LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE SECOND SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 987

Introduced by Schumacher, 22.

Read first time January 11, 2018

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to finance; to adopt the Uniform Regulation of
- 2 Virtual-Currency Businesses Act; to provide for licensing and
- 3 registration; and to provide severability.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. Sections 1 to 34 of this act shall be known and may be

- 2 <u>cited as the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act.</u>
- 3 Sec. 2. In the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses
- 4 <u>Act:</u>
- 5 (1) Applicant means a person that applies for a license under the
- 6 act.
- 7 (2) Bank means a federally chartered or state-chartered depository
- 8 institution or holder of a charter granted by the Office of the
- 9 Comptroller of the Currency to a person engaged in the business of
- 10 banking other than deposit-taking. The term does not include:
- 11 (A) an industrial loan company, state-chartered trust company, or a
- 12 <u>limited purpose trust company unless the department has authorized the</u>
- 13 company to engage in virtual-currency business activity; or
- 14 (B) a trust company or limited-purpose trust company chartered by a
- 15 state with which this state does not have a reciprocity agreement
- 16 governing trust-company activities.
- 17 (3) Control means:
- 18 <u>(A) when used in reference to a transaction or relationship</u>
- 19 <u>involving virtual currency, power to execute unilaterally or prevent</u>
- 20 <u>indefinitely a virtual-currency transaction; and</u>
- 21 (B) when used in reference to a person, the direct or indirect power
- 22 to direct the management, operations, or policies of the person through
- 23 legal or beneficial ownership of voting power in the person or under a
- 24 contract, arrangement, or understanding.
- 25 (4) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance.
- 26 (5) Exchange, used as a verb, means to assume control of virtual
- 27 <u>currency from or on behalf of a resident, at least momentarily, to sell,</u>
- 28 trade, or convert:
- 29 (A) virtual currency for legal tender, bank credit, or one or more
- 30 <u>forms of virtual currency; or</u>
- 31 (B) legal tender or bank credit for one or more forms of virtual

- 1 currency.
- 2 (6) Executive officer means an individual who is a director,
- 3 officer, manager, managing member, partner, or trustee of a person that
- 4 is not an individual.
- 5 (7) Insolvent means:
- 6 (A) having generally ceased to pay debts in the ordinary course of
- 7 business other than as a result of a bona fide dispute;
- 8 (B) being unable to pay debts as they become due; or
- 9 (C) being insolvent within the meaning of federal bankruptcy law.
- 10 (8) Legal tender means a medium of exchange or unit of value,
- 11 <u>including the coin or paper money of the United States, issued by the</u>
- 12 United States or by another government.
- 13 (9) Licensee means a person licensed under the act.
- 14 (10) Person means an individual, partnership, estate, business or
- 15 <u>nonprofit</u> entity, <u>public</u> corporation, <u>government</u> or <u>governmental</u>
- 16 subdivision, agency, or instrumentality or other legal entity.
- 17 (11) Reciprocity agreement means an arrangement between the
- 18 department and the appropriate licensing agency of another state which
- 19 permits a licensee operating under a license granted by the other state
- 20 to engage in virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 21 <u>resident.</u>
- 22 (12) Record means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium
- 23 or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in
- 24 perceivable form.
- 25 (13) Registrant means a person that has registered with this state
- 26 under section 11 of this act to conduct virtual-currency business
- 27 activity.
- 28 (14) Registration means the ability under section 11 of this act to
- 29 <u>conduct virtual-currency business activity.</u>
- 30 (15) Registry means the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and
- 31 Registry.

- 1 (16) Resident:
- 2 (A) means a person that
- 3 (i) is domiciled in this state;
- 4 (ii) is physically located in this state for more than one hundred
- 5 eighty-three days of the previous three hundred sixty-five days; or
- 6 (iii) has a place of business in this state; and
- 7 (B) includes a legal representative of a person that satisfies
- 8 subdivision (A) of this subdivision.
- 9 (17) Responsible individual means an individual who has managerial
- 10 authority with respect to a licensee's or registrant's virtual-currency
- 11 <u>business activity with or on behalf of a resident.</u>
- 12 (18) Sign means, with present intent to authenticate or adopt a
- 13 record:
- 14 (A) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol; or
- 15 (B) to attach to or logically associate with the record an
- 16 electronic symbol, sound, or process.
- 17 (19) State means a state of the United States, the District of
- 18 Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory
- 19 or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
- 20 (20) Store, except in the phrase store of value, means to maintain
- 21 control of virtual currency on behalf of a resident by a person other
- 22 than the resident. Storage and storing have corresponding meanings.
- 23 (21) Transfer means to assume control of virtual currency from or on
- 24 behalf of a resident and to:
- 25 (A) credit the virtual currency to the account of another person;
- 26 (B) move the virtual currency from one account of a resident to
- 27 another account of the same resident; or
- 28 (C) relinquish control of virtual currency to another person.
- 29 (22) U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency means the equivalent
- 30 value of a particular virtual currency in United States dollars shown on
- 31 a virtual-currency exchange based in the United States for a particular

- 1 <u>date or period specified in the act.</u>
- 2 <u>(23) Virtual currency:</u>
- 3 (A) means a digital representation of value that:
- 4 (i) is used as a medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of
- 5 value; and
- 6 (ii) is not legal tender, whether or not denominated in legal
- 7 tender; and
- 8 (B) does not include:
- 9 <u>(i) a transaction in which a merchant grants, as part of an affinity</u>
- 10 or rewards program, value that cannot be taken from or exchanged with the
- 11 merchant for legal tender, bank credit, or virtual currency; or
- 12 <u>(ii) a digital representation of value issued by or on behalf of a</u>
- 13 publisher and used solely within an online game, game platform, or family
- of games sold by the same publisher or offered on the same game platform.
- 15 (24) Virtual-currency administration means issuing virtual currency
- 16 with the authority to redeem the currency for legal tender, bank credit,
- 17 or other virtual currency.
- 18 (25) Virtual-currency business activity means:
- 19 <u>(A) exchanging, transferring, or storing virtual currency or</u>
- 20 engaging in virtual-currency administration, whether directly or through
- 21 an agreement with a virtual-currency control-services vendor;
- 22 (B) holding electronic precious metals or electronic certificates
- 23 representing interests in precious metals on behalf of another person or
- 24 issuing shares or electronic certificates representing interests in
- 25 precious metals; or
- 26 (C) exchanging one or more digital representations of value used
- 27 <u>within one or more online games, game platforms, or family of games for:</u>
- 28 <u>(i) virtual currency offered by or on behalf of the same publisher</u>
- 29 from which the original digital representation of value was received; or
- 30 (ii) legal tender or bank credit outside the online game, game
- 31 platform, or family of games offered by or on behalf of the same

1 publisher from which the original digital representation of value was

- 2 <u>received.</u>
- 3 (26) Virtual-currency control-services vendor means a person that
- 4 has control of virtual currency solely under an agreement with a person
- 5 that, on behalf of another person, assumes control of virtual currency.
- 6 Sec. 3. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) or (c)
- 7 of this section, the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses
- 8 Act governs the virtual-currency business activity of a person, wherever
- 9 located, that engages in or holds itself out as engaging in the activity
- 10 with or on behalf of a resident.
- 11 (b) The act does not apply to the exchange, transfer, or storage of
- 12 virtual currency or to virtual-currency administration to the extent the
- 13 Electronic Fund Transfer Act, 15 U.S.C. 1693 to 1693r, the Securities
- 14 Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78a to 7800, the Commodity Exchange Act,
- 15 <u>7 U.S.C. 1 to 27f, as such sections existed on the effective date of this</u>
- 16 act, or the Securities Act of Nebraska, govern the activity. The Uniform
- 17 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act does not apply to activity
- 18 by:
- 19 <u>(1) the United States, a state, political subdivision of a state,</u>
- 20 agency or instrumentality of federal, state, or local government, or a
- 21 <u>foreign government or a subdivision, department, agency or</u>
- 22 instrumentality of a foreign government;
- 23 <u>(2) a bank;</u>
- 24 (3) a person engaged in money transmission that:
- 25 (A) holds a license under the Nebraska Money Transmitters Act;
- 26 (B) is authorized by the department to engage in virtual-currency
- 27 business activity; and
- 28 (C) complies with sections 5 to 20 and 28 to 31 of this act;
- 29 (4) a person whose participation in a payment system is limited to
- 30 providing processing, clearing, or performing settlement services solely
- 31 for transactions between or among persons that are exempt from the

