# \*\*\* Pending \*\*\* COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO 1 PROPOSED TO

House Bill No. 1428

# **BY: Committee**

Amend by striking all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

21 <u>SECTION 1.</u> Short title. This act may be cited as the "Money 22 Transmission Modernization Act."

23 <u>SECTION 2.</u> Purpose. This act is designed to replace 24 existing state money transmission laws currently codified at 25 Section 75-15-1 et seq. It is the intent of the Legislature that 26 the provisions of this act accomplish the following:

(a) Ensure states can coordinate in all areas of
regulation, licensing and supervision to eliminate unnecessary
regulatory burden and more effectively utilize regulator
resources;

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(b) Protect the public from financial crime;

32 (c) Standardize the types of activities that are 33 subject to licensing or otherwise exempt from licensing; and

34 (d) Modernize safety and soundness requirements to
35 ensure customer funds are protected in an environment that
36 supports innovative and competitive business practices.

37 <u>SECTION 3.</u> Definitions. For purposes of this act, the 38 following definitions shall apply:

39 (a) "Acting in concert" means persons knowingly acting
40 together with a common goal of jointly acquiring control of a
41 licensee whether or not pursuant to an express agreement.

42 (b) "Authorized delegate" means a person a licensee
43 designates to engage in money transmission on behalf of the
44 licensee.

45 "Average daily money transmission liability" means (C) 46 the amount of the licensee's outstanding money transmission 47 obligations in this state at the end of each day in a given period of time, added together and divided by the total number of days in 48 49 the given period of time. For purposes of calculating average 50 daily money transmission liability under this act for any licensee 51 required to do so, the given period of time shall be the quarters 52 ending March 31, June 30, September 30 and December 31.

(d) "Bank Secrecy Act" means the Bank Secrecy Act, 31
USC § 5311 et seq. and its implementing regulations, as amended
and recodified from time to time.

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(e) "Closed loop stored value" means stored value that is redeemable by the issuer only for goods or services provided by the issuer or its affiliate or franchisees of the issuer or its affiliate, except to the extent required by applicable law to be redeemable in cash for its cash value.

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(f) "Control" means:

(i) 1. The power to vote, directly or indirectly,
at least twenty-five percent (25%) of the outstanding voting
shares or voting interests of a licensee or person in control of a
licensee;

2. The power to elect or appoint a majority
of key individuals or executive officers, managers, directors,
trustees or other persons exercising managerial authority of a
person in control of a licensee; or

70 3. The power to exercise, directly or 71 indirectly, a controlling influence over the management or 72 policies of a licensee or person in control of a licensee; 73 (ii) Rebuttable Presumption of Control; 74 1. A person is presumed to exercise a 75 controlling influence when the person holds the power to vote, 76 directly or indirectly, at least ten percent (10%) of the 77 outstanding voting shares or voting interests of a licensee or

78 person in control of a licensee;

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2. A person presumed to exercise a
controlling influence as defined by this paragraph (f) can rebut
the presumption of control if the person is a passive investor;
(iii) For purposes of determining the percentage
of a person controlled by any other person, the person's interest

family member, including the person's spouse, parents, children, siblings, mothers- and fathers-in-law, sons- and daughters-in-law, brothers- and sisters-in-law, and any other person who shares such person's home.

shall be aggregated with the interest of any other immediate

89 (q) "Eligible rating" means a credit rating of any of 90 the three (3) highest rating categories provided by an eligible 91 rating service, whereby each category may include rating category 92 modifiers such as "plus" or "minus" for S&P, or the equivalent for any other eligible rating service. Long-term credit ratings are 93 94 deemed eligible if the rating is equal to A- or higher by S&P, or 95 the equivalent from any other eligible rating service. Short-term credit ratings are deemed eligible if the rating is equal to or 96 97 higher than A-2 or SP-2 by S&P, or the equivalent from any other 98 eligible rating service. In the event that ratings differ among 99 eligible rating services, the highest rating shall apply when 100 determining whether a security bears an eligible rating.

101 (h) "Eligible rating service" means any Nationally
102 Recognized Statistical Rating Organization (NRSRO) as defined by
103 the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, and any other

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104 organization designated by the commissioner by rule, regulation or 105 order.

106 "Federally insured depository financial (i) 107 institution" means a bank, credit union, savings and loan 108 association, trust company, savings association, savings bank, 109 industrial bank or industrial loan company organized under the 110 laws of the United States or any state of the United States, when 111 such bank, credit union, savings and loan association, trust 112 company, savings association, savings bank, industrial bank or 113 industrial loan company has federally insured deposits.

"In this state" means at a physical location within 114 (j) 115 this state for a transaction requested in person. For a 116 transaction requested electronically or by phone, the provider of money transmission may determine if the person requesting the 117 transaction is "in this state" by relying on other information 118 119 provided by the person regarding the location of the individual's 120 residential address or a business entity's principal place of business or other physical address location, and any records 121 122 associated with the person that the provider of money transmission 123 may have that indicate such location, including, but not limited 124 to, an address associated with an account.

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(k) "Individual" means a natural person.

126 (1) "Key individual" means any individual ultimately127 responsible for establishing or directing policies and procedures

128 of the licensee, such as an executive officer, manager, director 129 or trustee.

130 "Licensee" means a person licensed under this act. (m) 131 (n) "Material litigation" means litigation, that 132 according to United States generally accepted accounting 133 principles, is significant to a person's financial health and 134 would be required to be disclosed in the person's annual audited 135 financial statements, report to shareholders, or similar records. 136 "Money" means a medium of exchange that is  $(\circ)$ 137 authorized or adopted by the United States or a foreign 138 government. The term includes a monetary unit of account 139 established by an intergovernmental organization or by agreement 140 between two (2) or more governments.

141 (p) "Monetary value" means a medium of exchange,142 whether or not redeemable in money.

143 (q) "Money transmission" means any of the following: 144 (i) Selling or issuing payment instruments to a 145 person located in this state;

146 (ii) Selling or issuing stored value to a person 147 located in this state; and

148 (iii) Receiving money or monetary value for149 transmission from a person located in this state.

150 (r) "MSB accredited state" means a state agency that is 151 accredited by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and Money 152 Transmitter Regulators Association for money transmission 153 licensing and supervision.

(s) "Multistate licensing process" means any agreement entered into by and among state regulators relating to coordinated processing of applications for money transmission licenses, applications for the acquisition of control of a licensee, control determinations, or notice and information requirements for a change of key individuals.

(t) "NMLS" means the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry developed by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators and owned and operated by the State Regulatory Registry, LLC, or any successor or affiliated entity, for the licensing and registration of persons in financial services industries.

167 (u) "Outstanding money transmission obligations" shall 168 be established and extinguished in accordance with applicable 169 state law and shall mean:

(i) Any payment instrument or stored value issued
or sold by the licensee to a person located in the United States
or reported as sold by an authorized delegate of the licensee to a
person who is located in the United States that has not yet been
paid or refunded by or for the licensee, or escheated in
accordance with applicable abandoned property laws;

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(ii) Any money received for transmission by the licensee or an authorized delegate in the United States from a person located in the United States that has not been received by the payee or refunded to the sender, or escheated in accordance with applicable abandoned property laws; or

(iii) For purposes of this paragraph (u), "in the United States" shall include, to the extent applicable, a person in any state, territory, or possession of the United States; the District of Columbia; the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; or a U.S. military installation that is located in a foreign country.

187 (i) Does not have the power to elect a majority of
188 key individuals or executive officers, managers, directors,
189 trustees or other persons exercising managerial authority of a
190 person in control of a licensee;

"Passive investor" means a person that:

191 (ii) Is not employed by and does not have any 192 managerial duties of the licensee or person in control of a 193 licensee;

194 (iii) Does not have the power to exercise, 195 directly or indirectly, a controlling influence over the 196 management or policies of a licensee or person in control of a 197 licensee; and

198 (iv) Either:

(V)

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199 1. Attests to subparagraphs (i), (ii) and 200 (iii) in this paragraph, in a form and in a medium prescribed by 201 the commissioner; or

202 2. Commits to the passivity characteristics 203 of subparagraphs (i), (ii) and (iii) of this paragraph, in a 204 written document.

205 "Payment instrument" means a written or electronic (w) 206 check, draft, money order, traveler's check or other written or 207 electronic instrument for the transmission or payment of money or 208 monetary value, whether or not negotiable. The term does not 209 include stored value or any instrument that (i) is redeemable by 210 the issuer only for goods or services provided by the issuer or 211 its affiliate or franchisees of the issuer or its affiliate, 212 except to the extent required by applicable law to be redeemable in cash for its cash value; or (ii) is not sold to the public but 213 214 issued and distributed as part of a loyalty, rewards, or 215 promotional program.

(x) "Person" means any individual, general partnership,
limited partnership, limited liability company, corporation,
trust, association, joint-stock corporation or other corporate
entity identified by the commissioner.

(y) "Receiving money for transmission" or "money
received for transmission" means receiving money or monetary value
in the United States for transmission within or outside the United
States by electronic or other means.

224 (z) "Stored value" means monetary value representing a 225 claim against the issuer evidenced by an electronic or digital 226 record, and that is intended and accepted for use as a means of 227 redemption for money or monetary value, or payment for goods or 228 services. The term includes, but is not limited to, "prepaid 229 access" as defined by 31 CFR § 1010.100, as amended or recodified 230 from time to time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the term 231 "stored value" does not include a payment instrument or closed 232 loop stored value, or stored value not sold to the public but issued and distributed as part of a loyalty, rewards or 233 234 promotional program.

(aa) "Tangible net worth" means the aggregate assets of
a licensee excluding all intangible assets, less liabilities, as
determined in accordance with United States generally accepted
accounting principles.

