By: Senator(s) Harkins

To: Business and Financial Institutions

SENATE BILL NO. 2633

AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 75-71-206, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CREATE AN EXEMPTION FOR OPEN BLOCKCHAIN TOKENS FROM SECURITIES LAWS; TO AMEND SECTION 75-71-102, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE DEFINITIONS UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI SECURITIES ACT 5 OF 2010 TO CONFORM; TO AMEND SECTION 75-15-7, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 6 1972, TO REVISE EXEMPTIONS UNDER THE MISSISSIPPI MONEY 7 TRANSMITTERS ACT TO CONFORM; TO AMEND SECTION 75-15-32, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CLARIFY THE AUTHORITY OF THE 8 9 COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE SUSPECTED VIOLATIONS OF THE 10 MISSISSIPPI MONEY TRANSMITTERS ACT EVEN IF A BLOCKCHAIN TOKEN 11 EXEMPTION IS ASSERTED; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES. 12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI: 13 SECTION 1. The following shall be codified as Section 75-71-206, Mississippi Code of 1972: 14

- 15 $\underline{75-71-206}$. Open blockchain token exemption. (1) Except as
- 16 otherwise provided by subsection (3) of this section, a developer
- 17 or seller of an open blockchain token shall not be deemed the
- 18 issuer of a security and shall not be subject to the provisions of
- 19 the Mississippi Securities Act of 2010 if all of the following are
- 20 met:
- 21 (a) The developer or seller of the token, or the
- 22 registered agent of the developer or seller, files a notice of

23	intent	with	the	Secretary	of	State,	as	specified	in	subsection	(d	1)
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- 24 of this section;
- 25 (b) The purpose of the token is for a consumptive
- 26 purpose, which shall only be exchangeable for, or provided for the
- 27 receipt of, goods, services or content, including rights of access
- 28 to goods, services or content; and
- 29 (c) The developer or seller of the token did not sell
- 30 the token to the initial buyer as a financial investment. This
- 31 paragraph shall only be satisfied if:
- 32 (i) The developer or seller did not market the
- 33 token as a financial investment; and
- 34 (ii) At least one (1) of the following is true:
- 35 1. The developer or seller of the token
- 36 reasonably believed that it sold the token to the initial buyer
- 37 for a consumptive purpose;
- 38 2. The token has a consumptive purpose that
- 39 is available at the time of sale and can be used at or near the
- 40 time of sale for use for a consumptive purpose;
- 3. If the token does not have a consumptive
- 42 purpose available at the time of sale, the initial buyer of the
- 43 token is prevented from reselling the token until the token is
- 44 available for use for a consumptive purpose; or
- 4. The developer or seller takes other
- 46 reasonable precautions to prevent buyers from purchasing the token
- 47 as a financial investment.

- 48 (2) Except as otherwise provided by subsection (c) of this
- 49 section, a person who facilitates the exchange of an open
- 50 blockchain token shall not be deemed a broker-dealer or a person
- 51 who otherwise deals in securities under this chapter and shall not
- 52 be subject to the provisions of the Mississippi Securities Act of
- 53 2010 if all of the following are met:
- 54 (a) The person, or the registered agent of the person,
- 55 files a notice of intent with the Secretary of State, as specified
- 56 in subsection (d) of this section;
- 57 (b) The person has a reasonable and good-faith belief
- 58 that a token, subject to exchange, conforms to the requirements of
- 59 subsection (1) of this section; and
- 60 (c) The person takes reasonably prompt action to
- 61 terminate the exchange of a token that does not conform to the
- 62 requirements of this subsection.
- 63 (3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a developer,
- 64 seller or a person who facilitates the exchange of an open
- 65 blockchain token is subject to the provisions of the Mississippi
- 66 Securities Act of 2010 only to the extent necessary to carry out
- 67 those sections. The Secretary of State shall have the authority
- 68 provided under the Mississippi Securities Act of 2010 to determine
- 69 compliance with the provisions of this section, including whether
- 70 a person qualifies for the exemptions set forth in this section.
- 71 The evidentiary burdens specified in the Mississippi Securities