1 licensing or registration requirements of the Uniform Regulation of

- 2 Virtual-Currency Businesses Act;
- 3 (5) a person engaged in the business of dealing in foreign exchange
- 4 to the extent the person's activity meets the definition in 31 C.F.R.
- 5 <u>1010.605(f)(1)(iv)</u>, as such rule existed on the effective date of this
- 6 act;
- 7 (6) a person that:
- 8 (A) contributes only connectivity software or computing power to a
- 9 <u>decentralized virtual currency</u>, or to a protocol governing transfer of
- 10 the digital representation of value;
- 11 <u>(B) provides only data storage or security services for a business</u>
- 12 <u>engaged in virtual-currency business activity and does not otherwise</u>
- 13 engage in virtual-currency business activity on behalf of another person;
- 14 or
- 15 (C) provides only to a person otherwise exempt from the act virtual
- 16 <u>currency as one or more enterprise solutions used solely among each other</u>
- 17 <u>and has no agreement or relationship with a resident that is an end-user</u>
- 18 of virtual currency;
- 19 (7) a person using virtual currency, including creating, investing,
- 20 <u>buying or selling, or obtaining virtual currency as payment for the</u>
- 21 purchase or sale of goods or services, solely:
- 22 (A) on its own behalf;
- 23 (B) for personal, family, or household purposes; or
- 24 <u>(C) for academic purposes;</u>
- 25 (8) a person whose virtual-currency business activity with or on
- 26 behalf of residents is reasonably expected to be valued, in the
- 27 aggregate, on an annual basis at five thousand dollars or less, measured
- 28 by the U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency;
- 29 (9) an attorney to the extent of providing escrow services to a
- 30 <u>resident;</u>
- 31 (10) a title insurance company to the extent of providing escrow

- 1 services to a resident;
- 2 (11) a securities intermediary, as defined in section 8-102, Uniform
- 3 Commercial Code, or a commodity intermediary, as defined in section
- 4 9-102, Uniform Commercial Code, that:
- 5 (A) does not engage in the ordinary course of business in virtual-
- 6 currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident in addition to
- 7 maintaining securities accounts or commodities accounts and is regulated
- 8 <u>as a securities intermediary or commodity intermediary under federal law,</u>
- 9 law of this state other than the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency
- 10 Businesses Act, or law of another state; and
- 11 (B) affords a resident protections comparable to those set forth in
- 12 section 29 of this act;
- 13 (12) a secured creditor under article 9, Uniform Commercial Code, of
- 14 any state or creditor with a judicial lien or lien arising by operation
- 15 of law on collateral that is virtual currency, if the virtual-currency
- 16 business activity of the creditor is limited to enforcement of the
- 17 security interest in compliance with article 9, Uniform Commercial Code,
- or lien in compliance with the law applicable to the lien;
- 19 <u>(13) a virtual-currency control-services vendor; or</u>
- 20 (14) a person that:
- 21 (A) does not receive compensation from a resident for:
- (i) providing virtual-currency products or services; or
- 23 (ii) conducting virtual-currency business activity; or
- (B) is engaged in testing products or services with the person's own
- 25 funds.
- 26 (c) The department may determine that a person or class of persons,
- 27 given facts particular to the person or class, should be exempt from the
- 28 Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act, whether or not the
- 29 person or class is covered by requirements imposed under federal law on a
- 30 <u>money-service business.</u>
- 31 Sec. 4. Unless displaced by the particular provisions of the

1 Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act, the principles of

- 2 <u>law and equity supplement its provisions.</u>
- 3 Sec. 5. A person may not engage in virtual-currency business
- 4 activity, or hold itself out as being able to engage in virtual-currency
- 5 business activity, with or on behalf of a resident, unless the person is:
- 6 (1) licensed in this state by the department under section 6 of this
- 7 <u>act;</u>
- 8 (2) licensed in another state to conduct virtual-currency business
- 9 activity by a state with which this state has a reciprocity agreement and
- 10 has qualified under section 7 of this act;
- 11 (3) registered with the department and operating in compliance with
- 12 section 11 of this act; or
- 13 <u>(4) exempt from licensure or registration under the Uniform</u>
- 14 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act by subsection (b) or (c) of
- 15 section 3 of this act.
- Sec. 6. (a) Except as otherwise provided in section 7 of this act,
- 17 an application for a license under the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-
- 18 Currency Businesses Act:
- 19 (1) must be made in a form and medium prescribed by the department
- 20 or the registry;
- 21 (2) except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this section,
- 22 must provide the following information relevant to the applicant's
- 23 proposed virtual-currency business activity:
- 24 (A) the legal name of the applicant, each current or proposed
- 25 business United States Postal Service address of the applicant, and any
- 26 fictitious or trade name the applicant uses or plans to use in conducting
- 27 its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident;
- 28 (B) the legal name, any former or fictitious name, and the
- 29 residential and business United States Postal Service address of each
- 30 executive officer and responsible individual of the applicant, and each
- 31 person that has control of the applicant;

- 1 (C) a description of the current and former business of the
- 2 applicant for the five years before the application is submitted or if
- 3 the business has operated for less than five years, for the time the
- 4 business has operated, including its products and services, associated
- 5 web site addresses and social media pages, principal place of business,
- 6 projected user base, and specific marketing targets;
- 7 (D) the name, United States Postal Service address, and telephone
- 8 <u>number of a person that manages each server the applicant expects to use</u>
- 9 in conducting its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of
- 10 a resident and a copy of any agreement with that person;
- 11 (E) a list of:
- 12 (i) each money-service or money-transmitter license the applicant
- 13 <u>holds in another state;</u>
- 14 (ii) the date the license expires; and
- 15 (iii) any license revocation, license suspension, or other
- 16 disciplinary action taken against the applicant in another state and any
- 17 license applications rejected by another state;
- 18 <u>(F) a list of any criminal conviction, deferred prosecution</u>
- 19 agreement, and pending criminal proceeding in any jurisdiction against:
- 20 <u>(i) the applicant;</u>
- 21 (ii) each executive officer of the applicant;
- (iii) each responsible individual of the applicant;
- 23 (iv) each person that has control over the applicant; and
- (v) each person over which the applicant has control;
- 25 (G) a list of any litigation, arbitration, or administrative
- 26 proceeding in any jurisdiction in which the applicant, or an executive
- 27 officer or a responsible individual of the applicant, has been a party
- 28 for the five years before the application is submitted, determined to be
- 29 material in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles and,
- 30 to the extent the applicant would be required to disclose the litigation,
- 31 arbitration, or administrative proceeding in the applicant's audited

1 financial statements, reports to equity owners, and similar statements or

- 2 <u>reports;</u>
- 3 (H) a list of any bankruptcy or receivership proceeding in any
- 4 jurisdiction for the ten years before the application is submitted in
- 5 which any of the following was a debtor:
- 6 (i) the applicant;
- 7 (ii) an executive officer of the applicant;
- 8 (iii) a responsible individual of the applicant;
- 9 (iv) a person that has control over the applicant; and
- 10 (v) a person over which the applicant has control;
- 11 (I) the name and United States Postal Service address of each bank
- 12 <u>in which the applicant plans to deposit funds obtained by its virtual-</u>
- 13 <u>currency business activity;</u>
- 14 (J) the source of funds and credit to be used by the applicant to
- 15 conduct virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 16 <u>resident and documentation demonstrating that the applicant has the net</u>
- worth and reserves required by section 8 of this act;
- 18 (K) the United States Postal Service address and electronic mail
- 19 address to which communications from the department may be sent;
- 20 <u>(L) the name, United States Postal Service address, and electronic</u>
- 21 mail address of the registered agent of the applicant in this state;
- 22 (M) a copy of the certificate, or a detailed summary acceptable to
- 23 the department, of coverage for each liability, casualty, business-
- 24 interruption, or cyber security insurance policy maintained by the
- 25 applicant for itself, an executive officer, a responsible individual, or
- 26 the applicant's users;
- 27 (N) if applicable, the date on which and the state where the
- 28 applicant is formed and a copy of a current certificate of good standing
- 29 <u>issued by that state;</u>
- 30 (0) if a person has control of the applicant and the person's equity
- 31 interests are publicly traded in the United States, a copy of the audited

- 1 financial statement of the person for the most recent fiscal year or most
- 2 recent report of the person filed under section 13 of the Securities
- 3 Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. 78m, as such section existed on the
- 4 effective date of this act;
- 5 <u>(P) if a person has control of the applicant and the person's equity</u>
- 6 interests are publicly traded outside the United States, a copy of the
- 7 audited financial statement of the person for the most recent fiscal year
- 8 of the person or a copy of the most recent documentation similar to that
- 9 required in subdivision (0) of this subdivision filed with the foreign
- 10 regulator in the domicile of the person;
- 11 (Q) if the applicant is a partnership or a member-managed limited-
- 12 <u>liability company, the names and United States Postal Service addresses</u>
- 13 <u>of general partners or members;</u>
- 14 (R) if the applicant is required to register with the Financial
- 15 Crimes Enforcement Network of the United States Department of the
- 16 Treasury as a money-service business, evidence of the registration;
- 17 (S) a set of fingerprints for each executive officer and responsible
- 18 individual of the applicant;
- 19 (T) if available, for each executive officer and responsible
- 20 <u>individual of the applicant, for the five years before the application is</u>
- 21 <u>submitted:</u>
- (i) employment history; and
- 23 (ii) history of any investigation of the individual or legal
- 24 proceeding to which the individual was a party;
- 25 (U) the plans through which the applicant will meet its obligations
- 26 under sections 30 and 31 of this act; and
- 27 <u>(V) other information the department reasonably requires by rule or</u>
- 28 <u>regulation; and</u>
- 29 <u>(3) must be accompanied by a nonrefundable fee in the amount of</u>
- 30 \$XXX.
- 31 (b) For good cause, the department may waive a requirement of

