

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4433

To require rental companies to provide consumer protections in renting motor vehicles to consumers, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 30, 2023

Ms. PORTER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require rental companies to provide consumer protections
in renting motor vehicles to consumers, and for other
purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Rental Car Consumer
5 Protection Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. CONSUMER PROTECTION REQUIREMENTS IN RENT-**
7 **ING MOTOR VEHICLES.**

8 (a) RESERVATIONS.—If a rental company allows a
9 consumer to make a reservation for a covered rental vehi-

1 cle, such rental company shall make available to such con-
2 sumer the vehicle reserved—

3 (1) within $\frac{1}{2}$ hour of the reserved time; and

4 (2) at the reserved location.

5 (b) DECEPTIVE ADVERTISING.—A rental company
6 may not advertise or represent that a consumer may make
7 a reservation for a covered rental vehicle unless such rent-
8 al company maintains the procedures required by sub-
9 section (c).

10 (c) RECORDS.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—A rental company that al-
12 lows consumers to make reservations for covered
13 rental vehicles shall maintain procedures reasonably
14 calculated to fulfill such reservations.

15 (2) PROCEDURES.—The procedures required by
16 paragraph (1) shall include maintaining a record of
17 each such reservation and of the scheduled return
18 time of each such vehicle. Such records shall be pre-
19 served for not fewer than 6 months.

20 (d) NOTICE.—

21 (1) REQUIREMENT.—A rental company that
22 rents covered rental vehicles to consumers shall pro-
23 vide clear and conspicuous notice to such consumers
24 that informs such consumers of the obligations of
25 such rental company under this section and how

1 such consumers may report violations of this section
2 to the Commission.

3 (2) FORM.—Such a rental company shall pro-
4 vide the notice described in paragraph (1) to such a
5 consumer—

6 (A) when such consumer makes a reserva-
7 tion for a covered rental vehicle; and

8 (B) on the business premises of such rent-
9 al company.

10 (e) RULEMAKING.—The Commission may promulgate
11 regulations under section 553 of title 5, United States
12 Code, to implement this section.

13 (f) ENFORCEMENT.—

14 (1) UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE ACTS OR PRAC-
15 TICES.—A violation of this section or a regulation
16 promulgated under this section shall be treated as a
17 violation of a regulation under section 18(a)(1)(B)
18 of the Federal Trade Commission Act (15 U.S.C.
19 57a(a)(1)(B)) regarding unfair or deceptive acts or
20 practices.

21 (2) POWERS OF THE COMMISSION.—The Com-
22 mission shall enforce this section and the regulations
23 promulgated under this section in the same manner,
24 by the same means, and with the same jurisdiction,
25 powers, and duties as through all applicable terms

1 and provisions of the Federal Trade Commission Act
2 (15 U.S.C. 41 et seq.) were incorporated into and
3 made a part of this section. Any person who violates
4 this section or a regulation promulgated under this
5 section shall be subject to the penalties entitled to
6 the privileges and immunities provided in the Fed-
7 eral Trade Commission Act.

8 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
10 means the Federal Trade Commission.

11 (2) COVERED RENTAL VEHICLE.—The term
12 “covered rental vehicle” has the meaning given such
13 term in section 30102(a) of title 49, United States
14 Code.

15 (3) RENTAL COMPANY.—The term “rental com-
16 pany” has the meaning given such term in section
17 30102(a) of title 49, United States Code.

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