- 72 Act of 2010 shall apply in any proceeding initiated by the
- 73 Secretary of State under this subsection (3).
- 74 (4) A developer, seller or a person who facilitates the
- 75 exchange of an open blockchain token, or the registered agent of
- 76 the applicable person, shall electronically file a notice of
- 77 intent with the Secretary of State before the person shall qualify
- 78 for an exemption under this section. The notice of intent shall
- 79 contain the name of the person acting as a developer, seller or
- 80 facilitator, the contact information of the person or the
- 81 registered agent of the person and specify whether the person will
- 82 be acting as a developer, seller or facilitator. A secure form
- 83 shall be made available by the Office of the Secretary of State on
- 84 its internet website for this purpose.
- 85 (5) As used in this section, "open blockchain token" means a
- 86 digital unit which is:
- 87 (a) Created:
- (i) In response to the verification or collection
- 89 of a specified number of transactions relating to a digital ledger
- 90 or database;
- 91 (ii) By deploying computer code to a blockchain
- 92 network that allows for the creation of digital tokens or other
- 93 units; or
- 94 (iii) Using any combination of the methods
- 95 specified in this subsection (5)(a).

96 (b)	Recorded	in a	digital	ledger	or	database	which	is
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- 97 chronological, consensus-based, decentralized and mathematically
- 98 verified in nature, especially relating to the supply of units and
- 99 their distribution; and
- 100 (c) Capable of being traded or transferred between
- 101 persons without an intermediary or custodian of value.
- 102 **SECTION 2.** Section 75-71-102, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 103 amended as follows:
- 104 75-71-102. In this chapter, unless the context otherwise
- 105 requires:
- 106 (1) "Administrator" means the Secretary of State.
- 107 (2) "Agent" means an individual, other than a
- 108 broker-dealer, who represents a broker-dealer in effecting or
- 109 attempting to effect purchases or sales of securities or
- 110 represents an issuer in effecting or attempting to effect
- 111 purchases or sales of the issuer's securities. The term does not
- 112 include an individual excluded by rule adopted or order issued
- 113 under this chapter. The term does not include an associated
- 114 person of an issuer who is deemed not to be a broker under
- 115 Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 3a4-1.
- 116 (3) "Bank" means:
- 117 (A) A banking institution organized under the laws
- 118 of the United States;
- 119 (B) A member bank of the Federal Reserve System;

120	(C) Any other banking institution, whether
121	incorporated or not, doing business under the laws of a state or
122	of the United States, a substantial portion of the business of
123	which consists of receiving deposits or exercising fiduciary
124	powers similar to those permitted to be exercised by national
125	banks under the authority of the Comptroller of the Currency
126	pursuant to Section 1 of Public Law 87-722 (12 USC Section 92a),
127	and which is supervised and examined by a state or federal agency
128	having supervision over banks, and which is not operated for the
129	purpose of evading this chapter; and
130	(D) A receiver, conservator, or other liquidating
131	agent of any institution or firm included in subparagraph (A), (B)
132	or (C).
133	(4) "Broker-dealer" means a person engaged in the
134	business of effecting transactions in securities for the account
135	of others or for the person's own account. The term does not
136	include:
137	(A) An agent;
138	(B) An issuer;
139	(C) A bank or savings institution if its
140	activities as a broker-dealer are limited to those specified in
141	subsection $3(a)(4)(B)(i)$ through (vi), (viii) through (x), and
142	(xi) if limited to unsolicited transactions; 3(a)(5)(B); and
143	3(a)(5)(C) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC Section
144	78c(a)(4) and (5)) or a bank that satisfies the conditions

145	described in subsection 3(a)(4)(E) of the Securities Exchange Act
146	of 1934 (15 USC Section 78c(a)(4));
147	(D) An international banking institution; * * *
148	(E) A person excluded by rule adopted or order
149	issued under this chapter * * *; or
150	(F) A person who facilitates the exchange of an
151	open blockchain token as defined in Section 75-71-206 and subject
152	to Section 75-71-206(3).
153	(5) "Depository institution" means:
154	(A) A bank; or
155	(B) A savings institution, trust company, credit
156	union, or similar institution that is organized or chartered under
157	the laws of a state or of the United States, authorized to receive
158	deposits, and supervised and examined by an official or agency of
159	a state or the United States if its deposits or share accounts are
160	insured to the maximum amount authorized by statute by the Federal
161	Deposit Insurance Corporation, the National Credit Union Share
162	Insurance Fund, or a successor authorized by federal law. The
163	term does not include:
164	(i) An insurance company or other
165	organization primarily engaged in the business of insurance;
166	(ii) A Morris Plan bank; or
167	(iii) An industrial loan company that is not

an "insured depository institution" as defined in Section 3(c)(2)

