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Preface to Automobile Lemon Laws:

An Annotated Bibliography

by Cary R. Latimer Feature Articles Editor

Without a doubt, the automobile represents the most important consumer product in America. An individual's investment in a car is often only exceeded by that individual's investment in a house. In contemporary society, the automobile is more of a necessity than a luxury.

Because of the automobile's great impact on daily life, state legislatures, as well as the Congress, have enacted statutes, known as "lemon laws," to provide consumers with certain protections from recurring manufacturing defects in automobiles.³ Although the particulars of lemon laws differ from state to state, the statutes have primarily the same goal: to permit consumers to rescind a purchase of an automobile that routinely suffers from the same defect.⁴ These laws have been the source of much

legal analysis, of which Louis J. Sirico, Jr.'s article, Automobile Lemon Laws: An Annotated Bibliography, comprehensively discusses.⁵

More importantly, Automobile Lemon Laws: An Annotated Bibliography illustrates the importance of lemon laws to the consumer. State legislatures have provided the American consumer with a powerful tool against automobile manufacturers. Mr. Sirico's article offers consumers, who may have little legal background, the opportunity to understand their rights under the law generally and under the statutes of seventeen different states. In addition, the article presents consumers with the information necessary to pursue a claim under lemon laws or through a different legal channel.

ENDNOTES

¹ See Carol S. Nance, Comment, Virginia's Lemon Law: The Best Treatment for a Car Owner's Canker, 19 U.Rich. L. REV. 405, 406 (1985).

 $^{^{2}}$ Id.

³ See Robert D. Honigman, The New "Lemon Laws": Expanding UCC

Remedies, 17 UCC L.J. 116, 117 (1984).

⁴Id.; Curtis Reitz, What You Should Know About State "Lemon Laws," 34-3 PRACT. LAW. 83, 84-85 (1988).

⁵ See accompanying text, Louis J. Sirico, Jr., Automobile Lemon Laws: An Annotated Bibliography.

⁶Honigman, supra note 2, at 116.

⁷See Sirico, supra Parts I. and VII.

⁸ See Sirico, supra Part V.

⁹See Sirico, supra Part III.