239 <u>SECTION 4.</u> Exemptions. This act does not apply to: 240 (a) An operator of a payment system to the extent that 241 it provides processing, clearing or settlement services, between 242 or among persons exempted by this section or licensees, in 243 connection with wire transfers, credit card transactions, debit 244 card transactions, stored value transactions, automated clearing 245 house transfers or similar funds transfers;

(b) A person appointed as an agent of a payee tocollect and process a payment from a payor to the payee for goods

248 or services, other than money transmission itself, provided to the 249 payor by the payee, provided that:

(i) There exists a written agreement between the payee and the agent directing the agent to collect and process payments from payors on the payee's behalf;

(ii) The payee holds the agent out to the public as accepting payments for goods or services on the payee's behalf; and

(iii) Payment for the goods and services is treated as received by the payee upon receipt by the agent so that the payor's obligation is extinguished and there is no risk of loss to the payor if the agent fails to remit the funds to the payee;

(c) A person who acts as an intermediary by processing payments between an entity that has directly incurred an outstanding money transmission obligation to a sender, and the sender's designated recipient, provided that the entity:

(i) Is properly licensed or exempt from licensingrequirements under this act;

267 (ii) Provides a receipt, electronic record or 268 other written confirmation to the sender identifying the entity as 269 the provider of money transmission in the transaction; and 270 (iii) Bears sole responsibility to satisfy the

271 outstanding money transmission obligation to the sender, including 272 the obligation to make the sender whole in connection with any

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273 failure to transmit the funds to the sender's designated 274 recipient;

275 (d) The United States or a department, agency, or 276 instrumentality thereof, or its agent;

(e) Money transmission by the United States Postal
Service or by an agent of the United States Postal Service;

(f) A state, county, city, or any other governmental agency or governmental subdivision or instrumentality of a state, or its agent;

282 A federally insured depository financial (a) 283 institution, bank holding company, office of an international 284 banking corporation, foreign bank that establishes a federal 285 branch pursuant to the International Bank Act, 12 USC § 3102, as 286 amended or recodified from time to time, corporation organized 287 pursuant to the Bank Service Corporation Act, 12 USC §§ 1861-1867, 288 as amended or recodified from time to time, or corporation 289 organized under the Edge Act, 12 USC §§ 611-633, as amended or 290 recodified from time to time, under the laws of a state or the 291 United States;

(h) Electronic funds transfer of governmental benefits
for a federal, state, county or governmental agency by a
contractor on behalf of the United States or a department, agency
or instrumentality thereof, or on behalf of a state or
governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality thereof;

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(i) A board of trade designated as a contract market
under the federal Commodity Exchange Act, 7 USC §§ 1-25, as
amended or recodified from time to time, or a person that, in the
ordinary course of business, provides clearance and settlement
services for a board of trade to the extent of its operation as or
for such a board;

303 (j) A registered futures commission merchant under the 304 federal commodities laws to the extent of its operation as such a 305 merchant;

306 (k) A person registered as a securities broker-dealer 307 under federal or state securities laws to the extent of its 308 operation as such a broker-dealer;

(1) An individual employed by a licensee, authorized delegate or any person exempted from the licensing requirements of the act when acting within the scope of employment and under the supervision of the licensee, authorized delegate or exempted person as an employee and not as an independent contractor;

(m) A person expressly appointed as a third-party service provider to or agent of an entity exempted under paragraph (q) of this section, solely to the extent that:

317 (i) Such service provider or agent is engaging in
318 money transmission on behalf of and pursuant to a written
319 agreement with the exempt entity that sets forth the specific
320 functions that the service provider or agent is to perform; and

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(ii) The exempt entity assumes all risk of loss and all legal responsibility for satisfying the outstanding money transmission obligations owed to purchasers and holders of the outstanding money transmission obligations upon receipt of the purchaser's or holder's money or monetary value by the service provider or agent;

(n) A person exempt by regulation or order if the commissioner finds such exemption to be in the public interest and that the regulation of such person is not necessary for the purposes of this act; or

(o) A payroll processing service provider, which means
a person receiving money for transmission pursuant to a contract
with a person to deliver wages or salaries, make payment of
payroll taxes to state and federal agencies, make payments
relating to employee benefit plans, or make distributions of other
authorized deductions from wages or salaries.

337 <u>SECTION 5.</u> Authority to require demonstration of exemption. 338 The commissioner may require that any person claiming to be exempt 339 from licensing pursuant to Section 4 of this act provide 340 information and documentation to the commissioner demonstrating 341 that it qualifies for any claimed exemption.

342 <u>SECTION 6.</u> Implementation. (1) In order to carry out the 343 purposes of this act, the commissioner may, subject to the 344 provisions of Section 7(1) and (2) of this act:

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(a) Enter into agreements or relationships with other
government officials or federal and state regulatory agencies and
regulatory associations in order to improve efficiencies and
reduce regulatory burden by standardizing methods or procedures,
and sharing resources, records or related information obtained
under this act;

351 (b) Use, hire, contract or employ analytical systems, 352 methods or software to examine or investigate any person subject 353 to this act;

354 (c) Accept, from other state or federal government
 355 agencies or officials, licensing, examination or investigation
 356 reports made by such other state or federal government agencies or
 357 officials; and

(d) Accept audit reports made by an independent
certified public accountant or other qualified third-party auditor
for an applicant or licensee and incorporate the audit report in
any report of examination or investigation.

362 (2) The commissioner shall have the broad administrative 363 authority to administer, interpret and enforce this act, and to 364 promulgate rules or regulations implementing this act and to 365 recover the cost of administering and enforcing this act by 366 imposing and collecting proportionate and equitable fees and costs 367 associated with applications, examinations, investigations, and 368 other actions required to achieve the purpose of this act.

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369 SECTION 7. Confidentiality. (1) Except as otherwise 370 provided in subsection (2) of this section, all information or 371 reports obtained by the commissioner from an applicant, licensee 372 or authorized delegate, and all information contained in or related to an examination, investigation, operating report or 373 374 condition report prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of the 375 commissioner, or financial statements, balance sheets or 376 authorized delegate information, are confidential and are not 377 subject to disclosure under this state's public records law.

378 (2) The commissioner may disclose information not otherwise 379 subject to disclosure under subsection (1) of this section to 380 representatives of state or federal agencies who promise in a 381 record that they will maintain the confidentiality of the 382 information or where the commissioner finds that the release is 383 necessary for the protection and interest of the public in 384 accordance with state public records law.

385 (3) This section does not prohibit the commissioner from 386 disclosing to the public a list of all licensees or the aggregated 387 financial or transactional data concerning those licensees.

388 (4) Information contained in the records of department that 389 is not confidential and may be made available to the public either 390 on the department's website, upon receipt by the department of a 391 written request, or in NMLS shall include:

392 (a) The name, business address, telephone number and393 unique identifier of a licensee;

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394 (b) The business address of a licensee's registered395 agent for service;

396 (c) The name, business address and telephone number of 397 all authorized delegates;

398 (d) The terms of or a copy of any bond filed by a
399 licensee, provided that confidential information, including, but
400 not limited to, prices and fees for such bond is redacted;

401 (e) Copies of any nonconfidential final orders of the
402 department relating to any violation of this act or regulations
403 implementing this act.

404 (5) Imposition of an administrative fine or penalty under 405 this act.

406 Supervision. (1)The commissioner may conduct SECTION 8. 407 an annual examination or investigation of a licensee or authorized 408 delegate or otherwise take independent action authorized by this 409 act or by a rule or regulation adopted or order issued under this 410 act at any time or times the commissioner deems proper to 411 administer and enforce this act, regulations implementing this 412 act, and other applicable law, including the Bank Secrecy Act and 413 the USA PATRIOT ACT. The commissioner may:

414 (a) Conduct an examination either on-site or off-site 415 as the commissioner may require;

(b) Conduct an examination in conjunction with an
examination conducted by representatives of other state agencies
or agencies of another state or of the federal government;

(c) Accept the examination report of another state agency or an agency of another state or of the federal government, or a report prepared by an independent accounting firm, which on being accepted is considered for all purposes as an official report of the commissioner; and

(d) Summon and examine under oath a key individual or employee of a licensee or authorized delegate and require the person to produce records regarding any matter related to the condition and business of the licensee or authorized delegate.

428 (2) A licensee or authorized delegate shall provide, and the 429 commissioner shall have full and complete access to, all records 430 the commissioner may require to conduct a complete examination. 431 The records must be provided at the location and in the format 432 specified by the commissioner, provided, the commissioner may 433 utilize multistate record production standards and examination 434 procedures when such standards will reasonably achieve the 435 requirements of this subsection. The refusal of access to such 436 records by a licensee shall be cause for revocation of its 437 license.

(3) Unless otherwise directed by the commissioner, a
licensee shall pay all costs actually incurred in connection with
an examination of the licensee or the licensee's authorized
delegates.

442 <u>SECTION 9.</u> Networked supervision. (1) To efficiently and 443 effectively administer and enforce this act and to minimize

444 regulatory burden, the commissioner is authorized and encouraged 445 to participate in multistate supervisory processes established 446 between states and coordinated through the Conference of State 447 Bank Supervisors, Money Transmitter Regulators Association and 448 affiliates and successors thereof for all licensees that hold 449 licenses in this state and other states. As a participant in 450 multistate supervision, the commissioner will:

(a) Cooperate, coordinate and share information with other state and federal regulators in accordance with Section 7 of this act;

(b) Enter into written cooperation, coordination or
information-sharing contracts or agreements with organizations the
membership of which is made up of state or federal governmental
agencies; and

458 Cooperate, coordinate and share information with (C)459 organizations the membership of which is made up of state or 460 federal governmental agencies, provided that the organizations 461 agree in writing to maintain the confidentiality and security of 462 the shared information in accordance with Section 7 of this act. 463 The commissioner may not waive, and nothing in this (2)464 section constitutes a waiver of, the commissioner's authority to 465 conduct an examination or investigation or otherwise take 466 independent action authorized by this act or a rule or regulation 467 adopted, or order issued under this act to enforce compliance with 468 applicable state or federal law.

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469 (3) A joint examination or investigation, or acceptance of
470 an examination or investigation report, does not waive an
471 examination assessment provided for in this act.

472 <u>SECTION 10.</u> Relationship to federal law. (1) In the event 473 state money transmission jurisdiction is conditioned on a federal 474 law, any inconsistencies between a provision of this act and the 475 federal law governing money transmission shall be governed by the 476 applicable federal law to the extent of the inconsistency.

477 (2) In the event of any inconsistencies between this act and
478 a federal law that governs pursuant to subsection (1) of this
479 section, the commissioner may provide interpretive guidance that:

480 (a) Identifies the inconsistency; and

481 (b) Identifies the appropriate means of compliance with482 federal law.

483 <u>SECTION 11.</u> License required. (1) A person may not engage 484 in the business of money transmission or advertise, solicit or 485 hold itself out as providing money transmission unless the person 486 is licensed under this act;

(2) Subsection (1) of this section does not apply to:
(a) A person who is an authorized delegate of a person
licensed under this act acting within the scope of authority
conferred by a written contract with the licensee; or
(b) A person who is exempt pursuant to Section 4 of

492 this act and does not engage in money transmission outside the 493 scope of such exemption.