1 subsection (a) of this section or permit the applicant to submit other

- 2 information instead of the required information.
- 3 (c) An application for a license under this section is not complete
- 4 until the department receives all information required by the Uniform
- 5 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act and completes its
- 6 investigation under subsection (d) of this section.
- 7 (d) On receipt of a completed application:
- 8 (1) the department shall investigate:
- 9 (A) the financial condition and responsibility of the applicant;
- 10 (B) the relevant financial and business experience, character, and
- 11 general fitness of the applicant; and
- 12 (C) the competence, experience, character, and general fitness of
- 13 each executive officer, each responsible individual, and any person that
- 14 <u>has control of the applicant; and</u>
- 15 (2) the department may conduct an investigation of the business
- 16 premises of an applicant.
- 17 <u>(e) Not later than thirty days after an application is complete, the</u>
- 18 department shall send the applicant notice of its decision to approve,
- 19 <u>conditionally approve, or deny the application. If the department does</u>
- 20 not send the applicant notice of its decision within thirty-one days of
- 21 completion of the application, the application is deemed denied. If the
- 22 department does not receive notice from the applicant that the applicant
- 23 accepts conditions specified by the department within thirty-one days
- 24 following the department's notice of the conditions, the application is
- 25 <u>deemed denied</u>.
- 26 (f) A license takes effect on the later of:
- 27 <u>(1) the date on which the department issues the license; or</u>
- 28 (2) the date the licensee provides the security required by section
- 29 <u>8 of this act.</u>
- 30 (g) An applicant shall pay the reasonable costs of the department's
- 31 investigation under this section.

- Sec. 7. (a) Instead of an application required by section 6 of this
- 2 <u>act, a person licensed by another state to conduct virtual-currency</u>
- 3 business activity in that state may file with the registry an application
- 4 under this section.
- 5 (b) When an application under this section is filed with the
- 6 registry, the applicant shall notify the department in a record that the
- 7 applicant has submitted the application to the registry and shall submit
- 8 to the department:
- 9 (1) a certification of license history from the agency responsible
- 10 for issuing a license in each state in which the applicant has been
- 11 <u>licensed to conduct virtual-currency business activity;</u>
- 12 (2) a nonrefundable reciprocal licensing application fee in the
- 13 <u>amount of \$XXX;</u>
- 14 (3) documentation demonstrating that the applicant complies with the
- 15 security and net worth reserve requirements of section 8 of this act; and
- 16 (4) a certification signed by an executive officer of the applicant
- 17 affirming that the applicant will conduct its virtual-currency business
- 18 <u>activity with or on behalf of a resident in compliance with the Uniform</u>
- 19 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act.
- 20 <u>(c) The department may permit conduct of virtual-currency business</u>
- 21 <u>activity by an applicant that complies with this section.</u>
- 22 Sec. 8. (a) Before a license is issued under the Uniform Regulation
- 23 <u>of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act:</u>
- 24 (1) an applicant must deposit with the department funds or
- 25 investment property, a letter of credit, a surety bond, or other security
- 26 <u>satisfactory to the department that:</u>
- 27 (A) secures the applicant's faithful performance of its duties under
- 28 the act; and
- 29 (B) is in an amount the department specifies based on the nature and
- 30 extent of risks in the applicant's virtual-currency business model;
- 31 (2) the department may not require a surety bond as security under

1 the act unless a surety bond is generally available in the state at a

- 2 commercially reasonable cost;
- 3 (3) security deposited under this section must be payable to this
- 4 state for the benefit of a claim against the licensee on account of the
- 5 <u>licensee's virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a</u>
- 6 resident;
- 7 (4) security deposited under this section must cover claims for the
- 8 period the department specifies by rule or regulation and for an
- 9 additional period the department specifies after the licensee ceases to
- 10 <u>engage in virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a</u>
- 11 resident;
- 12 <u>(5) for good cause, the department may require the licensee to</u>
- 13 increase the amount of security deposited under this section, and the
- 14 licensee shall deposit the additional security not later than fifteen
- 15 days after the licensee receives notice in a record of the required
- 16 increase;
- 17 <u>(6) for good cause, the department may permit a licensee to</u>
- 18 substitute or deposit an alternate form of security satisfactory to the
- 19 department if the licensee at all times complies with this section;
- 20 <u>(7) a claimant does not have a direct right to recover against</u>
- 21 security deposited under this section; and
- 22 (8) only the department may recover against the security, and the
- 23 department may retain the recovery for no longer than five years and may
- 24 process claims and distribute recoveries to claimants in accordance with
- 25 rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department under the
- 26 Nebraska Money Transmitters Act.
- 27 (b) In addition to the security required under subsection (a) of
- 28 this section, a licensee and a registrant, at the time of the application
- 29 for a license under this act or filing of registration, shall submit to
- 30 the department evidence of and maintain:
- 31 (1) a minimum net worth of twenty-five thousand dollars; and

- 1 (2) sufficient unencumbered reserves for winding down the licensee's
- 2 or registrant's operations as agreed to by the department considering the
- 3 nature and size of expected virtual-currency business activity with or on
- 4 behalf of residents.
- 5 (c) A licensee or registrant may include in its calculation of net
- 6 worth virtual currency, measured by the average value of the virtual
- 7 currency in U.S. Dollar equivalent over the prior six months, other than
- 8 the virtual currency over which it has control for a resident entitled to
- 9 the protections under section 29 of this act.
- 10 (d) For good cause, the department may require a licensee or
- 11 registrant to increase the net worth or reserves required under this
- 12 <u>section. The licensee or registrant shall submit to the department</u>
- 13 evidence that it has the additional net worth or reserves not later than
- 14 <u>fifteen days after the licensee or registrant receives notice in a record</u>
- 15 of the required increase.
- Sec. 9. (a) Absent good cause, the department shall issue a license
- 17 to an applicant if the applicant complies with sections 5 to 13 of this
- 18 act and pays the costs of the investigation under subsection (g) of
- 19 <u>section 6 of this act and the initial licensee fee under subdivision (a)</u>
- 20 (3) of section 6 of this act in an amount required by law or specified by
- 21 <u>the department by rule or regulation.</u>
- 22 (b) An applicant may appeal a denial of its application under
- 23 <u>section 6 or 7 of this act under the Administrative Procedure Act not</u>
- 24 <u>later than thirty days after:</u>
- 25 (1) the department notifies the applicant of the denial; or
- 26 (2) the application is deemed denied.
- 27 Sec. 10. <u>(a) Subject to subsection (g) of this section, not later</u>
- 28 than fifteen days before the anniversary date of issuance of its license
- 29 <u>under the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act, a</u>
- 30 <u>licensee may apply for renewal of the license by:</u>
- 31 (1) paying a renewal fee of \$XXX; and

1 (2) submitting to the department a renewal report under subsection

- 2 (b) of this section.
- 3 (b) A renewal report required by subdivision (a)(2) of this section
- 4 must be submitted in a form and medium prescribed by the department. The
- 5 <u>report must contain:</u>
- 6 (1) a copy of the licensee's most recent:
- 7 (A) reviewed annual financial statement if the licensee's virtual-
- 8 currency business activity in this state was \$XXX or less for the fiscal
- 9 year ending before the anniversary date of issuance of its license under
- 10 the act; or
- 11 (B) audited annual financial statement if the licensee's virtual-
- 12 <u>currency business activity in this state amounted to more than \$XXX for</u>
- 13 the fiscal year ending before the anniversary date;
- 14 (2) if a person other than an individual has control of the
- 15 <u>licensee</u>, a copy of the person's most recent:
- 16 (A) reviewed annual financial statement if the person's gross
- 17 revenue was \$XXX or less in the previous fiscal year, measured as of the
- 18 anniversary date of issuance of its license under the act; or
- 19 (B) audited consolidated annual financial statement if the person's
- 20 gross revenue was more than \$XXX in the previous fiscal year, measured as
- 21 of the anniversary date of issuance of its license under the act;
- 22 (3) a description of any:
- 23 (A) material change in the financial condition of the licensee;
- 24 (B) material litigation involving the licensee or an executive
- 25 officer or responsible individual of the licensee;
- 26 (C) license suspension or revocation proceeding commenced, or other
- 27 action taken, involving a license to conduct virtual-currency business
- 28 activity issued by another state on which reciprocal licensing is based;
- 29 <u>(D) federal or state investigation involving the licensee; and</u>
- 30 <u>(E) data security breach involving the licensee;</u>
- 31 (4) information or records required by section 18 of this act the

