

Special Risks to Consider About *This Franchise*

Certain states require that the following risk(s) be highlighted:

- (i) **Out-of-State Dispute Resolution**. The franchise agreement requires you to resolve disputes with the franchisor by mediation, arbitration and/or litigation only in California. Out-of-state mediation, arbitration, or litigation may force you to accept a less favorable settlement for disputes. It may also cost more to mediate, arbitrate, or litigate with the franchisor in California than in your own state.
- (ii) **Spousal Liability**. Your spouse must sign a document that makes your spouse liable for all financial obligations under the franchise agreement even though your spouse has no ownership interest in the franchise. This guarantee will place both your and your spouse's marital and personal assets, perhaps including your house, at risk if your franchise fails.
- (iii) **Unopened Franchises**. The franchisor has signed a significant number of franchise agreements with franchisees who have not yet opened their outlets. If other franchisees are experiencing delays in opening their outlets, you also may experience delays in opening your own outlet.
- (iv) **Mandatory minimum payments. You must make minimum royalty or advertising fund payments, regardless of your sales levels. Your inability to make the payments may result in termination of your franchise and loss of your investment.**

Certain states may require other risks to be highlighted. If so, check the "State Specific Addenda" pages for your state.

2.3.4 Statements, Questionnaires and Acknowledgements

No statement, questionnaire, or acknowledgment signed or agreed to by a franchisee in connection with the commencement of the franchise relationship shall have the effect of (i) waiving any claims under any applicable state franchise law, including fraud in the inducement, or (ii) disclaiming reliance on any statement made by any franchisor, franchise seller, or other person acting on behalf of the franchisor. This provision supersedes any other term of any document executed in connection with the franchise.

2.3.5 Fee Deferral

Based upon the franchisor's financial condition, the Maryland Securities Commissioner has required a financial assurance. Therefore, all initial fees and payments owed by franchisees shall be deferred until the franchisor completes its pre-opening obligations under the franchise agreement.

2.3.6 Certain Acknowledgments and Representations of Franchisee

Sections 16.1(f) and 16.1(g) in the Franchise Agreement are deleted in their entirety and not applicable in the State of Maryland.

2.4. Minnesota

The following provisions apply to you if your State is Minnesota:

2.4.1. Release of Claims

The Agreement says that we may require you to sign a special release of claims as a condition of transfer of your franchise. The release will not apply to any claim arising under Minn. Stats. Chapter 80C.

2.4.2. Arbitration Venue

Section 11.4 (Arbitration) of the Agreement requires binding arbitration of any dispute. The arbitration will occur in a state other than Minnesota, with costs being borne according to the Rules for Commercial Arbitration of the American Arbitration Association. Under Minnesota Statutes § 80C.21 and Minnesota Rule Part 2860.4400J, this Section may not in any way invalidate or reduce any of the franchise owner's rights that are listed in Chapter 80C of the Minnesota Statutes.

2.4.3. Venue

Section 11.6(a) (Venue, Submission to Court, Limitation of Damages) of the Agreement is amended to read as follows:

No individual or entity (whether named or otherwise designated) will be joined as a party to those proceedings if that joinder has the effect of destroying federal court jurisdiction, unless that individual or entity is a