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494 (3) A license issued under Section 15 of this act is not495 transferable or assignable.

496 <u>SECTION 12.</u> Consistent state licensing. (1) To establish 497 consistent licensing between this state and other states, the 498 commissioner is authorized and encouraged to:

(a) Implement all licensing provisions of this act in a
manner that is consistent with other states that have adopted this
act or multistate licensing processes; and

502 (b) Participate in nationwide protocols for licensing 503 cooperation and coordination among state regulators provided that 504 such protocols are consistent with this act.

505 (2) In order to fulfill the purposes of this act, the 506 commissioner is authorized and encouraged to establish 507 relationships or contracts with NMLS or other entities designated 508 by NMLS to enable the commissioner to:

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(a) Collect and maintain records;

510 (b) Coordinate multistate licensing processes and 511 supervision processes;

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(c) Process fees; and

513 (d) Facilitate communication between state and 514 licensees or other persons subject to this act.

515 (3) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to utilize 516 NMLS for all aspects of licensing in accordance with this act, 517 including, but not limited to, license applications, applications 518 for acquisitions of control, surety bonds, reporting, criminal

519 history background checks, credit checks, fee processing and 520 examinations.

521 (4) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to utilize 522 NMLS forms, processes and functionalities in accordance with this 523 act. In the event NMLS does not provide functionality, forms, or 524 processes for a provision of this act, the commissioner is 525 authorized and encouraged to strive to implement the requirements 526 in a manner that facilitates uniformity with respect to licensing, 527 supervision, reporting and regulation of licensees which are 528 licensed in multiple jurisdictions.

(5) For the purpose of participating in the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System & Registry, the commissioner is authorized to waive or modify, in whole or in part, by rule, regulation or order, any or all of the requirements and to establish new requirements as necessary to participate in the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System & Registry.

535 SECTION 13. Application for license. (1) Applicants for a license shall apply in a form and in a medium as prescribed by the 536 537 commissioner. Each such form shall contain content as set forth 538 by rule, regulation, instruction or procedure of the commissioner 539 and may be changed or updated by the commissioner in accordance 540 with applicable law in order to carry out the purposes of this act and maintain consistency with NMLS licensing standards and 541 practices. The application must state or contain, as applicable: 542

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(a) The legal name and residential and business
addresses of the applicant and any fictitious or trade name used
by the applicant in conducting its business;

546 (b) A list of any criminal convictions of the applicant 547 and any material litigation in which the applicant has been 548 involved in the ten-year period next preceding the submission of 549 the application;

(c) A description of any money transmission previously provided by the applicant and the money transmission that the applicant seeks to provide in this state;

(d) A list of the applicant's proposed authorized delegates and the locations in this state where the applicant and its authorized delegates propose to engage in money transmission;

(e) A list of other states in which the applicant is
licensed to engage in money transmission and any license
revocations, suspensions or other disciplinary action taken
against the applicant in another state;

(f) Information concerning any bankruptcy or receivership proceedings affecting the licensee or a person in control of a licensee;

563 (g) A sample form of contract for authorized delegates, 564 if applicable;

565 (h) A sample form of payment instrument or stored 566 value, as applicable;

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567 (i) The name and address of any federally insured 568 depository financial institution through which the applicant plans 569 to conduct money transmission; and

570 (j) Any other information the commissioner or NMLS 571 requires with respect to the applicant.

572 (2) If an applicant is a corporation, limited liability 573 company, partnership or other legal entity, the applicant shall 574 also provide:

575 (a) The date of the applicant's incorporation or 576 formation and state or country of incorporation or formation;

577 (b) If applicable, a certificate of good standing from 578 the state or country in which the applicant is incorporated or 579 formed;

(c) A brief description of the structure or organization of the applicant, including any parents or subsidiaries of the applicant, and whether any parents or subsidiaries are publicly traded;

(d) The legal name, any fictitious or trade name, all business and residential addresses and the employment, as applicable, in the ten-year period next preceding the submission of the application of each key individual and person in control of the applicant;

(e) A list of any criminal convictions and materiallitigation in which a person in control of the applicant that is

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591 not an individual has been involved in the ten-year period next 592 preceding the submission of the application;

(f) A copy of audited financial statements of the applicant for the most recent fiscal year and for the two-year period next preceding the submission of the application;

596 (g) A certified copy of unaudited financial statements597 of the applicant for the most recent fiscal quarter;

(h) If the applicant is a publicly traded corporation,
a copy of the most recent report filed with the United States
Securities and Exchange Commission under Section 13 of the U.S.
Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 USC § 78m, as amended or
recodified from time to time;

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(i) If the applicant is a wholly owned subsidiary of:

(i) A corporation publicly traded in the United
States, a copy of audited financial statements for the parent
corporation for the most recent fiscal year or a copy of the
parent corporation's most recent report filed under Section 13 of
the U.S. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 USC § 78m, as amended
or recodified from time to time; or

610 (ii) A corporation publicly traded outside the 611 United States, a copy of similar documentation filed with the 612 regulator of the parent corporation's domicile outside the United 613 States;

614 (j) The name and address of the applicant's registered615 agent in this state; and

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616 (k) Any other information the commissioner requires617 with respect to the applicant.

A nonrefundable license fee of One Thousand Five Hundred 618 (3) 619 Dollars (\$1,500.00) must accompany an application for a license 620 under this section. However, beginning with calendar year 2025 621 and for each subsequent calendar year, on or before July 1 of the 622 following year, the Mississippi Department of Banking and Consumer 623 Finance will issue a memo authorizing a new license fee under this 624 The new amount will be calculated by applying any section. increase or decrease in the United States Bureau of Labor 625 626 Statistics Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) 627 for the previous calendar year to the previous fee amount and 628 rounding that amount upward to the nearest One-Hundred-Dollar 629 increment.

(4) The commissioner may waive one or more requirements of
subsections (1) and (2) of this section or permit an applicant to
submit other information in lieu of the required information.

633 <u>SECTION 14.</u> Information requirements for certain 634 individuals. (1) Any individual in control of a licensee or 635 applicant, any individual who seeks to acquire control of a 636 licensee and each key individual shall furnish to the commissioner 637 through NMLS the following items:

(a) The individual's fingerprints for submission to the
Federal Bureau of Investigation and the commissioner for purposes
of a national criminal history background check unless the person

641 currently resides outside of the United States and has resided 642 outside of the United States for the last ten (10) years;

(b) Personal history and experience in a form and in a
medium prescribed by the commissioner, to obtain the following:
(i) An independent credit report from a consumer

646 reporting agency unless the individual does not have a social 647 security number, in which case, this requirement shall be waived;

(ii) Information related to any criminal
convictions or pending charges; provided an applicant shall not
have been convicted of a felony in any jurisdiction or a
misdemeanor of fraud, theft, forgery, bribery, embezzlement, or
making a fraudulent or false statement in any jurisdiction; and

(iii) Information related to any regulatory or
administrative action and any civil litigation involving claims of
fraud, misrepresentation, conversion, mismanagement of funds,
breach of fiduciary duty or breach of contract.

(2) If the individual has resided outside of the United
States at any time in the last ten (10) years, the individual
shall also provide an investigative background report prepared by
an independent search firm that meets the following requirements:
(a) At a minimum, the search firm shall:
(i) Demonstrate that it has sufficient knowledge,

663 resources, and employs accepted and reasonable methodologies to 664 conduct the research of the background report; and

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665 (ii) Not be affiliated with or have an interest666 with the individual it is researching.

(b) At a minimum, the investigative background report
shall be written in the English language and shall contain the
following:

(i) If available in the individual's current
jurisdiction of residency, a comprehensive credit report, or any
equivalent information obtained or generated by the independent
search firm to accomplish such report, including a search of the
court data in the countries, provinces, states, cities, towns, and
contiguous areas where the individual resided and worked;

(ii) Criminal records information for the past ten
years, including, but not limited to, felonies, misdemeanors, or
similar convictions for violations of law in the countries,
provinces, states, cities, towns, and contiguous areas where the
individual resided and worked;

681 (iii) Employment history;

(iv) Media history, including an electronic search
of national and local publications, wire services, and business
applications; and

(v) Financial services-related regulatory history,
including, but not limited to, money transmission, securities,
banking, insurance, and mortgage-related industries.

688 <u>SECTION 15.</u> Issuance of license. (1) When an application 689 for an original license under this act appears to include all the

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690 items and addresses all of the matters that are required, the 691 application is complete and the commissioner shall promptly notify 692 the applicant in a record of the date on which the application is 693 determined to be complete, and:

(a) The commissioner shall approve or deny the
application within one hundred twenty (120) days after the
completion date; or

697 (b) If the application is not approved or denied within 698 one hundred twenty (120) days after the completion date:

(i) The application is approved; and
(ii) The license takes effect as of the first
business day after expiration of the one-hundred-twenty-day
period.

703 (iii) The commissioner may for good cause extend704 the application period.

(2) A determination by the commissioner that an application is complete and is accepted for processing means only that the application, on its face, appears to include all of the items, including the Criminal Background Check response from the FBI, and address all of the matters that are required, and is not an assessment of the substance of the application or of the sufficiency of the information provided.

(3) When an application is filed and considered complete under this section, the commissioner shall investigate the applicant's financial condition and responsibility, financial and

715 business experience, character and general fitness. The 716 commissioner may conduct an on-site investigation of the 717 applicant, the cost of which the applicant must pay. The 718 commissioner shall issue a license to an applicant under this 719 section if the commissioner finds that all of the following 720 conditions have been fulfilled:

(a) The applicant has complied with Sections 13 and 14of this act; and

(b) The financial condition and responsibility,
financial and business experience, competence, character and
general fitness of the applicant; and the competence, experience,
character and general fitness of the key individuals and persons
in control of the applicant indicate that it is in the interest of
the public to permit the applicant to engage in money
transmission.

(4) If an applicant avails itself or is otherwise subject toa multistate licensing process:

(a) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to accept the investigation results of a lead investigative state for the purpose of subsection (3) of this section if the lead investigative state has sufficient staffing, expertise, and minimum standards; or

(b) If Mississippi is a lead investigative state, the commissioner is authorized and encouraged to investigate the applicant pursuant to subsection (3) of this section and the

timeframes established by agreement through the multistate licensing process, provided however, that in no case shall such timeframe be noncompliant with the application period in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

744 (5) The commissioner shall issue a formal written notice of 745 the denial of a license application. The commissioner shall set 746 forth in the notice of denial the specific reasons for the denial 747 of the application. An applicant whose application is denied by 748 the commissioner under this subsection (5) may appeal within 749 thirty (30) days after receipt of the written notice of the 750 denial. Such appeal shall be to the Chancery Court of the First 751 Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

(6) The initial license term shall begin on the day the application is approved. The license shall expire on December 31 of the year in which the license term began, unless the initial license date is between November 1 and December 31, in which instance the initial license term shall run through December 31 of the following year.