169	of	the	Federal	Deposit	Insurance	Act,	12	USC	1813(c)	(2),	or	any
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- 170 successor federal statute.
- 171 (6) "Federal covered investment adviser" means a person
- 172 registered under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.
- 173 (7) "Federal covered security" means a security that
- 174 is, or upon completion of a transaction will be, a covered
- 175 security under Section 18(b) of the Securities Act of 1933 (15 USC
- 176 Section 77r(b)) or rules or regulations adopted pursuant to that
- 177 provision.
- 178 (8) "Filing" means the receipt under this chapter of a
- 179 record by the administrator or a designee of the administrator.
- 180 (9) "Fraud," "deceit" and "defraud" are not limited to
- 181 common law deceit.
- 182 (10) "Guaranteed" means guaranteed as to payment of all
- 183 principal and all interest.
- 184 (11) "Institutional investor" means any of the
- 185 following, whether acting for itself or for others in a fiduciary
- 186 capacity:
- 187 (A) A depository institution or international
- 188 banking institution;
- 189 (B) An insurance company;
- 190 (C) A separate account of an insurance company;
- 191 (D) An investment company as defined in the
- 192 Investment Company Act of 1940;

194	Securities Exchange Act of 1934;
195	(F) An employee pension, profit-sharing, or
196	benefit plan if the plan has total assets in excess of Ten Million
197	Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) or its investment decisions are made by a
198	named fiduciary, as defined in the Employee Retirement Income
199	Security Act of 1974, that is a broker-dealer registered under the
200	Securities Exchange Act of 1934, an investment adviser registered
201	or exempt from registration under the Investment Advisers Act of
202	1940, an investment adviser registered under this chapter, a
203	depository institution, or an insurance company;
204	(G) A plan established and maintained by a state,
205	a political subdivision of a state, or an agency or
206	instrumentality of a state or a political subdivision of a state
207	for the benefit of its employees, if the plan has total assets in
208	excess of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) or its investment
209	decisions are made by a duly designated public official or by a
210	named fiduciary, as defined in the Employee Retirement Income
211	Security Act of 1974, that is a broker-dealer registered under the
212	Securities Exchange Act of 1934, an investment adviser registered
213	or exempt from registration under the Investment Advisers Act of
214	1940, an investment adviser registered under this chapter, a
215	depository institution, or an insurance company;
216	(H) A trust, if it has total assets in excess of

A broker-dealer registered under the

(E)

Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00), its trustee is a depository

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- 218 institution, and its participants are exclusively plans of the
- 219 types identified in subparagraph (F) or (G), regardless of the
- 220 size of their assets, except a trust that includes as participants
- 221 self-directed individual retirement accounts or similar
- 222 self-directed plans;
- 223 (I) An organization described in Section 501(c)(3)
- of the Internal Revenue Code (26 USC Section 501(c)(3)),
- 225 corporation, Massachusetts trust or similar business trust,
- 226 limited liability company, or partnership, not formed for the
- 227 specific purpose of acquiring the securities offered, with total
- 228 assets in excess of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000);
- 229 (J) A small business investment company licensed
- 230 by the Small Business Administration under Section 301(c) of the
- 231 Small Business Investment Act of 1958 (15 USC Section 681(c)) with
- 232 total assets in excess of Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- 233 (K) A private business development company as
- 234 defined in Section 202(a)(22) of the Investment Advisers Act of
- 235 1940 (15 USC Section 80b-2(a)(22)) with total assets in excess of
- 236 Ten Million Dollars (\$10,000,000.00);
- 237 (L) A federal covered investment adviser acting
- 238 for its own account;
- 239 (M) A "qualified institutional buyer" as defined
- 240 in Rule 144A(a)(1), other than Rule 144A(a)(1)(i)(H), adopted
- 241 under the Securities Act of 1933 (17 CFR 230.144A);

242				(N)	Α	"ma	ajor	U	.S.	inst	itutio	nal	investor"	as
243	defined	in	Rule	15a-	-6	(b)	(4) (i)	ado	pted	under	the	Securiti	es

