

## **Dealership Transfer Bill**

HF 373, a bill for an act relating to equipment dealerships by providing for the sale or transfer of a dealership and providing for the Act's applicability, was unanimously passed in the House on March 2, 2005, passed in the Senate on March 14, 2005, and has gone to the governor for his signature.

The bill reads, "If a supplier has contractual authority to approve or deny a request for a sale or transfer of a dealer's business or an equity ownership interest therein, the supplier shall approve or deny such a request within 60 days after receiving a written request from the dealer. If the supplier has neither approved nor denied the request within the 60-day period, the request will be deemed approved. The dealer's request shall include reasonable financial information, personal background information, character references and work histories for the acquiring persons. If a supplier denies a request made pursuant to this paragraph, the supplier must provide the dealer with a written notice of such denial that states the reasons for such denial. A supplier may only deny a request based on the failure of the proposed transferees to meet the reasonable requirements consistently imposed by the supplier in determining approval of such transfer and/or approvals of new dealers."