758 <u>SECTION 16.</u> Renewal of license. (1) A license under this 759 act shall be renewed annually.

(a) An annual renewal fee of Eight Hundred Dollars
(\$800.00) plus One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) for each location in
excess of one (1) in Mississippi through which the licensee plans
to conduct money transmission during the license year for which
the feed is paid, provided that in no event shall the annual

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765 renewal fee exceed Five Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars

766 (\$5,800.00). Such renewal fee shall be paid no more than sixty767 (60) days before the license expiration.

(b) The renewal term shall be for a period of one (1) year and shall begin on January 1 of each year after the initial license term and shall expire on December 31 of the year the renewal term begins.

(2) A licensee shall submit a renewal report with the renewal fee, in a form and in a medium prescribed by the commissioner. The renewal report must state or contain a description of each material change in information submitted by the licensee in its original license application which has not been reported to the commissioner.

(3) The commissioner, for good cause, may grant an extensionof the renewal date.

(4) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to utilize
NMLS to process license renewals provided that such functionality
is consistent with this section.

783 <u>SECTION 17.</u> Maintenance of license. (1) If a licensee does 784 not continue to meet the qualifications or satisfy the 785 requirements that apply to an applicant for a new money 786 transmission license, the commissioner may suspend or revoke the 787 licensee's license in accordance with the procedures established 788 by this act or other applicable state law for such suspension or 789 revocation.

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(2) An applicant for a money transmission license must demonstrate that it meets or will meet, and a money transmission licensee must at all times meet, the requirements in Sections 31, 32 and 33 of this act.

794 <u>SECTION 18.</u> Acquisition of control. (1) Any person, or 795 group of persons acting in concert, seeking to acquire control of 796 a licensee shall obtain the written approval of the commissioner 797 prior to acquiring control.

(2) A person, or group of persons acting in concert, seeking
 to acquire control of a licensee shall, in cooperation with the
 licensee:

801 (a) Submit an application in a form and in a medium802 prescribed by the commissioner; and

803 (b) Submit a nonrefundable fee as required under804 Section 13 of this act with the request for approval.

(3) Upon request, the commissioner may permit a licensee or
the person, or group of persons acting in concert, to submit some
or all information required by the commissioner pursuant to
subsection (2) (a) of this section without using NMLS.

(4) The application required by subsection (2)(a) of this
section shall include information required by Section 14 of this
act for any new key individuals who have not previously completed
the requirements of Section 14 of this act for a licensee.

813 (5) When an application for acquisition of control under 814 this section appears to include all the items and address all of

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815 the matters that are required, the application shall be considered 816 complete, and the commissioner shall promptly notify the applicant 817 in a record of the date on which the application was determined to 818 be complete and:

819 (a) The commissioner shall approve or deny the820 application within sixty (60) days after the completion date; or

(b) If the application is not approved or denied withinsixty (60) days after the completion date:

823

- - -

The application is approved; and

824 (ii) The person, or group of persons acting in825 concert, are not prohibited from acquiring control.

(i)

826 (c) The commissioner may for good cause extend the 827 application period.

(6) A determination by the commissioner that an application is complete and is accepted for processing means only that the application, on its face, appears to include all of the items and address all of the matters that are required, and is not an assessment of the substance of the application or of the sufficiency of the information provided.

(7) When an application is filed and considered complete
under subsection (5) of this section, the commissioner shall
investigate the financial condition and responsibility, financial
and business experience, character and general fitness of the
person, or group of persons acting in concert, seeking to acquire
control. The commissioner shall approve an acquisition of control

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840 pursuant to this section if the commissioner finds that all of the 841 following conditions have been fulfilled:

842 (a) The requirements of subsections (2) and (4) of this 843 section have been met, as applicable; and

844 (b) The financial condition and responsibility, 845 financial and business experience, competence, character and 846 general fitness of the person, or group of persons acting in 847 concert, seeking to acquire control; and the competence, 848 experience, character and general fitness of the key individuals 849 and persons that would be in control of the licensee after the acquisition of control indicate that it is in the interest of the 850 851 public to permit the person, or group of persons acting in 852 concert, to control the licensee.

(8) If an applicant avails itself or is otherwise subject toa multistate licensing process:

(a) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to
accept the investigation results of a lead investigative state for
the purpose of subsection (7) of this section if the lead
investigative state has sufficient staffing, expertise and minimum
standards; or

(b) If Mississippi is a lead investigative state, the commissioner is authorized and encouraged to investigate the applicant pursuant to subsection (7) of this section and the timeframes established by agreement through the multistate licensing process.

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The commissioner shall issue a formal written notice of 865 (9)866 the denial of an application to acquire control. The commissioner 867 shall set forth in the notice of denial the specific reasons for 868 the denial of the application. An applicant whose application is 869 denied by the commissioner under this section may appeal within 870 thirty (30) days after receipt of the written notice of the 871 Such appeal shall be to the Chancery Court of the First denial. 872 Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

873 (10) The requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this 874 section do not apply to any of the following:

(a) A person who acts as a proxy for the sole purpose
of voting at a designated meeting of the shareholders or holders
of voting shares or voting interests of a licensee or a person in
control of a licensee;

879 (b) A person who acquires control of a licensee by880 devise or descent;

(c) A person who acquires control of a licensee as a personal representative, custodian, guardian, conservator or trustee, or as an officer appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction or by operation of law;

885 (d) A person who is exempt under Section 4(7) of this 886 act;

(e) A person who the commissioner determines is not
subject to subsection (1) of this section based on the public
interest;

890 (f) A public offering of securities of a licensee or a891 person in control of a licensee; or

(g) An internal reorganization of a person in control
of the licensee where the ultimate person in control of the
licensee remains the same.

(11) Persons in subsection (10)(b), (c), (d), (f) and (g) of this section in cooperation with the licensee shall notify the commissioner within fifteen (15) days after the acquisition of control.

899 (12) Streamlined Acquisition of Control.

900 (a) The requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this 901 section do not apply to a person who has complied with and 902 received approval to engage in money transmission under this act 903 or was identified as a person in control in a prior application 904 filed with and approved by the commissioner or by an MSB 905 accredited state pursuant to a multistate licensing process, 906 provided that:

907 (i) The person has not had a license revoked or 908 suspended or controlled a licensee that has had a license revoked 909 or suspended while the person was in control of the licensee in 910 the previous five (5) years;

911 (ii) If the person is a licensee, the person is 912 well managed and has received at least a satisfactory rating for 913 compliance at its most recent examination by an MSB accredited 914 state if such rating was given;

915 (iii) The licensee to be acquired is projected to 916 meet the requirements of Sections 31, 32 and 33 of this act after 917 the acquisition of control is completed, and if the person 918 acquiring control is a licensee, that licensee is also projected 919 to meet the requirements of Sections 31, 32 and 33 of this act of 920 this act after the acquisition of control is completed;

921 (iv) The licensee to be acquired will not 922 implement any material changes to its business plan as a result of 923 the acquisition of control, and if the person acquiring control is 924 a licensee, that licensee also will not implement any material 925 changes to its business plan as a result of the acquisition of 926 control; and

927 (v) The person provides notice of the acquisition 928 in cooperation with the licensee and attests to this paragraph 929 (a)(i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) in a form and in a medium prescribed 930 by the commissioner.

(b) If the notice is not disapproved within thirty (30)
days after the date on which the notice was determined to be
complete, the notice is deemed approved.

934 (13) Before filing an application for approval to acquire
935 control of a licensee a person may request in writing a
936 determination from the commissioner as to whether the person would
937 be considered a person in control of a licensee upon consummation
938 of a proposed transaction. If the commissioner determines that
939 the person would not be a person in control of a licensee, the

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940 proposed person and transaction is not subject to the requirements 941 of subsections (1) and (2) of this section.

942 (14) If a multistate licensing process includes a 943 determination pursuant to subsection (13) of this section and an 944 applicant avails itself or is otherwise subject to the multistate 945 licensing process:

946 (a) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to
947 accept the control determination of a lead investigative state
948 with sufficient staffing, expertise, and minimum standards for the
949 purpose of subsection (13) of this section; or

950 (b) If a state is a lead investigative state, the 951 commissioner is authorized and encouraged to investigate the 952 applicant pursuant to subsection (13) of this section and the 953 timeframes established by agreement through the multistate 954 licensing process.

955 <u>SECTION 19.</u> Notice and information requirements for a change 956 of key individuals. (1) A licensee adding or replacing any key 957 individual shall:

958 (a) Provide notice in a manner prescribed by the
959 commissioner within fifteen (15) days after the effective date of
960 the key individual's appointment; and

961 (b) Provide information as required by Section 14 of 962 this act within forty-five (45) days of the effective date.

963 (2) Within ninety (90) days of the date on which the notice 964 provided pursuant to subsection (1) of this section was determined

965 to be complete, the commissioner may issue a notice of disapproval 966 of a key individual if the competence, experience, character or 967 integrity of the individual would not be in the best interests of 968 the public or the customers of the licensee to permit the 969 individual to be a key individual of such licensee.

970 (3) A notice of disapproval shall contain a statement of the 971 basis for disapproval and shall be sent to the licensee and the 972 disapproved individual. A licensee may appeal a notice of 973 disapproval within thirty (30) days after receipt of such notice 974 of disapproval. Such appeal shall be to the Chancery Court of the 975 First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi.

976 (4) If the notice provided pursuant to subsection (1) of 977 this section is not disapproved within ninety (90) days after the 978 date on which the notice was determined to be complete, the key 979 individual is deemed approved.

980 (5) If a multistate licensing process includes a key 981 individual notice review and disapproval process pursuant to this 982 section and the licensee avails itself or is otherwise subject to 983 the multistate licensing process:

984 (a) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to
985 accept the determination of another state if the investigating
986 state has sufficient staffing, expertise, and minimum standards
987 for the purpose of this section; or

988 (b) If Mississippi is a lead investigative state, the 989 commissioner is authorized and encouraged to investigate the

990 applicant pursuant to subsection (2) of this section and the 991 timeframes established by agreement through the multistate 992 licensing process.