- 244 Exchange Act of 1934 (17 CFR 240.15a-6);
- 245 (O) Any other person, other than an individual, of 246 institutional character with total assets in excess of Ten Million 247 Dollars (\$10,000,000.00) not organized for the specific purpose of 248 evading this chapter; or
- 249 (P) Any other person specified by rule adopted or 250 order issued under this chapter.
- 251 (12) "Insurance company" means a company organized as
 252 an insurance company whose primary business is writing insurance
 253 or reinsuring risks underwritten by insurance companies and which
 254 is subject to supervision by the insurance commissioner or a
 255 similar official or agency of a state.
- 256 (13) "Insured" means insured as to payment of all 257 principal and all interest.
- 258 (14) "International banking institution" means an
 259 international financial institution of which the United States is
 260 a member and whose securities are exempt from registration under
 261 the Securities Act of 1933.
- (15) "Investment adviser" means a person that, for compensation, engages in the business of advising others, either directly or through publications or writings, as to the value of securities or the advisability of investing in, purchasing, or selling securities or that, for compensation and as a part of a

267	regular business, issues or promulgates analyses or reports
268	concerning securities. The term includes a financial planner or
269	other person that, as an integral component of other financially
270	related services, provides investment advice to others for
271	compensation as part of a business or that holds itself out as
272	providing investment advice to others for compensation. The term
273	does not include:
274	(A) An investment adviser representative;
275	(B) A lawyer, accountant, engineer, or teacher
276	whose performance of investment advice is solely incidental to the
277	practice of the person's profession;
278	(C) A broker-dealer or its agents whose
279	performance of investment advice is solely incidental to the
280	conduct of business as a broker-dealer and that does not receive
281	special compensation for the investment advice;
282	(D) A publisher of a bona fide newspaper, news
283	magazine, or business or financial publication of general and
284	regular circulation;
285	(E) A federal covered investment adviser;
286	(F) A bank or savings institution;
287	(G) Any other person that is excluded by the
288	Investment Advisers Act of 1940 from the definition of investment
289	adviser; or

order issued under this chapter.

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(H) Any other person excluded by rule adopted or

292	(16) "Investment adviser representative" means an
293	individual employed by or associated with an investment adviser or
294	federal covered investment adviser and who makes any
295	recommendations or otherwise gives investment advice regarding
296	securities, manages accounts or portfolios of clients, determines
297	which recommendation or advice regarding securities should be
298	given, provides investment advice or holds herself or himself out
299	as providing investment advice, receives compensation to solicit,
300	offer, or negotiate for the sale of or for selling investment
301	advice, or supervises employees who perform any of the foregoing.
302	The term does not include an individual who:

- 303 (A) Performs only clerical or ministerial acts;
- 304 (B) Is an agent whose performance of investment
 305 advice is solely incidental to the individual acting as an agent
 306 and who does not receive special compensation for investment
 307 advisory services;
- 308 (C) Is employed by or associated with a federal covered investment adviser, unless the individual has a "place of business" in this state as that term is defined by rule adopted under Section 203A of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC Section 80b-3a) and is:
- (i) An "investment adviser representative" as
 that term is defined by rule adopted under Section 203A of the
 Investment Advisers Act of 1940 (15 USC Section 80b-3a); or

316	(ii) Not a "supervised person" as that term
317	is defined in Section 202(a)(25) of the Investment Advisers Act of
318	1940 (15 USC Section 80b-2(a)(25)); or
319	(D) Is excluded by rule adopted or order issued
320	under this chapter.
321	(17) "Issuer" means a person that issues or proposes to
322	issue a security, subject to Section 75-71-206(1) and (2) and the
323	following:
324	(A) The issuer of a voting trust certificate,
325	collateral trust certificate, certificate of deposit for a
326	security, or share in an investment company without a board of
327	directors or individuals performing similar functions is the
328	person performing the acts and assuming the duties of depositor or
329	manager pursuant to the trust or other agreement or instrument
330	under which the security is issued.
331	(B) The issuer of an equipment trust certificate
332	or similar security serving the same purpose is the person by
333	which the property is or will be used or to which the property or
334	equipment is or will be leased or conditionally sold or that is
335	otherwise contractually responsible for assuring payment of the
336	certificate.
337	(C) The issuer of a fractional undivided interest

in an oil, gas, or other mineral lease or in payments out of

production under a lease, right, or royalty is the owner of an

interest in the lease or in payments out of production under a

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341	lease,	riaht.	or	rovaltv,	whether	whole	or	fractional,	that

