

537.1201 Territorial application.

1. This chapter applies to:

a. A transaction, or acts, practices or conduct with respect to a transaction, if the transaction is entered into in this state, except that a transaction involving other than open end credit or acts, practices or conduct with respect to such a transaction shall not subject any person to damages or penalty under article 5 of this chapter, or administrative enforcement under article 6, part 1.

(1) If the buyer, lessee or debtor was physically located outside of this state, at the time the buyer, lessee or debtor signed the writing evidencing the transaction or made, in face-to-face solicitation, a written or oral offer to enter into the transaction,

(2) If the transaction or acts, practices or conduct with respect to the transaction were not in violation of law in the state in which the buyer, lessee or debtor was physically located, and

(3) If, with respect to charges and agreements, the person does not collect or enforce that transaction except to the extent permitted by this chapter.

b. A transaction, or acts, practices or conduct with respect to a transaction, if it is modified in this state, without regard to where the transaction is entered into, except that acts, practices, conduct, disclosures, charges or provisions of agreements not in violation of law in the state where they occurred or were entered into, shall not subject any person to damages or penalty under article 5 or administrative enforcement under article 6, part 1, if, with respect to acts, practices, conduct or disclosures, they occurred outside this state and before a modification in this state, and if, with respect to charges and agreements, they are not collected or enforced by that person except to the extent permitted by this chapter. A person shall not be required to obtain a license under section 537.2301 solely because the person modifies a transaction in this state.

c. Acts, practices or conduct in this state in the solicitation, inducement, negotiation, collection or enforcement of a transaction, without regard to where it is entered into or modified; including, but not limited to, acts, practices or conduct in violation of sections 537.3209, 537.3210, 537.3311, 537.3501, article 5, parts 1 and 3, and article 7.

2. For the purposes of this section, a transaction is entered into or modified in this state if any of the following apply:

a. In a transaction involving other than open end credit:

(1) If the buyer, lessee or debtor is a resident of this state at the time the person extending credit solicits the transaction or modification, whether personally, by mail or by telephone, unless the parties have agreed that the law of the residence of the buyer, lessee or debtor applies, in which case that law applies.

(2) If the buyer, lessee or debtor is a resident of this state at the time the person extending credit receives either a signed writing evidencing the transaction or modification, or a written or oral offer of the buyer, lessee or debtor to enter into or modify the transaction.

(3) If the transaction otherwise has significant contacts with this state, unless the buyer, lessee or debtor is not a resident of this state at the times designated in subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraphs (1) and (2), and the parties have agreed that the law of the buyer's, lessee's, or debtor's residence applies. A person shall not be required to obtain a license under section 537.2301 solely because this chapter applies to a transaction pursuant to this subparagraph.

b. In an open end credit transaction:

(1) If the buyer, lessee or debtor is a resident of this state either at the time the buyer, lessee or debtor forwards or otherwise gives to the person extending credit a written or oral communication of the intention to establish the open end transaction, or at the time the person extending credit forwards or otherwise gives to the buyer, lessee or debtor a written or oral communication giving notice to the buyer, lessee or debtor of the right to enter into open end transactions with such person, unless the parties have agreed that the law of the residence of the buyer, lessee or debtor applies in which case that law shall apply.

(2) If the transaction otherwise has significant contacts with this state, unless the buyer, lessee or debtor is not a resident of this state at the times designated in subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraph (1), and the parties have agreed that the law of the buyer's, lessee's, or debtor's residence applies. A person shall not be required to obtain a license under section 537.2301 solely because this chapter applies to a transaction pursuant to this subparagraph.

c. In any credit transaction, if the parties have agreed that the law of the residence of the buyer, lessee or debtor applies and the buyer, lessee or debtor is a resident of this state at any time designated, with respect to a transaction other than open end, in subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraphs (1) and (2) or, with respect to an open end credit transaction, in subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1).

3. For the purposes of this section, "*modification*" shall include, but not be limited to, any alteration in the maturity, schedule of payments, amount financed, rate of finance charge or other term of a transaction.

4. For the purposes of this chapter, the residence of a buyer, lessee or debtor is the address given by that person as the person's residence in a writing signed by the person in connection with a transaction until the person notifies the person extending credit of a different address as the person's residence, and it is then the different address.

5. Except as provided in subsection 1, paragraph "c", and subsection 6, a transaction entered into or modified in another jurisdiction is valid and enforceable in this state according to its terms to the extent that it is valid and enforceable under the laws of the other jurisdiction.

6. A provision of an agreement made by a buyer, lessee or debtor is invalid:

a. Which provides, if the buyer, lessee or debtor is a resident of this state at the times designated in subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraphs (1) and (2) and subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1):

(1) That the law of another jurisdiction shall apply, except as provided in subsection 2, paragraph "a", subparagraph (1) and in subsection 2, paragraph "b", subparagraph (1).

(2) That the buyer, lessee or debtor consents to be subject to the process of another jurisdiction.

(3) That the buyer, lessee or debtor appoints an agent to receive service of process.

(4) That venue is fixed at a particular place.

(5) That the consumer consents to the jurisdiction of a court that does not otherwise have jurisdiction.

b. If a provision would negate subsection 1, paragraph "b".

7. The following provisions of this chapter specify the applicable law governing certain cases:

a. Section 537.6102 specifies the applicability of article 6, part 1.

b. Section 537.6201 specifies the applicability of article 6, part 2.

[C75, 77, 79, 81, § 537.1201]