993 <u>SECTION 20.</u> Report of condition. (1) Each licensee shall 994 submit a report of condition (i.e. call report) within forty-five 995 (45) days of the end of the calendar quarter, or within any 996 extended time as the commissioner may prescribe.

997 (2) The report of condition shall include:

998

(a) Financial information at the licensee level;

999 (b) Nationwide and state-specific money transmission 1000 transaction information in every jurisdiction in the United States 1001 where the licensee is licensed to engage in money transmission;

1002

(c) Permissible investments report;

1003 (d) Transaction destination country reporting for money 1004 received for transmission, if applicable; and

(e) Any other information the commissioner requires with respect to the licensee. The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to utilize NMLS for the submission of the report required by this subsection (1) of this section and is authorized to change or update as necessary the requirements of this section to carry out the purposes of this act and maintain consistency with NMLS reporting.

1012 (3) The information required by subsection (2)(d) of this 1013 section shall only be included in a report of condition submitted

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1014 within forty-five (45) days of the end of the fourth calendar 1015 quarter.

1016 <u>SECTION 21.</u> Audited financials. (1) Each licensee shall, 1017 within ninety (90) days after the end of each fiscal year, or 1018 within any extended time as the commissioner may prescribe, file 1019 with the commissioner:

1020 (a) An audited financial statement of the licensee for
1021 the fiscal year prepared in accordance with United States
1022 Generally Accepted Accounting Principles; and

1023 (b) Any other information as the commissioner may 1024 require.

1025 (2) The audited financial statements shall be prepared by an
1026 independent certified public accountant or independent public
1027 accountant who is satisfactory to the commissioner.

The audited financial statements shall include or be 1028 (3)1029 accompanied by a certificate of opinion of the independent 1030 certified public accountant or independent public accountant that 1031 is satisfactory in form and content to the commissioner. If the 1032 certificate or opinion is qualified, the commissioner may order 1033 the licensee to take any action as the commissioner may find 1034 necessary to enable the independent or certified public accountant 1035 or independent public accountant to remove the qualification.

1036 <u>SECTION 22.</u> Authorized delegate reporting. (1) Each 1037 licensee shall submit a report of authorized delegates within 1038 forty-five (45) days of the end of the calendar quarter. The

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1039 commissioner is authorized and encouraged to utilize NMLS for the 1040 submission of the report required by this subsection provided that 1041 such functionality is consistent with the requirements of this 1042 section. Such utilization shall include the NMLS Uniform 1043 Authorized Agent Reporting (UAAR) process, or such other similar 1044 process as designated by NMLS.

1045 (2) The authorized delegate report shall include, at a 1046 minimum, each authorized delegate's:

1047 (a) Company legal name;

1048 (b) Taxpayer employer identification number;

1049 (c) Principal provider identifier;

1050 (d) Physical address;

1051 (e) Mailing address;

1052 (f) Any business conducted in other states;

1053 (g) Any fictitious or trade name;

1054 (h) Contact person name, phone number, and email;

1055 (i) Start date as licensee's authorized delegate;

1056 (j) End date acting as licensee's authorized delegate, 1057 if applicable; and

1058 (k) Any other information the commissioner requires 1059 with respect to the authorized delegate.

1060 <u>SECTION 23.</u> Reports of certain events. (1) A licensee 1061 shall file a report with the commissioner within one (1) business 1062 day after the licensee has reason to know of the occurrence of any 1063 of the following events:

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(a) The filing of a petition by or against the licensee under the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 USC § 101-110, as amended or recodified from time to time, for bankruptcy or reorganization;

(b) The filing of a petition by or against the licensee for receivership, the commencement of any other judicial or administrative proceeding for its dissolution or reorganization, or the making of a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; or

1073 (c) The commencement of a proceeding to revoke or 1074 suspend its license in a state or country in which the licensee 1075 engages in business or is licensed.

1076 (2) A licensee shall file a report with the commissioner 1077 within three (3) business day after the licensee has reason to 1078 know of the occurrence of any of the following events:

1079 (a) A charge or conviction of the licensee or of a key
1080 individual or person in control of the licensee for a felony; or
1081 (b) A charge or conviction of an authorized delegate
1082 for a felony.

1083 <u>SECTION 24.</u> Bank Secrecy Act reports. A licensee and an 1084 authorized delegate shall file all reports required by federal 1085 currency reporting, record keeping, and suspicious activity 1086 reporting requirements as set forth in the Bank Secrecy Act and 1087 other federal and state laws pertaining to money laundering. The 1088 timely filing of a complete and accurate report required under

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1089 this section with the appropriate federal agency is deemed 1090 compliant with the requirements of this section.

1091 <u>SECTION 25.</u> Records. (1) A licensee shall maintain the 1092 following records, for determining its compliance with this act 1093 for at least five (5) years:

1094 (a) A record of each money transmission obligation1095 sold;

1096 (b) A general ledger posted at least monthly containing 1097 all asset, liability, capital, income and expense accounts;

1098 (c) Bank statements and bank reconciliation records;1099 (d) Records of outstanding money transmission;

(e) Records of each outstanding money transmission obligation paid within the five-year period;

1102 (f) A list of the last-known names and addresses of all 1103 of the licensee's authorized delegates; and

(g) Any other records the commissioner requires by rule, regulation or order.

1106 (2) The items specified in subsection (1) of this section 1107 may be maintained in photographic, electronic or other similar 1108 form.

(3) Records specified in subsection (1) of this section may be maintained outside this state if they are made accessible to the commissioner on seven (7) business days' notice that is sent in a record.

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(4) All records maintained by the licensee as required in subsections (1) through (3) of this section are open to inspection by the commissioner pursuant to Section 8(1) of this act.

1116 <u>SECTION 26.</u> Relationship between licensee and authorized 1117 delegate. (1) In this section, "remit" means to make direct 1118 payments of money to a licensee or its representative authorized 1119 to receive money or to deposit money in a bank in an account 1120 specified by the licensee.

1121 (2) Before a licensee is authorized to conduct business 1122 through an authorized delegate or allows a person to act as the 1123 licensee's authorized delegate, the licensee must:

(a) Adopt, and update as necessary, written policies and procedures designed to ensure that the licensee's authorized delegates comply with applicable state and federal law;

(b) Enter into a written contract that complies with subsection (4) of this section; and

(c) Conduct a risk-based background investigation sufficient for the licensee to determine whether the authorized delegate has complied and will likely comply with applicable state and federal law.

1133 (3) An authorized delegate must operate in full compliance 1134 with this act.

(4) The written contract required by subsection (2) of this section must be signed by the licensee and the authorized delegate and, at a minimum, must: (a) Appoint the person signing the contract as the licensee's authorized delegate with the authority to conduct money transmission on behalf of the licensee;

(b) Set forth the nature and scope of the relationship between the licensee and the authorized delegate and the respective rights and responsibilities of the parties;

(c) Require the authorized delegate to agree to fully comply with all applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations pertaining to money transmission, including this act and regulations implementing this act, relevant provisions of the Bank Secrecy Act and the USA PATRIOT ACT;

(d) Require the authorized delegate to remit and handle money and monetary value in accordance with the terms of the contract between the licensee and the authorized delegate;

(e) Impose a trust on money and monetary value net of fees received for money transmission for the benefit of the licensee;

(f) Require the authorized delegate to prepare and maintain records as required by this act or regulations implementing this act, or as requested by the commissioner;

(g) Acknowledge that the authorized delegate consents to examination or investigation by the commissioner;

(h) State that the licensee is subject to regulation by the commissioner and that, as part of that regulation, the commissioner may suspend or revoke an authorized delegate

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1163 designation or require the licensee to terminate an authorized 1164 delegate designation; and

(i) Acknowledge receipt of the written policies and procedures required under subsection (2)(a) of this section.

1167 (5) If the licensee's license is suspended, revoked, 1168 surrendered or expired, the licensee must, within five (5) 1169 business days, provide documentation to the commissioner that the 1170 licensee has notified all applicable authorized delegates of the 1171 licensee whose names are in a record filed with the commissioner 1172 of the suspension, revocation, surrender or expiration of a 1173 license. Upon suspension, revocation, surrender or expiration of 1174 a license, applicable authorized delegates shall immediately cease 1175 to provide money transmission as an authorized delegate of the 1176 licensee.

1177 An authorized delegate of a licensee holds in trust for (6)1178 the benefit of the licensee all money net of fees received from 1179 money transmission. If any authorized delegate commingles any funds received from money transmission with any other funds or 1180 1181 property owned or controlled by the authorized delegate, all 1182 commingled funds and other property shall be considered held in 1183 trust in favor of the licensee in an amount equal to the amount of 1184 money net of fees received from money transmission.

1185 (7) An authorized delegate may not use a subdelegate to 1186 conduct money transmission on behalf of a licensee.

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1187 <u>SECTION 27.</u> Unauthorized activities. A person shall not 1188 engage in the business of money transmission on behalf of a person 1189 not licensed under this act or not exempt pursuant to Sections 4 1190 and 5 of this act. A person who engages in such activity provides 1191 money transmission to the same extent as if the person were a 1192 licensee, and shall be jointly and severally liable with the 1193 unlicensed or nonexempt person.

1194 <u>SECTION 28.</u> Timely transmission. (1) Every licensee shall 1195 forward all money received for transmission in accordance with the 1196 terms of the agreement between the licensee and the sender unless 1197 the licensee has a reasonable belief or a reasonable basis to 1198 believe that the sender may be a victim of fraud or that a crime 1199 or violation of law, rule or regulation has occurred, is 1200 occurring, or may occur.

1201 (2) If a licensee fails to forward money received for 1202 transmission in accordance with this section, the licensee must 1203 respond to inquiries by the sender with the reason for the failure 1204 unless providing a response would violate a state or federal law, 1205 rule, or regulation.