- 1 licensee has not reported to the department;
- 2 (5) the number of virtual-currency business activity transactions
- 3 with or on behalf of residents for the period since, subject to
- 4 subsection (g) of this section, the later of the date the license was
- 5 <u>issued or the date the last renewal report was submitted;</u>
- 6 (6) the:
- 7 (A) amount of U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency in the
- 8 control of the licensee at, subject to subsection (g) of this section,
- 9 the end of the last month that ends not later than thirty days before the
- 10 date of the renewal report; and
- 11 (B) total number of residents for whom the licensee had control of
- 12 <u>U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency on that date;</u>
- 13 (7) evidence that the licensee continues to satisfy section 29 of
- 14 this act;
- 15 (8) evidence that the licensee continues to satisfy section 8 of
- 16 this act;
- 17 (9) a list of each location where the licensee operates its virtual-
- 18 currency business activity; and
- 19 (10) the name, United States Postal Service address, and telephone
- 20 <u>number of each person that manages a server used by the licensee in</u>
- 21 conducting its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 22 resident.
- 23 <u>(c) If a licensee does not timely comply with subsection (a) of this</u>
- 24 section, the department may use enforcement measures provided under
- 25 sections 21 to 27 of this act. Notice or hearing is not required for a
- 26 <u>suspension or revocation of a license under the act for failure to pay a</u>
- 27 renewal fee or file a renewal report.
- 28 (d) If the department suspends or revokes a license under the act
- 29 for noncompliance with subsection (a) of this section, the department may
- 30 end the suspension or rescind the revocation and notify the licensee of
- 31 the action if, subject to subsection (g) of this section, not later than

- 1 twenty days after the license was suspended or revoked, the licensee:
- 2 (1) files a renewal report and pays a renewal fee; and
- 3 (2) pays any penalty assessed under section 24 of this act.
- 4 (e) The department shall give prompt notice to a licensee of the
- 5 lifting of a suspension or rescission of a revocation after the licensee
- 6 complies with subsection (d) of this section.
- 7 (f) Suspension or revocation of a license under this section does
- 8 <u>not invalidate a transfer or exchange of virtual currency for or on</u>
- 9 behalf of a resident made during the suspension or revocation and does
- 10 not insulate the licensee from liability under the act.
- 11 (g) For good cause, the department may extend a period under this
- 12 section.
- 13 <u>(h) The department shall review the renewal of a license issued</u>
- 14 <u>under section 7 of this act to ensure that the state that issued the</u>
- original license has not suspended, revoked, or limited the license.
- 16 (i) A licensee that does not comply with this section shall cease
- 17 <u>operations with or on behalf of a resident on or before the anniversary</u>
- 18 date of issuance of its license under the act.
- 19 <u>(j) A licensee shall pay the reasonable and necessary costs of the</u>
- 20 <u>department's investigation under this section.</u>
- 21 Sec. 11. (a) A person whose volume of virtual-currency business
- 22 activity in U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency will not exceed
- 23 thirty-five thousand dollars annually may engage in virtual-currency
- 24 <u>business activity with or on behalf of a resident under a registration</u>
- 25 without first obtaining a license under the Uniform Regulation of
- 26 Virtual-Currency Businesses Act if the person:
- 27 (1) files with the department a notice in the form and medium
- 28 prescribed by the department of its intention to engage in virtual-
- 29 <u>currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident;</u>
- 30 (2) provides the information for an investigation under section 6 of
- 31 this act;

1 (3) states the anticipated virtual-currency business activity for

- 2 its next fiscal quarter;
- 3 (4) pays the department a registration fee in the amount of \$XXX;
- 4 (5) if required to register with the Financial Crimes Enforcement
- 5 Network of the United States Department of the Treasury as a money-
- 6 service business, provides the department evidence of the registration;
- 7 (6) provides evidence that the person has policies and procedures to
- 8 <u>comply with the Bank Secrecy Act, 31 U.S.C. 5311 et seq., as such act</u>
- 9 existed on the effective date of this act, and other applicable laws;
- 10 (7) describes the source of funds and credit to be used by the
- 11 person to conduct virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of
- 12 <u>a resident and provides evidence of and agrees to maintain the minimum</u>
- 13 <u>net worth and reserves required by section 8 of this act and sufficient</u>
- 14 unencumbered reserves for winding down operations;
- 15 (8) provides the department with evidence that the person has in
- 16 place policies and procedures to comply with sections 14 to 20 and 28 to
- 17 <u>31 of this act and other provisions of the act designated by the</u>
- 18 department; and
- 19 (9) provides the department with a copy of its most recent financial
- 20 statement, whether reviewed or audited.
- 21 (b) Before the virtual-currency business activity of a registrant
- 22 with or on behalf of residents exceeds thirty-five thousand dollars
- 23 annually in U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency, the registrant
- 24 shall file an application for a license under the act and may continue to
- 25 operate after the activity exceeds thirty-five thousand dollars annually
- 26 while its application for license is pending.
- 27 <u>(c) For good cause, the department may suspend or revoke a</u>
- 28 registration without a prior hearing or opportunity to be heard.
- 29 <u>(d) A registrant shall cease all virtual-currency business activity</u>
- 30 with or on behalf of residents:
- 31 (1) if the department denies the registrant's application for a

- 1 license under the act, one day after the registrant receives notice in a
- 2 <u>record that the department has denied the application;</u>
- 3 (2) if the department suspends or revokes the registration, one day
- 4 after the department sends notice of the suspension or revocation to the
- 5 <u>registrant in a record by a means reasonably selected for the notice to</u>
- 6 be received by the recipient in one day, to the address provided for
- 7 receiving communications from the department;
- 8 (3) if the virtual-currency business activity of the registrant with
- 9 or on behalf of residents exceeds thirty-five thousand dollars annually
- 10 in U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency and the registrant has not
- 11 <u>filed an application for a license under the act; or</u>
- 12 <u>(4) on the second anniversary date of the registration.</u>
- 13 Sec. 12. A license or registration under the Uniform Regulation of
- 14 <u>Virtual-Currency Businesses Act is not transferable or assignable.</u>
- 15 Sec. 13. The department may adopt and promulgate rules and
- 16 regulations to implement the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency
- 17 Businesses Act and issue guidance as appropriate.
- 18 Sec. 14. (a) The department may conduct an annual examination of a
- 19 licensee or registrant. For good cause, the department may conduct an
- 20 <u>additional examination. The department may examine a licensee or</u>
- 21 registrant without prior notice to the licensee or registrant.
- 22 (b) A licensee or registrant shall pay the reasonable and necessary
- 23 costs of an examination under this section.
- 24 (c) Information obtained during an examination under sections 14 to
- 25 20 of this act may be disclosed only as provided in section 17 of this
- 26 act.
- 27 Sec. 15. (a) A licensee or registrant shall maintain, for all
- 28 <u>virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident five</u>
- 29 years after the date of the activity, a record of:
- 30 (1) each transaction of the licensee or registrant with or on behalf
- 31 of the resident or for the licensee's or registrant's account in this

- 1 state, including:
- 2 (A) the identity of the resident;
- 3 (B) the form of the transaction;
- 4 (C) the amount, date, and payment instructions given by the
- 5 <u>resident; and</u>
- 6 (D) the account number, name, and United States Postal Service
- 7 address of the resident, and, to the extent feasible, other parties to
- 8 the transaction;
- 9 (2) the aggregate number of transactions and aggregate value of
- 10 transactions by the licensee or registrant with or on behalf of the
- 11 <u>resident and for the licensee's or registrant's account in this state,</u>
- 12 <u>expressed in U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency for the previous</u>
- 13 <u>twelve calendar months;</u>
- 14 (3) each transaction in which the licensee or registrant exchanges
- 15 one form of virtual currency for legal tender or another form of virtual
- 16 currency with or on behalf of the resident;
- 17 (4) a general ledger posted at least monthly that lists all assets,
- 18 liabilities, capital, income, and expenses of the licensee or registrant;
- 19 (5) each business-call report the licensee or registrant is required
- 20 to create or provide to the department or registry;
- 21 (6) bank statements and bank reconciliation records for the licensee
- 22 or registrant and the name, account number, and United States Postal
- 23 Service address of each bank the licensee or registrant uses in the
- 24 conduct of its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of
- 25 the resident;
- 26 (7) a report of any dispute with the resident; and
- 27 <u>(8) a report of any virtual-currency business activity transaction</u>
- 28 with or on behalf of a resident which the licensee or registrant was
- 29 <u>unable to complete.</u>
- 30 (b) A licensee or registrant shall maintain records required by
- 31 subsection (a) of this section in a form that enables the department to

