

ACT No. 502

2025 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 476

BY REPRESENTATIVE FONTENOT

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 6:969.18(A)(2)(a), relative to an annual automatic adjustment
3 to a fee for motor vehicle dealers; to provide for a fee increase based on the
4 Consumer Price Index; to instruct the Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission on the
5 calculation of the fee; to provide for an effective date; and to provide for related
6 matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 6:969.18(A)(2)(a) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as
9 follows:

10 §969.18. Documentation and compliance fees; notary fees; transfer of equity and
11 other fees; disclosure

12 A.

13 * * *

14 (2)(a)(i) The seller, who may also be an extender of credit, may, in
15 connection with any retail sale, including but not limited to a retail installment
16 transaction, charge a fee for credit investigation, compliance with federal and state
17 law, preparation of the documents necessary to perfect or satisfy a lien upon the
18 objects sold, and any other functions incidental to the titling of the retail sale. The

base maximum amount permitted to be charged shall be four hundred twenty-five dollars. Beginning January 1, 2026, the base maximum fee shall be adjusted annually to equal the lesser of the following:

(aa) The base maximum fee of four hundred twenty-five dollars adjusted by the cumulative percentage change in the annual average of the Federal Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, or CPI-U, or its successor index. The CPI-U shall be calculated using the unadjusted monthly index values averaged over the calendar year, as published by the United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, or its successor agency, relative to the annual average for calendar year 2024.

(bb) The amount resulting from applying a growth rate of three percent to the adjusted maximum fee for the previous calendar year.

(ii) If the year-over-year percentage change in the CPI-U is negative, the adjusted maximum fee shall remain the same as the amount in effect for the prior calendar year. The Division of Administration shall calculate the adjusted maximum fee in accordance with this Paragraph, which shall be verified by the legislative auditor, and the division of administration shall transmit the updated amount to the Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission by February first each year. If the calculated adjustment results in a fee with a fractional dollar amount of less than fifty cents, the fee shall be rounded down to the nearest whole dollar. If the calculated adjustment results in a fee with a fractional dollar amount of fifty cents or more, the fee shall be rounded up to the next whole dollar. The Louisiana Motor Vehicle Commission shall publish the adjusted maximum fee on its official website.

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Section 2. The fee adjustment specified in R.S. 6:969.18(A)(2)(a) as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, shall begin on January 1, 2026.

Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If

1 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become
2 effective on the day following such approval.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____