1206 <u>SECTION 29.</u> Refunds. (1) This section does not apply to: 1207 (a) Money received for transmission subject to the 1208 federal Remittance Rule (12 CFR Part 1005, Subpart B), as amended 1209 or recodified from time to time; or 1210 Money received for transmission pursuant to a (b) 1211 written agreement between the licensee and payee to process payments for goods or services provided by the payee. 1212

1213 Every licensee shall refund to the sender within ten (2)1214 (10) days of receipt of the sender's written request for a refund 1215 of any and all money received for transmission unless any of the 1216 following occurs:

The money has been forwarded within ten (10) days 1217 (a) 1218 of the date on which the money was received for transmission;

1219 (b) Instructions have been given committing an 1220 equivalent amount of money to the person designated by the sender 1221 within ten (10) days of the date on which the money was received 1222 for transmission;

1223 The agreement between the licensee and the sender (C) 1224 instructs the licensee to forward the money at a time that is 1225 beyond ten (10) days of the date on which the money was received 1226 for transmission. If funds have not yet been forwarded in 1227 accordance with the terms of the agreement between the licensee 1228 and the sender, the licensee shall issue a refund in accordance 1229 with the other provisions of this section;

1230 (d) The refund is requested for a transaction that the 1231 licensee has not completed based on a reasonable belief or a 1232 reasonable basis to believe that a crime or violation of law, rule 1233 or regulation has occurred, is occurring, or may occur; or 1234

The refund request does not enable the licensee to: (e)

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1235 (i) Identify the sender's name and address or 1236 telephone number; or

(ii) Identify the particular transaction to be refunded in the event the sender has multiple transactions outstanding.

1240 <u>SECTION 30.</u> Receipts. (1) This section does not apply to: 1241 (a) Money received for transmission subject to the 1242 federal Remittance Rule (12 CFR Part 1005, Subpart B), as amended 1243 or recodified from time to time;

1244 (b) Money received for transmission that is not 1245 primarily for personal, family or household purposes; or

1246 (c) Money received for transmission pursuant to a 1247 written agreement between the licensee and payee to process 1248 payments for goods or services provided by the payee.

(2) For purposes of this section, "receipt" means a paper receipt, electronic record or other written confirmation. For a transaction conducted in person, the receipt may be provided electronically if the sender requests or agrees to receive an electronic receipt. For a transaction conducted electronically or by phone, a receipt may be provided electronically. All electronic receipts shall be provided in a retainable form.

1256 (3) Every licensee or its authorized delegate shall provide1257 the sender a receipt for money received for transmission.

1258 (a) The receipt shall contain the following1259 information, as applicable:

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1260 (i) The name of the sender;

1261 (ii) The name of the designated recipient; 1262 The date of the transaction; (iii) 1263 (iv) The unique transaction or identification 1264 number; 1265 (v) The name of the licensee, NMLS Unique ID, the 1266 licensee's business address and the licensee's customer service 1267 telephone number; 1268 The amount of the transaction in United (vi) 1269 States dollars; 1270 (vii) Any fee charged by the licensee to the 1271 sender for the transaction; and 1272 Any taxes collected by the licensee from (viii) 1273 the sender for the transaction. 1274 (b) The receipt required by this section shall be in 1275 English and in the language principally used by the licensee or 1276 authorized delegate to advertise, solicit or negotiate, either 1277 orally or in writing, for a transaction conducted in person, 1278 electronically or by phone, if other than English. 1279 SECTION 31. Net worth. (1) A licensee under this act shall 1280 maintain at all times a tangible net worth of the greater of One 1281 Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) or three percent (3%) of 1282 total assets for the first One Hundred Million Dollars 1283 (\$100,000,000.00), two percent (2%) of additional assets for One Hundred Million Dollars (\$100,000,000.00) to One Billion Dollars 1284

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1285 (\$1,000,000,000.00), and one-half percent (0.5%) of additional 1286 assets for over One Billion Dollars (\$1,000,000,000.00).

1287 (2) Tangible net worth must be demonstrated at initial 1288 application by the applicant's most recent audited statements 1289 pursuant to Section 13(2)(f) of this act.

1290 (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this 1291 section, the commissioner shall have the authority, for good cause 1292 shown, to exempt, in part or in whole, from the requirements of 1293 this section for any applicant or licensee.

1294 <u>SECTION 32.</u> Surety bond. (1) An applicant for a money 1295 transmission license must provide, and a licensee at all times 1296 must maintain, security consisting of a surety bond issued by a 1297 bonding company or insurance company authorized to do business in 1298 the State of Mississippi and in a form satisfactory to the 1299 commissioner or, with the commissioner's approval, a deposit 1300 instead of a bond in accordance with this section.

1301 The amount of the required security shall be (2)1302 the greater of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) or an 1303 amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the licensee's 1304 average daily money transmission liability in this state 1305 calculated for the most recently completed three-month period, up 1306 to a maximum of Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00). A licensee that maintains a bond in the maximum amount provided for 1307 1308 in subsection (1) of this section or in this subsection, as 1309 applicable, shall not be required to calculate its average daily

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1310 money transmission liability in this state for purposes of this 1311 section.

1312 (3) A licensee may exceed the maximum required bond amount1313 pursuant to Section 34(1)(e) of this act.

(4) The bond shall be in a form satisfactory to the commissioner and shall run to the state for the use and benefit of the Department of Banking and Consumer Finance and any claimants against the licensee or his agents to secure the faithful performance of the obligations of the licensee and his agents with respect to the receipt, handling, transmission and payment of money in connection with money transmissions in Mississippi.

(5) Any claimants against the licensee or his agents may themselves bring suit directly on the bond, or the Attorney General may bring suit thereon in behalf of those claimants, either in one (1) action or successive actions.

(6) The commissioner may increase the required amount of the bond or deposit upon the basis of the impaired financial condition of a licensee as evidenced by a reduction in net worth, financial losses or other relevant criteria.

(7) Any provision in this act to the contrary notwithstanding, the commissioner may at any time, if in the commissioner's sole opinion the protection of the public so requires, increase the principal sum of the bond or deposit required of any applicant or licensee by this act but in no case

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1334 shall the principal sum of the bond or deposit required exceed One
1335 Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00).

1336 <u>SECTION 33.</u> Maintenance of permissible. (1) A licensee 1337 shall maintain at all times permissible investments that have a 1338 market value computed in accordance with United States Generally 1339 Accepted Accounting Principles of not less than the aggregate 1340 amount of all of its outstanding money transmission obligations.

(2) Except for permissible investments enumerated in Section 34(1) of this act, the commissioner, with respect to any licensee, may by rule, regulation or order limit the extent to which a specific investment maintained by a licensee within a class of permissible investments may be considered a permissible investment, if the specific investment represents undue risk to customers, not reflected in the market value of investments.

Permissible investments, even if commingled with other 1348 (3)1349 assets of the licensee, are held in trust for the benefit of the 1350 purchasers and holders of the licensee's outstanding money 1351 transmission obligations in the event of insolvency, the filing of 1352 a petition by or against the licensee under the United States 1353 Bankruptcy Code, 11 USC § 101-110, as amended or recodified from 1354 time to time, for bankruptcy or reorganization, the filing of a 1355 petition by or against the licensee for receivership, the commencement of any other judicial or administrative proceeding 1356 1357 for its dissolution or reorganization, or in the event of an action by a creditor against the licensee who is not a beneficiary 1358

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1359 of this statutory trust. No permissible investments impressed 1360 with a trust pursuant to this subsection (3) shall be subject to 1361 attachment, levy of execution or sequestration by order of any 1362 court, except for a beneficiary of this statutory trust.

1363 Upon the establishment of a statutory trust in (4)1364 accordance with subsection (3) of this section or when any funds 1365 are drawn on a letter of credit pursuant to Section 34(1)(d) of 1366 this act, the commissioner shall notify the applicable regulator 1367 of each state in which the licensee is licensed to engage in money 1368 transmission, if any, of the establishment of the trust or the 1369 funds drawn on the letter of credit, as applicable. Notice shall be deemed satisfied if performed pursuant to a multistate 1370 1371 agreement or through NMLS. Funds drawn on a letter of credit, and any other permissible investments held in trust for the benefit of 1372 1373 the purchasers and holders of the licensee's outstanding money 1374 transmission obligations, are deemed held in trust for the benefit 1375 of such purchasers and holders on a pro rata and equitable basis 1376 in accordance with statutes pursuant to which permissible 1377 investments are required to be held in this state, and other 1378 states, as applicable. Any statutory trust established hereunder 1379 shall be terminated upon extinguishment of all of the licensee's 1380 outstanding money transmission obligations.

1381 (5) The commissioner, by rule, regulation or by order may 1382 allow other types of investments that the commissioner determines 1383 are of sufficient liquidity and quality to be a permissible

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1384 investment. The commissioner is authorized to participate in 1385 efforts with other state regulators to determine that other types 1386 of investments are of sufficient liquidity and quality to be a 1387 permissible investment.

1388 <u>SECTION 34.</u> Types of permissible investments. (1) The 1389 following investments are permissible under Section 33 of this 1390 act:

1391 Cash (including demand deposits, savings deposits, (a) 1392 and funds in such accounts held for the benefit of the licensee's 1393 customers in a federally insured depository financial institution) 1394 and cash equivalents including ACH items in transit to the 1395 licensee and ACH items or international wires in transit to a 1396 payee, cash in transit via armored car, cash in smart safes, cash in licensee-owned locations, debit card or credit card-funded 1397 1398 transmission receivables owed by any bank, or money market mutual funds rated "AAA" by S&P, or the equivalent from any eligible 1399 1400 rating service;

(b) Certificates of deposit or senior debt obligations of an insured depository institution, as defined in Section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 USC § 1813, as amended or recodified from time to time, or as defined under the federal Credit Union Act, 12 USC § 1781, as amended or recodified from time to time;

1407 (c) An obligation of the United States or a commission,1408 agency, or instrumentality thereof; an obligation that is

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1409 guaranteed fully as to principal and interest by the United 1410 States; or an obligation of a state or a governmental subdivision, 1411 agency, or instrumentality thereof;

(d) The full drawable amount of an irrevocable standby letter of credit for which the stated beneficiary is the commissioner that stipulates that the beneficiary need only draw a sight draft under the letter of credit and present it to obtain funds up to the letter of credit amount within seven (7) days of presentation of the items required by subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph (d).