1 determine whether the licensee or registrant is in compliance with the

- 2 <u>act, any court order, and law of this state other than the act.</u>
- 3 (c) If a licensee or registrant maintains records outside this state
- 4 that pertain to transactions with or on behalf of a resident, the
- 5 licensee or registrant shall make the records available to the department
- 6 <u>not later than three days after request, or, on a determination of good</u>
- 7 cause by the department, at a later time.
- 8 <u>(d) All records maintained by a licensee or registrant are subject</u>
- 9 to inspection by the department.
- 10 Sec. 16. (a) Subject to section 17 of this act and law of this
- 11 state other than the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses
- 12 Act concerning privacy, consumer financial privacy, data protection,
- 13 privilege, and confidentiality, the department may cooperate, coordinate,
- 14 jointly examine, consult, and share records and other information with
- 15 the appropriate regulatory agency of another state, a self-regulatory
- 16 organization, a federal or state regulator of banking or nondepository
- 17 providers, or a regulator of a jurisdiction outside the United States,
- 18 concerning the affairs and conduct of a licensee or registrant in this
- 19 state.
- 20 (b) The department shall:
- 21 (1) establish or participate in, with another state that enacts a
- 22 law substantially similar to the act, a central depository for filings
- 23 required by law of this state other than the act;
- 24 (2) cooperate in developing and implementing uniform forms for
- 25 applications and renewal reports and the conduct of joint administrative
- 26 proceedings and civil actions;
- 27 <u>(3) formulate joint rules, regulations, forms, statements of policy,</u>
- 28 and guidance and interpretative opinions and releases; and
- 29 <u>(4) develop common systems and procedures.</u>
- 30 <u>(c) The department may not establish or participate in a central</u>
- 31 commercial depository that contains nonpublic personally identifiable

87 LB987 8 2018

1 information which does not comply with section 502(e)(5) or (8) of the

- 2 Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, 15 U.S.C. 6802(e)(5) or (8), as such subdivisions
- 3 existed on the effective date of this act, or with the Right to Financial
- 4 Privacy Act of 1978, 12 U.S.C. 3401 et seq., as such act existed on the
- 5 effective date of this act.
- 6 (d) In deciding whether and how to cooperate, coordinate, jointly
- 7 examine, consult, or share records and other information under subsection
- 8 (a) of this section, the department shall consider:
- 9 (1) maximizing effectiveness and uniformity of regulation,
- 10 examination, implementation, and enforcement for the benefit of residents
- 11 <u>and licensees and registrants; and</u>
- 12 <u>(2) minimizing burdens on licensees and registrants without</u>
- 13 <u>adversely affecting protection for residents.</u>
- 14 Sec. 17. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) or (c)
- 15 of this section, information not contained in a report otherwise
- 16 <u>available to the public or reports obtained by the department from an</u>
- 17 <u>applicant, licensee, or registrant; information contained in or related</u>
- 18 <u>to an examination, investigation, or operating or condition report</u>
- 19 prepared by, on behalf of, or for the use of the department; and other
- 20 financial and operating information is not subject to disclosure pursuant
- 21 to sections 84-712 to 84-712.09. If the department determines the
- 22 information or records are confidential under the open records law of a
- 23 reciprocal-licensing state, the information or records may not be
- 24 disclosed.
- 25 (b) A trade secret of an applicant, a licensee, or a registrant is
- 26 confidential and is not subject to disclosure pursuant to sections 84-712
- 27 <u>to 84-712.09</u>. If the department determines a trade secret is confidential
- 28 <u>under the open records law of a reciprocal-licensing state, the trade</u>
- 29 <u>secret may not be disclosed.</u>
- 30 (c) Subsection (a) of this section does not prohibit disclosure of:
- 31 (1) general information about a licensee's or registrant's virtual-

- 1 currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident;
- 2 (2) a list of persons licensed or registered under the Uniform
- 3 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act; or
- 4 (3) aggregated financial data concerning licensees or registrants in
- 5 this state.
- 6 Sec. 18. (a) Each licensee and registrant shall file with the
- 7 department a report of:
- 8 (1) a material change in information in the application for a
- 9 license under the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act
- 10 or a registration or the most recent renewal report of the licensee under
- 11 the act or for the registrant;
- 12 (2) a material change in the licensee's or registrant's business for
- 13 the conduct of its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf
- 14 of a resident; and
- 15 (3) a change of an executive officer, responsible individual, or
- 16 person in control of the licensee or registrant.
- 17 <u>(b) Absent good cause, a report required by subsection (a) of this</u>
- 18 section must be filed not later than fifteen days after the change.
- 19 Sec. 19. <u>(a) In this section, proposed person to be in control</u>
- 20 means the person that would control a licensee or registrant after a
- 21 proposed transaction that would result in a change in control of the
- 22 licensee or registrant.
- 23 (b) The following rules apply in determining whether a person has
- 24 <u>control over a licensee or registrant:</u>
- 25 (1) there is a rebuttable presumption of control if the person's
- 26 voting power in the licensee or registrant constitutes or will constitute
- 27 <u>at least twenty-five percent of the total voting power of the licensee or</u>
- 28 <u>registrant</u>.
- 29 (2) there is a rebuttable presumption of control if:
- 30 (A) the person's voting power in another person constitutes or will
- 31 constitute at least ten percent of the total voting power of the other

- 1 person; and
- 2 (B) the other person's voting power in the licensee or registrant
- 3 constitutes at least twenty-five percent of the total voting power of the
- 4 licensee or registrant.
- 5 (3) There is no presumption of control solely because an individual
- 6 is an executive officer of the licensee or registrant.
- 7 <u>(c) At least thirty days before a proposed change in control of a</u>
- 8 <u>licensee or registrant, the proposed person to be in control shall submit</u>
- 9 <u>to the department in a record:</u>
- 10 (1) an application in a form and medium prescribed by the
- 11 <u>department;</u>
- 12 (2) the information and records that section 6 of this act would
- 13 require if the proposed person to be in control already had control of
- 14 the licensee;
- 15 (3) a license application under section 6 of this act by the
- 16 proposed person to be in control;
- 17 (4) in the case of a registrant, the information that section 11 of
- 18 this act would require if the proposed person to be in control already
- 19 <u>had control of the registrant; and</u>
- 20 (5) in the case of a registration, a registration under section 11
- 21 of this act by the proposed person to be in control.
- 22 (d) The department, in accordance with section 6 of this act, shall
- 23 approve, approve with conditions, or deny an application for a change in
- 24 control of a licensee or registrant. The department, in a record, shall
- 25 send notice of its decision to the licensee or registrant and the person
- 26 <u>that would be in control if the department had approved the change in</u>
- 27 <u>control. If the department denies the application, the licensee or</u>
- 28 registrant shall abandon the proposed change in control or cease virtual-
- 29 <u>currency business activity with or on behalf of residents.</u>
- 30 (e) If the department applies a condition to approval of a change in
- 31 control of a licensee or registrant and the department does not receive

- 1 notice of the applicant's acceptance of the condition specified by the
- 2 <u>department not later than thirty-one days after the department sends</u>
- 3 notice of the condition, the application is deemed denied. If the
- 4 application is deemed denied, the licensee or registrant shall abandon
- 5 the proposed change in control or cease virtual-currency business
- 6 activity with or on behalf of residents.
- 7 <u>(f) Submission in good faith of records required by subsection (c)</u>
- 8 of this section relieves the proposed person to be in control from any
- 9 obligation imposed by this section other than subsections (d), (e), and
- 10 (h) of this section until the department has acted on the application.
- 11 <u>(g) The department may revoke or modify a determination under</u>
- 12 <u>subsection</u> (d) of this section, after notice and opportunity to be heard,
- 13 if, in its judgment, revocation or modification is consistent with the
- 14 Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act.
- 15 (h) If a change in control of a licensee or registrant requires
- 16 approval of an agency of this state or another state with which this
- 17 state has a reciprocity agreement and the action of the other agency
- 18 <u>conflicts with that of the department, the department shall confer with</u>
- 19 the other agency. If the proposed change in control cannot be completed
- 20 because the conflict cannot be resolved, the licensee or registrant shall
- 21 <u>abandon the change in control or cease virtual-currency business activity</u>
- 22 with or on behalf of residents.
- 23 Sec. 20. (a) At least thirty days before a proposed merger or
- 24 consolidation of a licensee or registrant with another person, the
- 25 licensee or registrant shall submit to the department in a record:
- 26 <u>(1) an application in a form and medium prescribed by the</u>
- 27 <u>department;</u>
- 28 (2) the plan of merger or consolidation in accordance with
- 29 <u>subsection (e) of this section;</u>
- 30 (3) in the case of a licensee, the information required by section 6
- 31 of this act concerning the person that would be the surviving entity in