- 342 creates fractional interests for the purpose of sale.
- 343 (18) "Nonissuer transaction" or "nonissuer
- 344 distribution" means a transaction or distribution not directly or
- 345 indirectly for the benefit of the issuer.
- 346 (19) "Offer to purchase" includes an attempt or offer
- 347 to obtain, or solicitation of an offer to sell, a security or
- 348 interest in a security for value. The term does not include a
- 349 tender offer that is subject to Section 14(d) of the Securities
- 350 Exchange Act of 1934 (15 USC 78n(d)).
- 351 (20) "Person" means an individual; corporation;
- 352 business trust; estate; trust; partnership; limited liability
- 353 company; association or organization, whether incorporated or
- 354 unincorporated; joint venture; government; governmental
- 355 subdivision, agency, or instrumentality; or any other legal or
- 356 commercial entity.
- 357 (21) "Place of business" of a broker-dealer, an
- 358 investment adviser, or a federal covered investment adviser means:
- 359 (A) An office at which the broker-dealer,
- 360 investment adviser, or federal covered investment adviser
- 361 regularly provides brokerage or investment advice or solicits,
- 362 meets with, or otherwise communicates with customers or clients;
- 363 or
- 364 (B) Any other location that is held out to the
- 365 general public as a location at which the broker-dealer,

366	investment	adviser,	or	federal	covered	investment	adviser	provides

- brokerage or investment advice or solicits, meets with, or 367
- 368 otherwise communicates with customers or clients.
- 369 (22)"Predecessor act" means the act repealed by
- 370 Section 2, Chapter 528, Laws of 2009.
- "Price amendment" means the amendment to a 371 (23)
- 372 registration statement filed under the Securities Act of 1933 or,
- 373 if an amendment is not filed, the prospectus or prospectus
- 374 supplement filed under the Securities Act of 1933 that includes a
- statement of the offering price, underwriting and selling 375
- 376 discounts or commissions, amount of proceeds, conversion rates,
- 377 call prices, and other matters dependent upon the offering price.
- "Principal place of business" of a broker-dealer 378
- 379 or an investment adviser means the executive office of the
- 380 broker-dealer or investment adviser from which the officers,
- 381 partners, or managers of the broker-dealer or investment adviser
- 382 direct, control, and coordinate the activities of the
- 383 broker-dealer or investment adviser.

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- 384 (25) "Record," except in the phrases "of record,"
- "official record," and "public record," means information that is 385
- 386 inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic
- 387 or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.
- 388 "Sale" includes every contract of sale, contract (26)
- 389 to sell, or disposition of, a security or interest in a security
- for value, and "offer to sell" includes every attempt or offer to 390

391	dispose	of,	or	solicitation	of	an	offer	to	purchase,	а	security	or

- 392 interest in a security for value. Both terms include:
- 393 (A) A security given or delivered with, or as a
- 394 bonus on account of, a purchase of securities or any other thing
- 395 constituting part of the subject of the purchase and having been
- 396 offered and sold for value;
- 397 (B) A gift of assessable stock involving an offer
- 398 and sale; and
- 399 (C) A sale or offer of a warrant or right to
- 400 purchase or subscribe to another security of the same or another
- 401 issuer and a sale or offer of a security that gives the holder a
- 402 present or future right or privilege to convert the security into
- 403 another security of the same or another issuer, including an offer
- 404 of the other security.
- 405 "Securities and Exchange Commission" means the
- 406 United States Securities and Exchange Commission.
- 407 (28) "Security" means a note; stock; treasury stock;
- 408 security future; bond; debenture; evidence of indebtedness;
- 409 certificate of interest or participation in a profit-sharing
- 410 agreement; collateral trust certificate; preorganization
- 411 certificate or subscription; transferable share; investment
- 412 contract; voting trust certificate; certificate of deposit for a
- 413 security; fractional undivided interest in oil, gas, or other
- 414 mineral rights; put, call, straddle, option, or privilege on a
- 415 security, certificate of deposit, or group or index of securities,

