

323.3 Discontinuing dealer franchise.

Notwithstanding the terms, provisions, or conditions of any dealer franchise, a distributor or franchiser shall not terminate or refuse to renew a dealer franchise except as provided in this chapter. A distributor or franchiser shall not terminate or refuse to renew a dealer franchise unless the distributor or franchiser gives to the dealer thirty days' written notice of distributor's or franchiser's intent to terminate or not renew. Notice shall be given by restricted certified mail, as defined in section 618.15. If a dealer, within thirty days after the date of delivery of the notice from the distributor or franchiser, applies to the department for a hearing under this chapter, the dealer franchise shall remain in effect pending a final order by the department. The application filed by the dealer shall state, under oath, that the dealer's license, issued pursuant to chapter 214, for pumps and meters located on the retail premises occupied by the dealer has not been canceled, that the dealer has not filed a petition in bankruptcy or been declared bankrupt within six months preceding the filing of the application, that the franchiser or distributor has not withdrawn entirely from the sale for resale of motor fuel and special fuel in this state, that there are no past due sums owing by the dealer to the franchiser or distributor, and that the dealer has not consented in writing to the termination or nonrenewal of the dealer franchise.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, § 323.3]