- 1 the proposed merger or consolidation; and
- 2 (4) in the case of a registrant, the information required by section
- 3 11 of this act concerning the person that would be the surviving entity
- 4 in the proposed merger or consolidation.
- 5 (b) If a proposed merger or consolidation would change the control
- 6 of a licensee or registrant, the licensee or registrant shall comply with
- 7 section 19 of this act and this section.
- 8 (c) The department, in accordance with section 6 of this act, shall
- 9 approve, conditionally approve, or deny an application for approval of a
- 10 merger or consolidation of a licensee or registrant. The department, in a
- 11 <u>record, shall send notice of its decision to the licensee or registrant</u>
- 12 <u>and the person that would be the surviving entity. If the department</u>
- 13 <u>denies the application, the licensee or registrant shall abandon the</u>
- 14 merger or consolidation or cease virtual-currency business activity with
- 15 or on behalf of residents.
- 16 (d) The department may revoke or modify a determination under
- 17 <u>subsection (c) of this section, after notice and opportunity to be heard,</u>
- 18 <u>if, in its judgment, revocation or modification is consistent with the</u>
- 19 Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act.
- 20 <u>(e) A plan of merger or consolidation of a licensee or a registrant</u>
- 21 with another person must:
- 22 (1) describe the effect of the proposed transaction on the
- 23 licensee's or registrant's conduct of virtual-currency business activity
- 24 with or on behalf of residents;
- 25 (2) identify each person to be merged or consolidated and the person
- 26 that would be the surviving entity; and
- 27 (3) describe the terms and conditions of the merger or consolidation
- 28 and the mode of carrying it into effect.
- 29 <u>(f) If a merger or consolidation of a licensee or registrant and</u>
- 30 another person requires approval of an agency of this state or another
- 31 state with which this state has a reciprocity agreement and the action of

- 1 the other agency conflicts with that of the department, the department
- 2 <u>shall confer with the other agency. If the proposed merger or</u>
- 3 consolidation cannot be completed because the conflict cannot be
- 4 resolved, the licensee or registrant shall abandon the merger or
- 5 consolidation or cease virtual-currency business activity with or on
- 6 behalf of residents.
- 7 (g) The department may condition approval of an application under
- 8 subsection (a) of this section. If the department does not receive notice
- 9 from the parties that the parties accept the department's condition not
- 10 later than thirty-one days after the department sends notice in a record
- of the condition, the application is deemed denied. If the application is
- 12 <u>deemed denied, the licensee or registrant shall abandon the merger or</u>
- 13 consolidation or cease virtual-currency business activity with or on
- 14 <u>behalf of residents.</u>
- 15 (h) If a licensee or registrant acquires substantially all the
- 16 assets of a person, whether or not the person's license was approved by
- 17 <u>or registration was filed with the department, the transaction is subject</u>
- 18 to this section.
- 19 (i) Submission in good faith of the records required by subsection
- 20 <u>(e) of this section relieves the proposed surviving entity from any</u>
- 21 <u>obligation imposed by this section, other than subsections (c), (f), and</u>
- 22 (g) of this section, until the department has acted on the application.
- 23 Sec. 21. <u>In sections 21 to 27 of this act, enforcement measure</u>
- 24 means an action to:
- 25 (1) suspend or revoke a license or a registration under the Uniform
- 26 Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act;
- 27 (2) order a person to cease and desist from doing virtual-currency
- 28 business activity with or on behalf of a resident;
- 29 (3) request the court to appoint a receiver for the assets of a
- 30 person doing virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 31 <u>resident;</u>

- 1 (4) request the court to issue temporary, preliminary, or permanent
- 2 injunctive relief against a person doing virtual-currency business
- 3 <u>activity with or on behalf of a resident;</u>
- 4 (5) assess a penalty under section 24 of this act;
- 5 (6) recover on the security under section 8 of this act and initiate
- 6 <u>a plan to distribute the proceeds for the benefit of a resident injured</u>
- 7 by a violation of the act or law of this state other than the act which
- 8 applies to virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 9 resident; or
- 10 (7) impose necessary or appropriate conditions on the conduct of
- 11 <u>virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident.</u>
- 12 Sec. 22. (a) The department may take an enforcement measure against
- 13 <u>a licensee, registrant, or person that is neither a licensee nor</u>
- 14 registrant but is engaging in virtual-currency business activity with or
- on behalf of a resident if:
- 16 (1) the licensee, registrant, or person materially violates the
- 17 <u>Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act, a rule or</u>
- 18 <u>regulation adopted and promulgated or order issued under the act, or law</u>
- 19 of this state other than the act which applies to virtual-currency
- 20 <u>business activity of the violator with or on behalf of a resident;</u>
- 21 (2) the licensee, registrant, or person does not cooperate
- 22 substantially with an examination or investigation by the department,
- 23 fails to pay a fee, or fails to submit a report or documentation;
- 24 (3) the licensee, registrant, or person, in the conduct of its
- 25 virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident,
- 26 <u>engages in:</u>
- 27 <u>(A) an unsafe or unsound act or practice;</u>
- 28 (B) an unfair or deceptive act or practice;
- 29 <u>(C) fraud or intentional misrepresentation;</u>
- 30 <u>(D) another dishonest act; or</u>
- 31 (E) misappropriation of legal tender, virtual currency, or other

- 1 value held by a fiduciary;
- 2 <u>(4) an agency of the United States or another state takes an action</u>
- 3 against the licensee, registrant, or person which would constitute an
- 4 enforcement measure if the department had taken the action;
- 5 (5) the licensee, registrant, or person is convicted of a crime
- 6 related to its virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 7 resident or involving fraud or felonious activity that, as determined by
- 8 <u>the department, makes the licensee, registrant, or person unsuitable to</u>
- 9 engage in virtual-currency business activity;
- 10 <u>(6) the licensee, registrant, or person:</u>
- 11 (A) becomes insolvent;
- 12 (B) makes a general assignment for the benefit of its creditors;
- 13 (C) becomes the debtor, alleged debtor, respondent, or person in a
- 14 similar capacity in a case or other proceeding under any bankruptcy,
- 15 reorganization, arrangement, readjustment, insolvency, receivership,
- 16 dissolution, liquidation, or similar law, and does not obtain from the
- 17 court, within a reasonable time, confirmation of a plan or dismissal of
- 18 the case or proceeding; or
- 19 (D) applies for or permits the appointment of a receiver, trustee,
- 20 or other agent of a court for itself or for a substantial part of its
- 21 <u>assets; or</u>
- 22 (7) the licensee, registrant, or person makes a material
- 23 misrepresentation to the department.
- 24 (b) On application and for good cause, the department may:
- 25 (1) extend the due date for filing a document or report under
- 26 subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of this section; or
- 27 (2) waive to the extent warranted by circumstances, such as a bona
- 28 fide error notwithstanding reasonable procedures designed to prevent
- 29 error, an enforcement measure under subsection (a) of this section if the
- 30 department determines that the waiver will not adversely affect the
- 31 likelihood of compliance with the act.

1 (c) In an enforcement action related to operating without a license

- 2 <u>under the act or registration in this state, it is a defense to the</u>
- 3 action that the person has in effect a customer identification program
- 4 <u>reasonably designed to identify whether a customer is a resident, which</u>
- 5 <u>failed to identify the particular customer as a resident.</u>
- 6 (d) A proceeding under the act is subject to the Administrative
- 7 Procedure Act.
- 8 Sec. 23. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b) of this
- 9 <u>section</u>, the department may take an enforcement measure only after notice
- 10 <u>and opportunity for a hearing appropriate in the circumstances.</u>
- 11 (b) The department may take an enforcement measure other than the
- 12 <u>imposition of a civil penalty under section 24 of this act:</u>
- 13 (1) without notice if the circumstances require action before notice
- 14 can be given;
- 15 <u>(2) after notice and without a prior hearing if the circumstances</u>
- 16 require action before a hearing can be held; or
- 17 (3) after notice and without a hearing if the person conducting
- 18 virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a resident does
- 19 <u>not timely request a hearing.</u>
- 20 <u>(c) If the department takes action under subdivision (b)(1) or (2)</u>
- 21 of this section, the person subject to the enforcement measure has the
- 22 right to an expedited post-action hearing by the department unless the
- 23 person has waived the hearing.
- 24 Sec. 24. (a) If a person other than a licensee or registrant
- 25 engages in virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 26 resident in violation of the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency
- 27 <u>Businesses Act, the department may assess a civil penalty against the</u>
- 28 person in an amount not to exceed fifty thousand dollars for each day of
- 29 <u>violation</u>.
- 30 (b) If a licensee or registrant materially violates a provision of
- 31 the act, the department may assess a civil penalty in an amount not to