1419 (i) The letter of credit must:

1420 Be issued by a federally insured 1. 1421 depository financial institution, a foreign bank that is 1422 authorized under federal law to maintain a federal agency or 1423 federal branch office in a state or states, or a foreign bank that 1424 is authorized under state law to maintain a branch in a state that 1425 a. bears an eligible rating or whose parent company bears an 1426 eligible rating; and b. is regulated, supervised, and examined by 1427 United States federal or state authorities having regulatory 1428 authority over banks, credit unions, and trust companies; 1429 2. Be irrevocable, unconditional and indicate 1430 that it is not subject to any condition or qualifications outside of the letter of credit; 1431

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1432 3. Not contain reference to any other 1433 agreements, documents or entities, or otherwise provide for any 1434 security interest in the licensee; and

1435 4. Contain an issue date and expiration date, 1436 and expressly provide for automatic extension, without a written 1437 amendment, for an additional period of one (1) year from the present or each future expiration date, unless the issuer of the 1438 1439 letter of credit notifies the commissioner in writing by certified 1440 or registered mail or courier mail or other receipted means, at 1441 least sixty (60) days prior to any expiration date, that the irrevocable letter of credit will not be extended. 1442

1443 In the event of any notice of expiration or (ii) 1444 nonextension of a letter of credit issued under subparagraph (i)4 1445 of this paragraph (d), the licensee shall be required to 1446 demonstrate to the satisfaction of the commissioner, fifteen (15) 1447 days prior to expiration, that the licensee maintains and will 1448 maintain permissible investments in accordance with Section 33(1) of this act upon the expiration of the letter of credit. If the 1449 1450 licensee is not able to do so, the commissioner may draw on the 1451 letter of credit in an amount up to the amount necessary to meet 1452 the licensee's requirements to maintain permissible investments in 1453 accordance with Section 33(1) of this act. Any such draw shall be 1454 offset against the licensee's outstanding money transmission 1455 obligations. The drawn funds shall be held in trust by the commissioner or the commissioner's designated agent, to the extent 1456

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1457 authorized by law, as agent for the benefit of the purchasers and 1458 holders of the licensee's outstanding money transmission 1459 obligations.

1460 The letter of credit shall provide that the (iii) 1461 issuer of the letter of credit will honor, at sight, a 1462 presentation made by the beneficiary to the issuer of the 1463 following documents on or prior to the expiration date of the 1464 letter of credit: 1465 The original letter of credit (including 1. 1466 any amendments); and 1467 2. A written statement from the beneficiary stating that any of the following events have occurred: 1468 1469 The filing of a petition by or a. 1470 against the licensee under the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 USC §§ 101-110, as amended or recodified from time to time, for 1471 1472 bankruptcy or reorganization; 1473 The filing of a petition by or b. 1474 against the licensee for receivership, or the commencement of any 1475 other judicial or administrative proceeding for its dissolution or 1476 reorganization; The seizure of assets of a licensee 1477 с. 1478 by a commissioner pursuant to an emergency order issued in accordance with applicable law, on the basis of an action, 1479 1480 violation, or condition that has caused or is likely to cause the insolvency of the licensee; or 1481

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d. The beneficiary has received notice of expiration or nonextension of a letter of credit and the licensee failed to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the beneficiary that the licensee will maintain permissible investments in accordance with Section 33(1) of this act upon the expiration or nonextension of the letter of credit.

1488 The commissioner may designate an agent to (iv) 1489 serve on the commissioner's behalf as beneficiary to a letter of 1490 credit so long as the agent and letter of credit meet requirements established by the commissioner. The commissioner's agent may 1491 1492 serve as agent for multiple licensing authorities for a single 1493 irrevocable letter of credit if the proceeds of the drawable 1494 amount for the purposes of this paragraph (d) are assigned to the 1495 commissioner.

(v) The commissioner is authorized and encouraged to participate in multistate processes designed to facilitate the issuance and administration of letters of credit, including, but not limited to, services provided by the NMLS and State Regulatory Registry, LLC;

(e) One hundred percent (100%) of the surety bond or deposit provided for under Section 32 of this act that exceeds the average daily money transmission liability in this state;

(f) Any other investment approved by the commissioner.
Unless permitted by the commissioner by rule, regulation
or by order to exceed the limit as set forth herein, the following

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1507 investments are permissible under Section 33 of this act to the 1508 extent specified:

(a) Receivables that are payable to a licensee from its
authorized delegates in the ordinary course of business that are
less than seven (7) days old, up to fifty percent (50%) of the
aggregate value of the licensee's total permissible investments;

(b) Of the receivables permissible under paragraph (a) of this subsection, receivables that are payable to a licensee from a single authorized delegate in the ordinary course of business may not exceed ten percent (10%) of the aggregate value of the licensee's total permissible investments;

1518 (c) The following investments are permissible up to 1519 twenty percent (20%) per category and combined up to fifty percent 1520 (50%) of the aggregate value of the licensee's total permissible 1521 investments:

1522 (i) A short-term (up to six (6) months) investment1523 bearing an eligible rating;

(ii) Commercial paper bearing an eligible rating;
(iii) A bill, note, bond, or debenture bearing an
eligible rating;

(iv) United States tri-party repurchase agreements collateralized at one hundred percent (100%) or more with U.S. government or agency securities, municipal bonds, or other securities bearing an eligible rating; 1531 (v) Money market mutual funds rated less than 1532 "AAA" and equal to or higher than "A-" by S&P, or the equivalent 1533 from any other eligible rating service; and

1534 (vi) A mutual fund or other investment fund 1535 composed solely and exclusively of one or more permissible 1536 investments listed in subsection (1)(a) through (c) of this 1537 section;

(d) Cash (including demand deposits, savings deposits, and funds in such accounts held for the benefit of the licensee's customers) at foreign depository institutions are permissible up to ten percent (10%) of the aggregate value of the licensee's total permissible investments if the licensee has received a satisfactory rating in its most recent examination and the foreign depository institution:

1545

(i) Has an eligible rating;

1546 (ii) Is registered under the Foreign Account Tax 1547 Compliance Act;

1548(iii) Is not located in any country subject to1549sanctions from the Office of Foreign Asset Control; and

(iv) Is not located in a high-risk or noncooperative jurisdiction as designated by the Financial Action Task Force.

1553 <u>SECTION 35.</u> Suspension and revocation. (1) The 1554 commissioner may suspend or revoke a license or order a licensee 1555 to revoke the designation of an authorized delegate if:

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(a) The licensee or any authorized delegate, agent, or
representative violates this act or a rule or regulation adopted
or an order issued under this act;

(b) The licensee or any authorized delegate, agent, or representative does not cooperate with an examination or investigation by the commissioner;

(c) The licensee or any authorized delegate, agent, or representative engages in fraud, intentional misrepresentation, or gross negligence;

(d) An authorized delegate is convicted of a violation of a state or federal anti-money laundering statute, or violates a rule or regulation adopted or an order issued under this act, as a result of the licensee's willful misconduct or willful blindness;

(e) The competence, experience, character, or general fitness of the licensee, authorized delegate, person in control of a licensee, key individual, or responsible person of the authorized delegate indicates that it is not in the public interest to permit the person to provide money transmission;

1574 (f) The licensee or any authorized delegate, agent, or 1575 representative engages in an unsafe or unsound practice;

(g) The licensee is insolvent, suspends payment of its obligations, or makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors; or

1579 (h) The licensee does not remove an authorized delegate 1580 after the commissioner issues and serves upon the licensee a final

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1581 order including a finding that the authorized delegate has 1582 violated this act.

1583 (2) In determining whether a licensee is engaging in an 1584 unsafe or unsound practice, the commissioner may consider the size 1585 and condition of the licensee's money transmission, the magnitude 1586 of the loss, the gravity of the violation of this act, and the 1587 previous conduct of the person involved.

1588 SECTION 36. Notice and hearing. (1) Except where a license 1589 is automatically revoked without any act of the commissioner as 1590 specially provided in this section, no license shall be revoked 1591 except on ten (10) days' notice (the first day of the ten-day 1592 period to be the date stated on the notice, which shall be the day 1593 it is mailed) to the licensee by the commissioner, sent by letter by United States registered mail, return receipt requested, to the 1594 1595 licensee's business address set forth in the application.

1596 (2)Upon receipt of the notice, as stated in the registered 1597 mail receipt, the licensee may, within five (5) days thereafter 1598 (which five-day period may be wholly or partially outside of the 1599 ten-day period) make written demand for a hearing by the 1600 commissioner, which demand must be accompanied by an additional 1601 surety bond or securities deposit, as hereafter provided, the 1602 principal sum or the market value thereof to be specified by the commissioner in the revocation notice. 1603

1604 (3) The revocation notice shall not become final during the 1605 period of time in which the licensee may demand such hearing nor

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1606 if licensee demands a hearing, until the matter has been finally 1607 determined by the commissioner or by the courts, provided that the 1608 licensee posts together with his written demand for hearing an 1609 additional corporate surety bond, written by the same surety that 1610 wrote the bond required under Section 32 of this act or an 1611 additional deposit in addition to the deposit theretofore made by 1612 the licensee under Section 32 of this act which additional surety 1613 bond or deposit shall be in a principal amount or of a market 1614 value deemed adequate by the commissioner as specified in the revocation order but not exceeding One Million Dollars 1615 1616 (\$1,000,000.00), provided that if the licensee originally deposited with his application under Section 32 of this act a 1617 1618 corporate surety bond, the additional deposit provided in this 1619 section must be another corporate surety bond or an increase of the first one and may not be a deposit, or if the licensee 1620 1621 originally made a deposit, the additional deposit shall also be of 1622 the same manner and not a corporate surety bond. The bond or 1623 deposit shall secure the same obligations as does the corporate 1624 surety bond or deposit required by Section 32 of this act, but 1625 shall be in addition to the bond or deposit required thereby.

1626 (4) Upon receipt of the written demand, the commissioner
1627 shall thereafter, with reasonable promptness, hear and determine
1628 the matter as provided by law or regulation.

1629 (5) If the licensee deems himself aggrieved by the1630 determination or order of the commissioner, he may within thirty

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1631 (30) days after the determination or order, have the determination 1632 or order reviewed by an appeal to the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, by filing a 1633 petition setting out the specific order or action or part thereof 1634 1635 by which the person deems himself aggrieved. All those petitions 1636 shall be given preferred settings and shall be heard by the court as speedily as possible. Such an appeal shall be perfected upon 1637 1638 the posting of a bond for the costs of the appeal accompanied by 1639 the petition. Any party to the appeal may appeal to the Supreme Court of Mississippi from the decree or order of the chancery 1640 1641 court, within thirty (30) days from the rendition of the decree or 1642 order, in the manner provided by law for appeals to the Supreme 1643 Court of Mississippi from chancery courts.

Final revocation of the license, whether automatic or by 1644 (6) final determination of the commissioner or the courts, shall 1645 1646 cancel as of the date of final revocation all bonds or deposits 1647 theretofore deposited by the licensee under any provision of this section, provided that the licensee (and his corporate surety, if 1648 1649 any) shall not be relieved of any accrued liabilities, and 1650 provided further, where the licensee made a deposit, that there 1651 shall not be returned to the licensee any of the deposit until the 1652 commissioner determines that all accrued liabilities (including, but not limited to, the principal sums thereof, accrued interest 1653 1654 thereon, and court costs, if any, assessed to the licensee) of the 1655 licensee under this section have been satisfied in full.

