

BRUCE C. GERRITY
bgerrity@preti.com

October 7, 2009

Honorable Lawrence Bliss
Senate Chair, Joint Standing Committee
on Judiciary
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Honorable Charles R. Priest
House Chair, Joint Standing Committee
on Judiciary
State House
Augusta, ME 04333

Re: Committee Review of P.L.2009, c. 230

Dear Senator Bliss and Representative Priest:

Please accept these comments submitted on behalf of the Maine Automobile Dealers Association, Inc. ("MADA"). MADA is an association of new car and truck dealers in the State of Maine. Every new car and truck dealer in the State of Maine is a member of the Association. The Association appreciates this opportunity to comment on P.L. 2009, c. 230. While well intentioned, the law creates significant problems for Maine's automobile dealers and minors who are interested in purchasing a car, financing a car or taking advantage of various dealer programs available to minors.

Minors buy motor vehicles in Maine every day. Automobile dealers secure financing for those individuals by conferring with various third-party lenders and working to provide the most appropriate financing for each minor who requires it. This activity would be precluded under the statute. In addition, automobile dealers regularly offer programs in conjunction with the purchase of a car. For example, extended warranties, which may be provided by a dealer, a manufacturer, or another third-party and which provide protections to minors in the event a vehicle malfunctions. In addition, automobile dealers regularly forward advertisements to their customers related to specific services. For example, a flyer offering an oil change, a tune-up or the like. Minors would be precluded from receiving this information, which would lower their costs of car ownership and help to keep the vehicle in good running order.

In sum, this legislation severely inhibits the ability of a dealer to sell vehicles to minors, to the detriment of the minor.

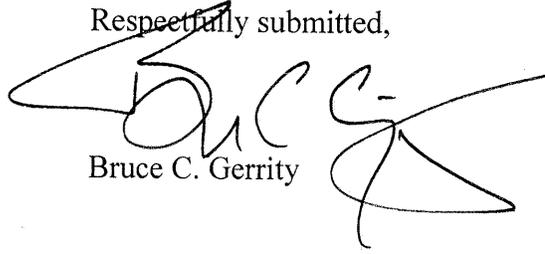
MADA respectfully urges the Committee to propose legislation to repeal P.L. 2009, c. 230 and to urge that new legislation be introduced and enacted during the Second Regular Session which will address more appropriately the question of coercive conduct in relation to minors. MADA appreciates this opportunity to submit these comments and looks forward to working with the Committee.

PRETI FLAHERTY

October 7, 2009

Page 2

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bruce C. Gerrity', written in a cursive style. The signature is positioned above the printed name.

Bruce C. Gerrity

BCG/ryp