By: Representative Deweese

To: Business and Commerce

## HOUSE BILL NO. 1000

- AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 79-4-14.21, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION TO A CORPORATION BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY; TO AMEND SECTION 79-4-15.31, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE NOTICE OF REVOCATION OF A CERTIFICATE OF AUTHORITY TO 5 A CORPORATION BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY; TO AMEND SECTION 79-29-823, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION TO A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY; TO AMEND 7 SECTION 79-29-1023, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO AUTHORIZE NOTICE 8 9 OF ADMINISTRATIVE REVOCATION OF REGISTRATION TO A FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY BY ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY; AND FOR RELATED 10 11 PURPOSES.
- 12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:
- 13 **SECTION 1.** Section 79-4-14.21, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 14 amended as follows:
- 15 79-4-14.21. (a) If the Secretary of State determines that
- one or more grounds exist under Section 79-4-14.20 for dissolving
- 17 a corporation, he shall serve the corporation with written notice
- 18 of his determination. Such determination may be served \* \* \* by
- 19 electronic mail to the email address of the registered agent of
- 20 the corporation \* \* \*.
- 21 (b) If the corporation does not correct each ground for

22 dissolution or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the

- 23 Secretary of State that each ground determined by the Secretary of
- 24 State does not exist within sixty (60) days after service of the
- 25 notice is perfected, the Secretary of State shall administratively
- 26 dissolve the corporation by signing a certificate of dissolution
- 27 that recites the ground or grounds for dissolution and its
- 28 effective date. The Secretary of State shall file the original of
- 29 the certificate and serve a copy on the corporation, which
- 30 certificate may be served \* \* \* by electronic mail to the email
- 31 address of the registered agent of the corporation \* \* \*.
- 32 (c) A corporation that has been administratively dissolved
- 33 continues its corporate existence but may not carry on any
- 34 business except as necessary to wind up and liquidate its business
- 35 and affairs under Section 79-4-14.05 and notify claimants under
- 36 Sections 79-4-14.06 and 79-4-14.07.
- 37 (d) The administrative dissolution of a corporation does not
- 38 terminate the authority of its registered agent.
- 39 (e) The administrative dissolution of a corporation shall
- 40 not impair the validity of any contract, deed, mortgage, security
- 41 interest, lien, or act of the corporation or prevent the
- 42 corporation from defending any action, suit or proceeding in any
- 43 court of this state.
- 44 (f) A corporation that has been administratively dissolved
- 45 may not maintain any action, suit or proceeding in any court of
- 46 this state until the corporation is reinstated.

- 47 **SECTION 2.** Section 79-4-15.31, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
- 48 amended as follows:
- 49 79-4-15.31. (a) If the Secretary of State determines that
- one or more grounds exist under Section 79-4-15.30 for revocation
- of a certificate of authority, he shall serve the foreign
- 52 corporation with written notice of his determination under Section
- 79-4-15.10, except that such determination may be served by \* \* \*
- 54 electronic mail to the email address of the registered agent of
- 55 the corporation.
- 56 (b) If the foreign corporation does not correct each ground
- 57 for revocation or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of
- 58 the Secretary of State that each ground determined by the
- 59 Secretary of State does not exist within sixty (60) days after
- 60 service of the notice is perfected under Section 79-4-15.10, the
- 61 Secretary of State may revoke the foreign corporation's
- 62 certificate of authority by signing a certificate of revocation
- 63 that recites the ground or grounds for revocation and its
- 64 effective date. The Secretary of State shall file the original of
- 65 the certificate and serve a copy on the foreign corporation under
- 66 Section 79-4-15.10, except that such certificate may be served
- 67 by \* \* \* electronic mail to the email address of the registered
- 68 agent of the corporation.
- 69 (c) The authority of a foreign corporation to transact
- 70 business in this state ceases on the date shown on the certificate
- 71 revoking its certificate of authority.

72	(d) The Secretary of State's revocation of a foreign
73	corporation's certificate of authority appoints the Secretary of
74	State the foreign corporation's agent for service of process in
75	any proceeding based on a cause of action which arose during the
76	time the foreign corporation was authorized to transact business
77	in this state. Service of process on the Secretary of State under
78	the Mississippi Rules of Civil Procedure is service on the foreign
79	corporation. Upon receipt of process, the Secretary of State
80	shall mail a copy of the process to the secretary of the foreign
81	corporation at its principal office shown in its most recent
82	annual report or in any subsequent communication received from the
83	corporation stating the current mailing address of its principal
84	office, or, if none are on file, in its application for a
85	certificate of authority.