- 1 exceed ten thousand dollars for each day of violation.
- 2 (c) A civil penalty under this section continues to accrue until the
- 3 earlier of:
- 4 (1) the date the violation ceases; or
- 5 (2) a date specified by the department.
- 6 Sec. 25. (a) Revocation of a license under the Uniform Regulation
- 7 of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act is effective against a licensee one
- 8 day after the department sends notice in a record of the revocation to
- 9 the licensee, by a means reasonably selected for the notice to be
- 10 <u>received by the recipient in one day, to the address provided for</u>
- 11 <u>receiving communications from the department.</u>
- 12 <u>(b) Suspension of a license under the act, suspension of a</u>
- 13 registration, or an order to cease and desist is effective against a
- 14 licensee, registrant, or other person one day after the department sends
- 15 notice in a record of the suspension or order to the licensee,
- 16 registrant, or other person, by a means reasonably selected for the
- 17 <u>notice to be received by the recipient in one day, to the address</u>
- 18 provided for receiving communications from the department or, if no
- 19 <u>address is provided, to the recipient's last-known address. A suspension</u>
- 20 or order to cease and desist remains in effect until the earliest of:
- 21 (1) entry of an order by the department under the Administrative
- 22 Procedure Act setting aside or limiting the suspension or order;
- 23 (2) entry of a court order setting aside or limiting the suspension
- 24 <u>or order to cease and desist; or</u>
- 25 (3) a date specified by the department.
- 26 (c) If, without reason to know of the department's notice sent under
- 27 subsection (a) or (b) of this section, a licensee, registrant, or other
- 28 person does not comply in accordance with the notice until the notice is
- 29 <u>actually received at the address provided, the department may consider</u>
- 30 the delay in compliance in imposing a sanction for the failure.
- 31 Sec. 26. The department may enter into a consent order with a

1 person regarding an enforcement measure. The order may provide that it

- 2 <u>does not constitute an admission of fact by a party.</u>
- 3 Sec. 27. (a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a person
- 4 does not have a right of action for violation of the Uniform Regulation
- 5 of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act.
- 6 (b) The department may bring an action for restitution on behalf of
- 7 a resident if the department proves economic injury due to a violation of
- 8 the act.
- 9 (c) This section does not preclude an action by a resident to
- 10 enforce rights under section 29 of this act or law of this state other
- 11 than the act.
- 12 Sec. 28. <u>(a) A licensee or registrant shall provide to a resident</u>
- 13 who uses the licensee's or registrant's products or service the
- 14 <u>disclosures required by subsection (b) of this section and any additional</u>
- 15 disclosure the department by rule or regulation determines reasonably
- 16 necessary for the protection of residents. The department shall determine
- 17 by rule or regulation the time and form required for disclosure. A
- 18 disclosure required by this section must be made separately from any
- 19 other information provided by the licensee or registrant and in a clear
- 20 and conspicuous manner in a record the resident may keep. A licensee or
- 21 registrant may propose for the department's approval alternate
- 22 disclosures as more appropriate for its virtual-currency business
- 23 activity with or on behalf of residents.
- 24 (b) Before establishing a relationship with a resident, a licensee
- 25 or registrant shall disclose, to the extent applicable to the virtual-
- 26 <u>currency business activity the licensee or registrant will undertake with</u>
- 27 the resident:
- 28 (1) a schedule of fees and charges the licensee or registrant may
- 29 <u>assess, the manner by which fees and charges will be calculated if they</u>
- 30 are not set in advance and disclosed, and the timing of the fees and
- 31 charges;

1 (2) whether the product or service provided by the licensee or

- 2 <u>registrant is covered by:</u>
- 3 (A) a form of insurance or is otherwise quaranteed against loss by
- 4 an agency of the United States:
- 5 (i) up to the full U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual currency placed
- 6 under the control of or purchased from the licensee or registrant as of
- 7 the date of the placement or purchase, including the maximum amount
- 8 provided by insurance under the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or
- 9 otherwise available from the Securities Investor Protection Act of 1970,
- 10 <u>15 U.S.C. 78aaa et seq., as the act existed on the effective date of this</u>
- 11 <u>act; or</u>
- 12 <u>(ii) if not provided at the full U.S. Dollar equivalent of virtual</u>
- 13 <u>currency placed under the control of or purchased from the licensee or</u>
- 14 registrant, the maximum amount of coverage for each resident expressed in
- the U.S. Dollar equivalent of the virtual currency; or
- 16 (B) private insurance against theft or loss, including cyber theft
- 17 or theft by other means;
- 18 (3) the irrevocability of a transfer or exchange and any exception
- 19 <u>to irrevocability;</u>
- 20 <u>(4) a description of:</u>
- 21 (A) liability for an unauthorized, mistaken, or accidental transfer
- 22 or exchange;
- 23 (B) the resident's responsibility to provide notice to the licensee
- 24 or registrant of the transfer or exchange;
- 25 (C) the basis for any recovery by the resident from the licensee or
- 26 <u>registrant;</u>
- 27 <u>(D) general error-resolution rights applicable to the transfer or</u>
- 28 exchange; and
- 29 (E) the method for the resident to update the resident's contact
- 30 <u>information with the licensee or registrant;</u>
- 31 (5) that the date or time when the transfer or exchange is made and

- 1 the resident's account is debited may differ from the date or time when
- 2 the resident initiates the instruction to make the transfer or exchange;
- 3 (6) whether the resident has a right to stop a preauthorized payment
- 4 or revoke authorization for a transfer and the procedure to initiate a
- 5 stop-payment order or revoke authorization for a subsequent transfer;
- 6 <u>(7) the resident's right to receive a receipt, trade ticket, or</u>
- 7 <u>other evidence of the transfer or exchange;</u>
- 8 (8) the resident's right to at least thirty days' prior notice of a
- 9 change in the licensee's or registrant's fee schedule, other terms and
- 10 conditions of operating its virtual-currency business activity with the
- 11 <u>resident</u>, and the policies applicable to the resident's account; and
- 12 (9) that virtual currency is not legal tender.
- 13 (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d) of this section,
- 14 at the conclusion of a virtual-currency transaction with or on behalf of
- 15 <u>a resident, a licensee or registrant shall provide the resident a</u>
- 16 confirmation in a record which contains:
- 17 (1) the name and contact information of the licensee or registrant,
- 18 <u>including information the resident may need to ask a question or file a</u>
- 19 <u>complaint;</u>
- 20 (2) the type, value, date, precise time, and amount of the
- 21 <u>transaction; and</u>
- 22 (3) the fee charged for the transaction, including any charge for
- 23 conversion of virtual currency to legal tender, bank credit, or other
- 24 <u>virtual currency.</u>
- 25 (d) If a licensee or registrant discloses that it will provide a
- 26 daily confirmation in the initial disclosure under subsection (c) of this
- 27 <u>section, the licensee or registrant may elect to provide a single, daily</u>
- 28 <u>confirmation for all transactions with or on behalf of a resident on that</u>
- 29 <u>day instead of a per-transaction confirmation.</u>
- 30 Sec. 29. (a) A licensee or registrant that has control of virtual
- 31 currency for one or more persons shall maintain in its control an amount

1 of each type of virtual currency sufficient to satisfy the aggregate

- 2 <u>entitlements of the persons to the type of virtual currency.</u>
- 3 (b) If a licensee or registrant violates subsection (a) of this
- 4 section, the property interests of the persons in the virtual currency
- 5 <u>are pro rata property interests in the type of virtual currency to which</u>
- 6 the persons are entitled, without regard to the time the persons became
- 7 entitled to the virtual currency or the licensee or registrant obtained
- 8 <u>control of the virtual currency.</u>
- 9 (c) The virtual currency referred to in this section is:
- 10 (1) held for the persons entitled to the virtual currency;
- 11 (2) not property of the licensee or registrant; and
- 12 (3) not subject to the claims of creditors of the licensee or
- 13 <u>registrant.</u>
- 14 Sec. 30. (a) An applicant, before submitting an application, and a
- 15 registrant, before registering, shall create and, during licensure or
- 16 registration, maintain in a record policies and procedures for:
- 17 (1) an information-security and operational-security program;
- 18 <u>(2) a business-continuity program;</u>
- 19 <u>(3) a disaster-recovery program;</u>
- 20 <u>(4) an anti-fraud program;</u>
- 21 (5) an anti-money-laundering program;
- 22 (6) a program to prevent funding of terrorist activity; and
- 23 (7) a program designed to:
- 24 (A) ensure compliance with the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-
- 25 Currency Businesses Act, law of this state other than the act, and
- 26 federal law, which are relevant to the virtual-currency business activity
- 27 contemplated by the licensee or registrant with or on behalf of
- 28 residents; and
- 29 (B) assist the licensee or registrant in achieving the purposes of
- 30 law of this state other than the act and federal law if violation of that
- 31 law has a remedy under the act.