416	including an interest therein or based on the value thereof; put,
417	call, straddle, option, or privilege entered into on a national
418	securities exchange relating to foreign currency; or, in general,
419	an interest or instrument commonly known as a "security"; or a
420	certificate of interest or participation in, temporary or interim
421	certificate for, receipt for, guarantee of, or warrant or right to
422	subscribe to or purchase, any of the foregoing. The term includes
423	both a certificated and an uncertificated security. The term does
424	not include an insurance or endowment policy or annuity contract
425	under which an insurance company promises to pay a sum of money
426	either in a lump sum or periodically for life or other specified
427	period; * * * an interest in a contributory or noncontributory
428	pension or welfare plan subject to the Employee Retirement Income
429	Security Act of 1974; or an open blockchain token, as defined in
430	Section 75-71-206. An "investment contract" includes, among other
431	contracts, an investment in a limited partnership, an interest in
432	a limited liability company, an investment in a viatical
433	settlement or similar agreement, and an investment in a common
434	enterprise with the expectation of profits to be derived primarily
435	from the efforts of a person other than the investor and a "common
436	enterprise" means an enterprise in which the fortunes of the
437	investor are interwoven with those of either the person offering
438	the investment, a third party, or other investors.

(29)

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22/SS08/R919 PAGE 18 (csq\tb) "Self-regulatory organization" means a national

securities exchange registered under the Securities Exchange Act

- 441 of 1934, a national securities association of broker-dealers
- 442 registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, a clearing
- 443 agency registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or
- 444 the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board established under the
- 445 Securities Exchange Act of 1934.
- 446 (30) "Sign" means, with present intent to authenticate
- 447 or adopt a record:
- 448 (A) To execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or
- (B) To attach or logically associate with the
- 450 record an electronic symbol, sound, or process.
- 451 (31) "State" means a state of the United States, the
- 452 District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin
- 453 Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the
- 454 jurisdiction of the United States.
- SECTION 3. Section 75-15-7, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 456 amended as follows:
- 457 75-15-7. Nothing in this chapter shall apply to:
- 458 (a) The sale or issuance or delivering of checks by:
- 459 (* * *i) Any financial institution whose deposits
- 460 are insured by any agency of the United States government or any
- 461 trust company authorized to do business in this state;
- 462 (* * *ii) The government of the United States or
- 463 any department or agent thereof;

464	(* * * <u>iii</u>) The State of Mississippi or any
465	municipal corporation, county or other political subdivision of
466	this state;
467	(* * $\star \underline{iv}$) Agents of a licensee, as provided for
468	in Section 75-15-17, provided that this exemption shall apply only
469	to the agent's acts on behalf of the licensee and this exemption
470	shall not exempt the agent from the provisions of this chapter
471	where he conducts money transmissions for his own account;
472	(* * $\star\underline{v}$) Attorneys-at-law, as to checks issued in
473	the regular course of the practice of law;
474	(* * $\times vi$) Persons not carrying on the trade or
475	business of money transmission, this exemption is intended to
476	include persons who conduct money transmissions only as an
477	incidental act to another trade or business regularly carried on
478	by them and persons who only occasionally and infrequently conduct
479	money transmissions for another person; or
480	(* * * <u>vii</u>) The Nationwide Mortgage Licensing
481	System and Registry for mortgage brokers, mortgage lenders and
482	mortgage loan originators * * *; or
483	(b) A person who develops, sells or facilitates the
484	exchange of an open blockchain token, as defined in Section
485	<u>75-71-206.</u>
486	SECTION 4. Section 75-15-32, Mississippi Code of 1972, is

487 amended as follows:

75-15-32. $\underline{(1)}$ The commissioner, or his duly authorized
representative, for the purpose of discovering violations of this
chapter and for the purpose of determining whether persons are
subject to the provisions of this chapter, may examine persons
licensed under this chapter and persons reasonably suspected by
the commissioner of conducting business that requires a license
under this chapter, including all relevant books, records and
papers employed by those persons in the transaction of their
business, and may summon witnesses and examine them under oath
concerning matters relating to the business of those persons, or
such other matters as may be relevant to the discovery of
violations of this chapter, including without limitation the
conduct of business without a license as required under this
chapter.

- (2) If the commissioner has reason to believe a person is engaged in, or is about to engage in, an activity that would be unlawful but for an exemption asserted under Section 75-15-7(b), and the commissioner has reason to believe the requirements of that subsection have not been met, the commissioner may issue an order to show cause why an order to cease and desist the activity should not issue.
- **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 510 and after July 1, 2022.