- (e) Revocation of a foreign corporation's certificate of 86 87 authority does not terminate the authority of the registered agent 88 of the corporation.
- 89 The administrative revocation of a foreign corporation's 90 certificate of authority shall not impair the validity of any 91 contract, deed, mortgage, security interest, lien or act of such 92 foreign corporation or prevent the foreign corporation from 93 defending any action, suit or proceeding with any court of this 94 state.
- 95 A foreign corporation whose registration has been 96 administratively revoked may not maintain any action, suit or

H. B. No. 1000

24/HR26/R1354 PAGE 4 (MCL\KW)

- 97 proceeding in any court of this state until such foreign
  98 corporation's certificate of authority has been reinstated.
- 99 **SECTION 3.** Section 79-29-823, Mississippi Code of 1972, is 100 amended as follows:
- 101 79-29-823. (1) If the Secretary of State determines that 102 one or more grounds exist under Section 79-29-821 for 103 administratively dissolving a limited liability company, the 104 Secretary of State shall serve the limited liability company with 105 written notice of the determination under Section 79-35-13. 106 determination may be served \* \* \* by electronic mail to the email 107 address of the registered agent of the limited liability 108 company \* \* \*.
  - ground for dissolution or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State that each ground determined by the Secretary of State does not exist within sixty (60) days after the service of the notice, the Secretary of State shall administratively dissolve the limited liability company by signing a certification of the administrative dissolution that recites the ground or grounds for dissolution and its effective date. The Secretary of State shall file the original of the certificate of administrative dissolution and serve the limited liability company with a copy of the certificate of administrative dissolution under Section 79-35-13, which certificate of administrative dissolution

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- may be served \* \* \* by electronic mail to the email address of the registered agent of the limited liability company \* \* \*.
- SECTION 4. Section 79-29-1023, Mississippi Code of 1972, is amended as follows:
- 125 79-29-1023. (1) If the Secretary of State determines that 126 one or more grounds exist under Section 79-29-1021 for 127 administrative revocation of registration, the Secretary of State 128 shall serve the foreign limited liability company with written 129 notice of the determination under Section 79-35-13, except that such determination may be served by \* \* \*  $\frac{1}{2}$  electronic mail to the 130 131 email address of the registered agent of the foreign limited 132 liability company.
  - correct each ground for administrative revocation or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State that each ground determined by the Secretary of State does not exist within sixty (60) days after the service of the notice, the Secretary of State may administratively revoke the foreign limited liability company's registration by signing a certificate of administrative revocation that recites the ground or grounds for administrative revocation and its effective date. The Secretary of State shall file the original of the certificate of administrative revocation and serve the foreign limited liability company with a copy of the certificate of administrative revocation under Section 79-35-13, except that such certificate of administrative revocation may be

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147	registered	agent	of	the	foreign	lir	nited	l liab:	ility c	ompar	ny.

- 148 (3) The authority of a foreign limited liability company to 149 transact business in this state ceases on the date shown on the 150 certificate of administrative revocation.
- 151 (4)The Secretary of State's administrative revocation of a 152 foreign limited liability company's registration appoints the Secretary of State the foreign limited liability company's agent 153 154 for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of 155 action which arose during the time the foreign limited liability 156 company was authorized to transact business in this state. 157 Service of process on the Secretary of State under this subsection 158 is service on the foreign limited liability company. Upon receipt 159 of process and the payment of the fee specified in Section 160 79-35-13, the Secretary of State shall mail a copy of the process 161 to the foreign limited liability company at the office of its 162 registered agent, or if the agent has resigned or cannot be 163 located, at its principal office shown in its most recent 164 communication received from the foreign limited liability company 165 stating the current mailing address of its principal office, or, 166 if none are on file, in its application for registration of 167 foreign limited liability company.
- 168 (5) Administrative revocation of a foreign limited liability
  169 company's registration does not terminate the authority of the
  170 registered agent of the foreign limited liability company.

- 171 (6) The administrative revocation of the registration of a
  172 foreign limited liability company shall not impair the validity of
  173 any contract, deed, mortgage, security interest, lien or act of
  174 such foreign limited liability company or prevent the foreign
  175 limited liability company from defending any action, suit or
  176 proceeding with any court of this state.
- 177 (7) A member, manager or officer of a foreign limited
  178 liability company is not liable for the debts, obligations or
  179 liabilities of such foreign limited liability company solely by
  180 reason of the administrative revocation of the registration of a
  181 foreign limited liability company.
- 182 A foreign limited liability company whose registration 183 has been administratively revoked may not maintain any action, 184 suit or proceeding in any court of this state until such foreign 185 limited liability company's registration has been reinstated. An 186 action, suit or proceeding may not be maintained in any court of 187 this state by any successor or assignee of such foreign limited 188 liability company on any right, claim or demand arising out of the 189 transaction of business by a foreign limited liability company after the administrative revocation. 190
- 191 **SECTION 5.** This act shall take effect and be in force from 192 and after July 1, 2024.