufacturer.

New law defines "low speed vehicle" as a four-wheeled, electric powered vehicle with a maximum speed of not less than 20 miles per hour but not more than 25 miles per hour and that possesses minimum motor vehicle equipment appropriate for vehicle safety as required by federal law.

Prior law defined "trailer" as every single vehicle without motive power designed for carrying property or passengers wholly on its own structure, drawn by a motor vehicle which carries no part of the weight and load of the trailer on its own wheels and having one or more load carrying axles. Trailer included but was not limited to utility trailers, boat trailers, recreational trailers, semitrailers, livestock trailers, and dump trailers.

New law adds tow dollies to the list of examples in the definition of trailer.

Prior law provided for unauthorized acts.

New law provides that it shall be a violation of law for a manufacturer, distributor, wholesaler, distributor branch, factory branch, converter or officer, agent, or other representative thereof to disqualify a manufacturer's sales or service satisfaction survey that pertains to a dealership employee's personal motor vehicle or specialty vehicle solely because it was mailed or communicated electronically from a dealership.

Prior law provided for manufacturer charge backs to a dealer.

New law provides that the dealer shall not be charged back for any rebate paid to a consumer pursuant to a manufacturer's rebate program, provided the dealer acted in good faith when relying on the consumer's qualifying information and otherwise complied with the program guidelines and documentation requirements. A manufacturer's rebate program shall include but not be limited to a rebate program that targets college graduates, military personnel, first-time buyers, owner loyalty, family relationships, and any other similar program.

Prior law provided for obtaining and maintaining a bond by a motor vehicle manufacturer, converter, distributor or wholesale, factory branch, and distributor branch licenses.

New law removes the bond requirement.

Effective August 1, 2013.

(Amends R.S. 32:1252(8) and (23)-(70); adds R.S. 32:1252(71), 1261(A)(1)(x), and 1262(B)(8); repeals R.S. 32:1254(D)(6))