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1656 (7) The commissioner may at any time revoke a license, on 1657 any ground on which he might refuse to grant a license, for 1658 failure to pay an annual fee or for violation of any provision of 1659 this section, subject to the provisions of this section.

1660 (8) A license shall be automatically and finally revoked 1661 without any act or further act of the commissioner and without any 1662 right of the licensee to any hearing or further hearing by the 1663 commissioner or the courts and without any right of the licensee 1664 or the commissioner to reinstate or have reinstated the license, 1665 in the following instances: (a) at expiration of the sixty-day 1666 notice period, if the corporate surety gives notice of 1667 cancellation of its bond or any of them; (b) upon failure by 1668 licensee to pay when due the annual license fee required by 1669 Section 16 of this act; (c) upon failure by licensee to file when 1670 due any information required by this act; (d) in case of a 1671 revocation notice under the Section 36(1) of this act, failure by 1672 the licensee to demand hearing as provided therein or failure to 1673 deposit any additional corporate surety bond or deposit as 1674 required by the commissioner; (e) upon a license revocation order 1675 becoming final at any stage; (f) failure by licensee to deposit 1676 when due any additional corporate surety bond or deposit required 1677 by the commissioner under Section 32(8) of this act; or (q) upon final conviction of licensee as to any offense covered by this 1678 1679 act.

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(9) If a revocation order becomes final for any reason or in any manner, the license may not be reinstated, except upon new application as if the licensee had never been licensed before. The commissioner may deny the new application on grounds that a previous application was denied or a previous license to applicant was revoked or any ground or grounds on which he may deny an original application.

1687 SECTION 37. Orders to cease and desist. (1)If the 1688 commissioner determines that a violation of this act or of a rule 1689 or regulation adopted or an order issued under this act by a 1690 licensee or authorized delegate is likely to cause immediate and 1691 irreparable harm to the licensee, its customers, or the public as 1692 a result of the violation, or cause insolvency or significant 1693 dissipation of assets of the licensee, the commissioner may issue 1694 an order requiring the licensee or authorized delegate to cease and desist from the violation. The order becomes effective upon 1695 1696 service of it upon the licensee or authorized delegate.

(2) When the commissioner has reasonable cause to believe that a person is violating any provision of this act, the commissioner, in addition to and without prejudice to the authority provided elsewhere in this act, may sue in the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, to enjoin the person from engaging in or continuing the violation or from doing any act in furtherance of the violation. In such an

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1704 action, the court may enter any order or judgment awarding a 1705 preliminary or permanent injunction.

1706 (3) An order to cease and desist remains effective until 1707 rescinded or released by the commissioner or appealed as provided 1708 in this section.

(4) A licensee that is served with an order to cease and desist may petition the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, for a judicial order setting aside, limiting, or suspending the enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of the order.

1714 SECTION 38. Consent orders. The commissioner may enter into 1715 a consent order at any time with a person to resolve a matter 1716 arising under this act or a rule or regulation adopted or order issued under this act. A consent order must be signed by the 1717 1718 person to whom it is issued or by the person's authorized 1719 representative, and must indicate agreement with the terms 1720 contained in the order. A consent order may provide that it does not constitute an admission by a person that this act or a rule or 1721 1722 regulation adopted or an order issued under this act has been 1723 violated.

1724 <u>SECTION 39.</u> Criminal penalties. (1) A person who 1725 intentionally makes a false statement, misrepresentation, or false 1726 certification in a record filed or required to be maintained under 1727 this act or that intentionally makes a false entry or omits a 1728 material entry in such a record is guilty of a felony and, upon

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1729 conviction thereof, shall be fined no less than Five Hundred 1730 Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Three Thousand Dollars 1731 (\$3,000.00), and may also be punished by imprisonment in the 1732 custody of the Department of Corrections for a term not less than 1733 one (1) year and not more than five (5) years.

1734 (2) A person that knowingly engages in an activity for which 1735 a license is required under this act without being licensed under this act and who receives more than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) 1736 1737 in compensation within a thirty-day period from this activity is quilty of a felony and, upon conviction thereof, shall be fined no 1738 1739 less than Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) nor more than Three 1740 Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00), and may also be punished by 1741 imprisonment in the custody of the Department of Corrections for a 1742 term not less than one (1) year and not more than five (5) years.

1743 (3) A person that knowingly engages in an activity for which 1744 a license is required under this act without being licensed under 1745 this act and who receives no more than Five Hundred Dollars 1746 (\$500.00) in compensation within a thirty-day period from this 1747 activity is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, shall be 1748 fined not less than One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) nor more than 1749 Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00), and may also be confined to the 1750 county jail for not more than twelve (12) months.

1751 <u>SECTION 40.</u> Civil penalties. (1) The commissioner may 1752 assess a civil penalty against a person that violates this act or 1753 a rule or regulation adopted or an order issued under this act in

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an amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) per day for each day the violation is outstanding, plus this state's costs and expenses for the investigation and prosecution of the matter, including reasonable attorney's fees.

1758 If any person engages in business as provided for in (2)1759 this act without paying the license fee provided for in this act 1760 before beginning business or before the expiration of the person's 1761 current license, as the case may be, then the person shall be 1762 liable for the full amount of the license fee plus a penalty in an 1763 amount not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each day 1764 that the person has engaged in the business without a license or 1765 after the expiration of a license.

1766 <u>SECTION 41.</u> Unlicensed persons. (1) If the commissioner 1767 has reason to believe that a person has violated or is violating 1768 Section 11 of this act, the commissioner may issue an order to 1769 show cause why an order to cease and desist should not issue 1770 requiring that the person cease and desist from the violation of 1771 Section 11 of this act.

1772 (2) In an emergency, the commissioner may petition the
1773 Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County,
1774 Mississippi, for the issuance of a temporary restraining order ex
1775 parte pursuant to the Mississippi Rules of Civil Procedure.

1776 (3) An order to cease and desist becomes effective upon1777 service of it upon the person.

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1778 (4) An order to cease and desist remains effective and 1779 enforceable until rescinded or released by the commissioner or 1780 appealed as provided in this section.

(5) A person that is served with an order to cease and desist for violating Section 11 of this act may petition the Chancery Court of the First Judicial District of Hinds County, Mississippi, for a judicial order setting aside, limiting, or suspending the enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of the order.

1787 SECTION 42. Investigation of possible violations. In 1788 addition to and without prejudice to the authority provided 1789 elsewhere in this act, the commissioner, or his duly authorized 1790 representative, for the purpose of discovering violations of this act and for the purpose of determining whether persons are subject 1791 to the provisions of this act, may examine persons licensed under 1792 1793 this chapter and persons reasonably suspected by the commissioner 1794 of conducting business that requires a license under this act, 1795 including all relevant books, records and papers employed by those 1796 persons in the transaction of their business, and may summon 1797 witnesses and examine them under oath concerning matters relating 1798 to the business of those persons, or such other matters as may be 1799 relevant to the discovery of violations of this act, including, 1800 without limitation, the conduct of business without a license as required under this act. 1801

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1802 <u>SECTION 43.</u> Uniformity of application and construction. In 1803 applying and construing this act, consideration must be given to 1804 the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its 1805 subject matter among states that enact it.

1806 <u>SECTION 44.</u> Severability clause. If any provision of this 1807 act or its application to any person or circumstance is held 1808 invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or 1809 applications of this act which can be given effect without the 1810 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions 1811 of this act are severable.

1812 <u>SECTION 45.</u> Transition period. (1) A person licensed in 1813 this state to engage in the business of money transmission shall 1814 not be subject to the provisions of this act, to the extent that 1815 they conflict with current law or establish new requirements not 1816 imposed under current law, until such time as the licensee renews 1817 its current license or for twelve (12) months after the effective 1818 date of this act, whichever is later.

1819 Notwithstanding subsection (1) of this section, a (2) 1820 licensee shall only be required to amend its authorized delegate 1821 contracts for contracts entered into or amended after the 1822 effective date or the completion of any transition period 1823 contemplated under subsection (1) of this section. Nothing herein shall be construed as limiting an authorized delegate's 1824 1825 obligations to operate in full compliance with this act as required by Section 26(3) of this act. 1826

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1827 SECTION 46. Sections 75-15-1 through 75-15-35, Mississippi

1828 Code of 1972, which is the chapter of law that creates the

- 1829 "Mississippi Money Transmitters Act," is hereby repealed.
- 1830 SECTION 47. This act shall take effect and be in force from

1831 and after July 1, 2025.

# Further, amend by striking the title in its entirety and

### inserting in lieu thereof the following:

1 AN ACT TO ENACT THE MISSISSIPPI MONEY TRANSMISSION 2 MODERNIZATION ACT; TO STATE THE PURPOSE AND INTENT OF THE ACT; TO 3 DEFINE TERMS; TO PROVIDE CERTAIN EXEMPTIONS TO THE ACT; TO PROVIDE PROVISIONS ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACT, CONFIDENTIALITY UNDER 4 5 THE ACT, THE COMMISSIONER'S SUPERVISION OF THE ACT, AND THE 6 RELATIONSHIP OF THE ACT TO FEDERAL LAW; TO PROVIDE FOR MONEY 7 TRANSMISSION LICENSES; TO PROVIDE FOR ACQUISITION OF CONTROL AND 8 NOTICE AND INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS FOR A CHANGE OF KEY 9 INDIVIDUALS; TO PROVIDE REPORTING AND RECORD REQUIREMENTS UNDER 10 THE ACT; TO PERMIT AUTHORIZED DELEGATES; TO REQUIRE CERTAIN DISCLOSURES BY LICENSEES; TO SET FORTH CERTAIN PRUDENTIAL 11 12 STANDARDS; TO PROVIDE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS; TO AUTHORIZE THE 13 COMMISSIONER TO INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE VIOLATIONS OF THE ACT; TO 14 PROVIDE THAT THIS ACT SHOULD BE CONSTRUED AND APPLIED TO PROMOTE UNIFORMITY OF LAW; TO PROVIDE THAT THE PROVISIONS OR APPLICATIONS 15 16 OF THIS ACT SHALL BE SEVERABLE; TO PROVIDE FOR A TRANSITION 17 PERIOD; TO REPEAL SECTION 75-15-1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, WHICH 18 IS THE CHAPTER OF LAW THAT CREATES THE MISSISSIPPI MONEY 19 TRANSMITTERS ACT; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.