- 1 (b) Each policy required by subsection (a) of this section must be
- 2 <u>in a record and designed to be adequate for a licensee's or registrant's</u>
- 3 contemplated virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of
- 4 residents, considering the circumstances of all participants and the safe
- 5 operation of the activity. Each policy and implementing procedure must be
- 6 compatible with other policies and the procedures implementing them and
- 7 not conflict with policies or procedures applicable to the licensee or
- 8 registrant under law of this state other than the act. A policy and
- 9 implementing procedure may be one in existence in the licensee's or
- 10 <u>registrant's virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of</u>
- 11 residents.
- 12 <u>(c) A licensee's or registrant's policy for detecting fraud must</u>
- 13 <u>include:</u>
- 14 (1) identification and assessment of the material risks of its
- 15 virtual-currency business activity related to fraud;
- 16 (2) protection against any material risk related to fraud identified
- 17 by the department or the licensee or registrant; and
- 18 (3) periodic evaluation and revision of the anti-fraud procedure.
- 19 (d) A licensee's or registrant's policy for preventing money
- 20 <u>laundering and financing of terrorist activity must include:</u>
- 21 (1) identification and assessment of the material risks of its
- 22 virtual-currency business activity related to money laundering and
- 23 <u>financing of terrorist activity;</u>
- 24 (2) procedures, in accordance with federal law or guidance published
- 25 by federal agencies responsible for enforcing federal law, pertaining to
- 26 money laundering and financing of terrorist activity; and
- 27 (3) filing reports under the Bank Secrecy Act, 31 U.S.C. 5311 et
- 28 seq., as such act existed on the effective date of this act, or 31 C.F.R.
- 29 Chapter X, Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, Department of the
- 30 Treasury, as such rule existed on the effective date of this act, and
- 31 other federal or state laws pertaining to the prevention or detection of

- 1 money laundering or financing of terrorist activity.
- 2 (e) A licensee's or registrant's information-security and
- 3 operational-security policy must include reasonable and appropriate
- 4 administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to protect the
- 5 <u>confidentiality</u>, <u>integrity</u>, <u>and availability of any nonpublic personal</u>
- 6 information or virtual currency it receives, maintains, or transmits.
- 7 (f) A licensee or registrant is not required to file with the
- 8 <u>department a copy of a report it makes to a federal authority unless the</u>
- 9 <u>department specifically requires filing.</u>
- 10 (g) A licensee's or registrant's protection policy under subsection
- 11 (e) of this section for residents must include:
- 12 <u>(1) any action or system of records required to comply with the</u>
- 13 <u>Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act and law of this</u>
- 14 state other than the act applicable to the licensee or registrant with
- 15 respect to virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 16 resident;
- 17 <u>(2) a procedure for resolving disputes between the licensee or</u>
- 18 registrant and a resident;
- 19 (3) a procedure for a resident to report an unauthorized, mistaken,
- 20 or accidental virtual-currency business activity transaction; and
- 21 (4) a procedure for a resident to file a complaint with the licensee
- 22 or registrant and for the resolution of the complaint in a fair and
- 23 timely manner with notice to the resident as soon as reasonably practical
- 24 of the resolution and the reasons for the resolution.
- 25 (h) After the policies and procedures required under this section
- 26 are created and approved by the department and the licensee or
- 27 registrant, the licensee or registrant shall engage a responsible
- 28 individual with adequate authority and experience to monitor each policy
- 29 <u>and procedure, publicize it as appropriate, recommend changes as</u>
- 30 <u>desirable</u>, and enforce it.
- 31 (i) A licensee or registrant may:

1 (1) request advice from the department as to compliance with this

- 2 <u>section; and</u>
- 3 (2) with the department's approval, outsource functions, other than
- 4 <u>compliance</u>, <u>required under this section</u>.
- 5 (j) Failure of a particular policy or procedure adopted under this
- 6 <u>section to meet its goals in a particular instance is not a ground for</u>
- 7 liability of the licensee or registrant if the policy or procedure was
- 8 created, implemented, and monitored properly. Repeated failures of a
- 9 policy or procedure are evidence that the policy or procedure was not
- 10 created or implemented properly.
- 11 <u>(k) Policies and procedures adopted under this section must be</u>
- 12 <u>disclosed separately from other disclosures made available to a resident,</u>
- 13 in a clear and conspicuous manner and in the medium through which the
- 14 <u>resident contacted the licensee or registrant.</u>
- 15 Sec. 31. (a) An applicant, before submitting its application, and a
- 16 <u>registrant, before registering, shall establish and maintain in a record</u>
- 17 a policy or procedure designed to ensure compliance with:
- 18 (1) the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act; and
- 19 (2) law of this state other than the act if:
- 20 <u>(A) the other law is relevant to the virtual-currency business</u>
- 21 activity contemplated by the licensee or registrant or the scope of the
- 22 act; or
- 23 (B) the act could assist in the purpose of the other law because
- 24 <u>violation of the other law has a remedy under the act.</u>
- 25 (b) A policy or procedure under subsection (a) of this section:
- 26 (1) must be compatible, and not conflict, with requirements
- 27 <u>applicable to a licensee or registrant under law of this state other than</u>
- 28 the act and under federal law; and
- 29 (2) may be a policy or procedure in existence for the licensee's or
- 30 registrant's virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 31 <u>resident</u>.

- 1 (c) After the policies and procedures required under this section
- 2 are created by the licensee or registrant and approved by the department,
- 3 the licensee or registrant shall engage a responsible individual with
- 4 adequate authority and experience to monitor each policy or procedure,
- 5 publicize it as appropriate, recommend changes as desirable, and enforce
- 6 <u>it.</u>
- 7 (d) A licensee or registrant may:
- 8 (1) request advice from the department as to compliance with this
- 9 section; and
- 10 (2) with the department's approval, outsource functions, other than
- 11 compliance, required under this section.
- 12 <u>(e) Failure of a particular policy or procedure adopted under this</u>
- 13 <u>section to meet its goals in a particular instance is not a ground for</u>
- 14 liability of the licensee or registrant if the policy or procedure was
- 15 created, implemented, and monitored properly. Repeated failures of a
- 16 policy or procedure are evidence that the policy or procedure was not
- 17 created or implemented properly.
- 18 Sec. 32. <u>In applying and construing the Uniform Regulation of</u>
- 19 <u>Virtual-Currency Businesses Act, consideration must be given to the need</u>
- 20 <u>to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among</u>
- 21 <u>the states that enact it.</u>
- 22 Sec. 33. The Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act
- 23 modifies, limits, or supersedes the Electronic Signatures in Global and
- 24 National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. 7001, et seq., but does not modify,
- 25 limit, or supersede section 101(c) of that act, 15 U.S.C. 7001(c), or
- 26 <u>authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in section</u>
- 27 <u>103(b) of that act, 15 U.S.C. 7003(b) as such section and subsections</u>
- 28 existed on the effective date of this act.
- 29 Sec. 34. (a) A license issued under the Nebraska Money Transmitters
- 30 Act which is in effect immediately before the effective date of this act
- 31 remains in effect as a license for its duration unless revoked or

- 1 suspended by the licensing authority that issued it. A person licensed
- 2 <u>under the Nebraska Money Transmitters Act which does not intend to engage</u>
- 3 in virtual-currency business activity is not required to inform the
- 4 department of its intention.
- 5 (b) If the department denies, suspends, or revokes a license under
- 6 the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act or suspends or
- 7 revokes a registration to conduct virtual-currency business activity with
- 8 or on behalf of a resident, the denial, suspension, or revocation may not
- 9 be used as a ground for suspension or revocation of a license granted
- 10 <u>under the Nebraska Money Transmitters Act unless that act independently</u>
- 11 provides a basis for action against the licensee or registrant.
- 12 <u>(c) The Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act</u>
- 13 applies to virtual-currency business activity with or on behalf of a
- 14 <u>resident on or after the effective date of this act.</u>
- (d) A person is deemed to be conducting unlicensed virtual-currency
- 16 business activity with or on behalf of a resident in violation of the
- 17 Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act if the person
- 18 engages in virtual-currency business activity on or after the effective
- 19 date of this act and the person does not hold a license issued or
- 20 recognized under the act, is not exempt from the act, and has not applied
- 21 for a license or filed a registration. This subsection includes a person
- 22 that:
- 23 <u>(1) has obtained a license under the Nebraska Money Transmitters</u>
- 24 Act, whether or not that act covers virtual-currency business activity,
- 25 or holds a charter as a trust company from this state; and
- 26 (2) does not have permission to engage in virtual-currency business
- 27 activity with or on behalf of a resident.
- Sec. 35. If any section in this act or any part of any section is
- 29 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the declaration shall not affect
- 30 the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions.