

General Assembly

January Session, 2021

## Raised Bill No. 849

Referred to Committee on BANKING

Introduced by: (BA)

## AN ACT IMPLEMENTING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF BANKING CONCERNING CONSUMER CREDIT LICENSES.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- Section 1. Section 36a-485 of the general statutes is repealed and the
   following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):
- As used in this section and sections 36a-486 to 36a-498e, inclusive, <u>as</u> <u>amended by this act</u>, 36a-498h, 36a-534a and 36a-534b, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 6 (1) "Advance fee" means any consideration paid or given, directly or 7 indirectly, by a consumer to a person for a residential mortgage loan 8 prior to the closing of such residential mortgage loan, including, but not 9 limited to, loan fees, points, broker's fees or commissions, transaction 10 fees or similar prepaid finance charges;
- (2) "Advertise", "advertisement" or "advertising" means the use of any
  announcement, statement, assertion or representation that is placed
  before the public in a newspaper, magazine or other publication, or in

the form of a notice, circular, pamphlet, letter or poster or over any radio
or television station, by means of the Internet, or by other electronic
means of distributing information, by personal contact, or in any other
way;

(3) "Branch office" means a location other than the main office at
which a licensee or any person on behalf of a licensee acts as a mortgage
lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage
loan originator;

22 (4) "Control person" means an individual that directly or indirectly 23 exercises control over another person. Any person that (A) is a director, 24 general partner or executive officer; (B) in the case of a corporation, 25 directly or indirectly has the right to vote ten per cent or more of a class 26 of any voting security or has the power to sell or direct the sale of ten 27 per cent or more of any class of voting securities; (C) in the case of a 28 limited liability company, is a managing member; or (D) in the case of a 29 partnership, has the right to receive upon dissolution, or has 30 contributed, ten per cent or more of the capital, is presumed to be a 31 control person. For purposes of this subdivision, "control" means the 32 power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a 33 company, whether through ownership of securities, by contract or 34 otherwise;

(5) "Depository institution" has the same meaning as provided in
Section 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act, 12 USC 1813, and
includes any Connecticut credit union, federal credit union or out-ofstate credit union;

(6) "Dwelling" means a "dwelling", as defined in Section 103 of the
Consumer Credit Protection Act, 15 USC 1602, that is located in this
state;

(7) "Employee" means an individual (A) whose manner and means of
work performance are subject to the right of control of, or are controlled
by, a person, and (B) whose compensation is reported or required to be
reported on a W-2 form issued by the controlling person. For purposes

of the definition of "registered mortgage loan originator", "employee"
has the foregoing meaning or such other meaning as the federal banking
agencies may issue in connection with such agencies' implementation of
such agencies' responsibilities under the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing
Act of 2008, 12 USC 5101 et seq.;

(8) "Federal banking agency" means the Board of Governors of the
Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director
of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the National Credit Union
Administration and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

(9) "First mortgage loan" means a residential mortgage loan that issecured by a first mortgage;

57 (10) "Immediate family member" means a spouse, child, sibling,
58 parent, grandparent or grandchild and includes stepparents,
59 stepchildren, stepsiblings and adoptive relationships;

60 (11) "Independent contractor" means an individual retained on a 61 basis where the individual is not an employee of any person in 62 connection with the services such individual provides and whose 63 compensation is reported or required to be reported on an Internal 64 Revenue Service Form 1099 issued by the retaining person;

65 (12) "Individual" means a natural person;

66 (13) "Lead" means any information identifying a potential consumer67 of a residential mortgage loan;

(14) "Lead generator" means a person who, for or with the expectation
of compensation or gain: (A) Sells, assigns or otherwise transfers one or
more leads for a residential mortgage loan; (B) generates or augments
one or more leads for another person; or (C) directs a consumer to
another person for a residential mortgage loan by performing marketing
services, including, but not limited to, online marketing, direct response
advertising or telemarketing;

75 (15) "Loan processor or underwriter" means an individual who

performs clerical or support duties. The term "clerical or support duties" 76 77 includes, subsequent to the receipt of an application, (A) the receipt, 78 collection, distribution and analysis of information common for the 79 processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage loan, and (B) 80 communication with a consumer to obtain the information necessary for 81 the processing or underwriting of a loan to the extent that such 82 communication does not include offering or negotiating loan rates or 83 terms or counseling consumers about residential mortgage loan rates or 84 terms;

85 (16) "Main office" means the main address designated on the system;

86 (17) "Mortgage broker" (A) means a person who (i) for compensation 87 or gain or with the expectation of compensation or gain (I) takes a 88 residential mortgage loan application, or (II) offers or negotiates terms 89 of a residential mortgage loan, and (ii) is not the prospective source of 90 the funds for the residential mortgage loan, and (B) does not include (i) 91 an individual who is licensed as a mortgage loan originator acting as a 92 mortgage loan originator on behalf of such mortgage loan originator's 93 sponsoring mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage 94 broker or exempt registrant, or (ii) an individual exempt from mortgage 95 loan originator licensure under subdivision (2) of subsection (b) of 96 section 36a-486, as amended by this act, when acting within the scope of 97 such exemption;

(18) "Mortgage correspondent lender" means a person engaged in the
business of making residential mortgage loans in such person's own
name where the loans are not held by such person for more than ninety
days and are funded by another person through a warehouse
agreement, table funding agreement or similar agreement;

(19) "Mortgage lender" means a person engaged in the business of
making residential mortgage loans in such person's own name utilizing
such person's own funds or by funding loans through a warehouse
agreement, table funding agreement or similar agreement;

107 (20) "Mortgage loan originator" means an individual who for

compensation or gain or with the expectation of compensation or gain, 108 109 either for such individual or for the person employing or retaining such 110 individual, (A) takes a residential mortgage loan application, or (B) 111 offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan. "Mortgage loan 112 originator" does not include (i) an individual engaged solely as a loan 113 processor or underwriter; (ii) a person who only performs real estate 114 brokerage activities and is licensed in accordance with chapter 392, 115 unless the person is compensated by a mortgage lender, mortgage 116 correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan 117 originator or by any agent of such mortgage lender, mortgage 118 correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan 119 originator; (iii) a person solely involved in extensions of credit relating 120 to timeshare plans, as that term is defined in Paragraph 53D of 11 USC 121 101; or (iv) any individual who solely renegotiates terms for existing 122 mortgage loans on behalf of a mortgagee and who does not otherwise 123 act as a mortgage loan originator, unless the United States Department 124 of Housing and Urban Development, the Bureau of Consumer Financial 125 Protection or a court of competent jurisdiction determines that the 126 S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008, 12 USC Section 5101 et seq., 127 requires such individual to be licensed as a mortgage loan originator 128 under state laws implementing said S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act;

129 (21) "Office" means a branch office or a main office;

130 (22) "Out-of-state mortgage loan originator" means an individual

131 who maintains a unique identifier through the system and holds a valid

132 mortgage loan originator license issued pursuant to the laws of any state

133 <u>other than this state;</u>

[(23)] (24) "Principal amount of the loan" means the gross amount the
borrower is obligated to repay including any prepaid finance charge
that is financed, and any other charge that is financed;

139 [(24)] (25) "Real estate brokerage activity" means any activity that

<sup>[(22)] (23) &</sup>quot;Person" means a natural person, corporation, company,
limited liability company, partnership or association;

140 involves offering or providing real estate brokerage services to the 141 public, including (A) acting as a real estate agent or real estate broker for a buver, seller, lessor or lessee of real property; (B) bringing together 142 143 parties interested in the sale, purchase, lease, rental or exchange of real 144 property; (C) negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a 145 contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental or exchange of real 146 property, other than in connection with providing financing with 147 respect to any such transaction; (D) engaging in any activity for which a 148 person engaged in the activity is required to be registered or licensed as 149 a real estate agent or real estate broker under any applicable law; and 150 (E) offering to engage in any activity, or act in any capacity, described 151 in this subdivision;

[(25)] (26) "Registered mortgage loan originator" means any individual who (A) meets the definition of mortgage loan originator and is an employee of a depository institution, a subsidiary that is owned and controlled by a depository institution and regulated by a federal banking agency, or an institution regulated by the Farm Credit Administration; and (B) is registered with and maintains a unique identifier through the system;

[(26)] (27) "Residential mortgage loan" means any loan, including a shared appreciation agreement, primarily for personal, family or household use that is secured by a mortgage, deed of trust or other equivalent consensual security interest on a dwelling or residential real estate upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling;

[(27)] (28) "Residential real estate" means any real property located in
this state, upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a
dwelling;

[(28)] (29) "Secondary mortgage loan" means a residential mortgage
loan that is secured, in whole or in part, by a mortgage, provided such
property is subject to one or more prior mortgages;

171 (30) "Shared appreciation agreement" means a nonrecourse

173 consumer, as a lump sum or otherwise, in exchange for an equity 174 interest in a dwelling, residential real estate or a future obligation to 175 repay a sum upon the occurrence of an event, including, but not limited 176 to, the transfer of ownership, repayment maturity date, death of the 177 consumer or as outlined and explicitly agreed to within said agreement; 178 [(29)] (31) "Simulated check" means a document that imitates or 179 resembles a check but is not a negotiable instrument; 180 [(30)] (32) "Sponsored" means employed or retained as an 181 independent contractor; 182 [(31)] (33) "Table funding agreement" means an agreement wherein a 183 person agrees to fund mortgage loans to be made in another person's 184 name and to purchase such loans after they are made; 185 [(32)] (34) "Trigger lead" means a consumer report obtained pursuant 186 to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (c) of Section 604 of 187 the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681b, as amended from time to 188 time, where the issuance of the report is triggered by an inquiry made 189 with a consumer reporting agency in response to an application for 190 credit: 191 [(33)] (35) "Unique identifier" means a number or other identifier 192 assigned by protocols established by the system; and 193 [(34)] (36) "Warehouse agreement" means an agreement to provide 194 credit to a person to enable the person to have funds to make residential 195 mortgage loans and hold such loans pending sale to other persons. 196 Sec. 2. Section 36a-486 of the general statutes is repealed and the 197 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*): 198 (a) No person shall engage in the business of making residential 199 mortgage loans or act as a mortgage broker in this state unless such 200 person has first obtained a license for its main office and for each branch 201 office where such business is conducted in accordance with the

obligation in which an advance sum of monetary value is extended to a

172

202 provisions of sections 36a-485 to 36a-498e, inclusive, as amended by this 203 act, 36a-534a and 36a-534b. Any activity subject to licensure pursuant to 204 sections 36a-485 to 36a-498e, inclusive, as amended by this act, 36a-534a or 36a-534b shall be conducted from an office located in a state, as 205 206 defined in section 36a-2. Any such person who is an individual shall also 207 obtain a mortgage loan originator license prior to conducting such 208 business unless such individual does not engage directly in the activities 209 of a mortgage loan originator or conducts such business pursuant to the 210 temporary authority provided in subsection (e) of this section. A person, 211 other than a licensed mortgage loan originator acting on behalf of a 212 mortgage lender or mortgage correspondent lender, shall be deemed to 213 be engaged in the business of making residential mortgage loans if such 214 person advertises, causes to be advertised, solicits or offers to make 215 residential mortgage loans, either directly or indirectly. A person, other 216 than a licensed mortgage loan originator acting on behalf of a mortgage 217 broker, shall be deemed to be acting as a mortgage broker if such person 218 advertises or causes to be advertised that such person will negotiate, 219 solicit, place or find a residential mortgage loan, either directly or 220 indirectly. A mortgage correspondent lender shall not be deemed to be 221 acting as a mortgage lender if such mortgage correspondent lender 222 makes a loan utilizing its own funds in a situation where another person 223 does not honor such person's commitment to fund the loan. A licensed 224 lead generator shall not be deemed to be acting as a mortgage lender, 225 mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or mortgage loan 226 originator when engaged in the activities of a lead generator, as 227 described in section 36a-485, as amended by this act, if such person does 228 (1) Obtain compensation or gain contingent upon the not: 229 consummation of a residential mortgage loan or the receipt of a 230 residential mortgage loan application, or (2) utilize financial criteria 231 particular to the consumer or the residential mortgage loan transaction 232 to selectively place a lead or to steer a consumer to a specific person for 233 a residential mortgage loan.

(b) (1) No person licensed as a mortgage lender, mortgagecorrespondent lender or mortgage broker shall engage the services of a

236 mortgage loan originator or of a loan processor or underwriter required 237 to be licensed under this section unless such mortgage loan originator 238 or loan processor or underwriter is licensed under section 36a-489 or 239 acting pursuant to the temporary authority provided in subsection (e) 240 of this section. An individual, unless specifically exempted under 241 subdivision (2) of this subsection or acting pursuant to the temporary 242 authority provided in subsection (e) of this section, shall not engage in 243 the business of a mortgage loan originator on behalf of a licensee or a 244 person exempt under section 36a-487 with respect to any residential 245 mortgage loan without first obtaining and maintaining annually a 246 license as a mortgage loan originator under section 36a-489. An 247 individual, unless specifically exempted under subdivision (2) of this 248 subsection, shall be deemed to be engaged in the business of a mortgage 249 loan originator if such individual: (A) Acts as a mortgage loan originator 250 in connection with any residential mortgage loan on behalf of a licensee 251 or person exempt under section 36a-487; or (B) makes any 252 representation to the public through advertising or other means of 253 communication that such individual can or will act as a mortgage loan 254 originator on behalf of a licensee or person exempt under section 36a-255 487. Each licensed mortgage loan originator and each licensed loan 256 processor or underwriter shall register with and maintain a valid unique 257 identifier issued by the system. No individual may act as a mortgage 258 loan originator for more than one person at the same time. No loan 259 processor or underwriter licensee may be sponsored by more than one 260 person at a time. The license of a mortgage loan originator, [or a] loan 261 processor or underwriter is not effective during any period when such 262 mortgage loan originator, [or a] loan processor or underwriter is not 263 sponsored by a licensed mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent 264 lender or mortgage broker, or by a person registered as an exempt 265 registrant under subsection (d) of section 36a-487, or during any period 266 in which the license of the mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent 267 lender or mortgage broker with whom such originator or loan processor 268 or underwriter is associated has been suspended. Either the mortgage 269 loan originator, the loan processor or underwriter or the sponsor may 270 file a notification of the termination of sponsorship with the system.

271 (2) The following are exempt from this section: (A) A registered 272 mortgage loan originator or an employee of an institution or subsidiary 273 described in [subdivision (25) of] section 36a-485, as amended by this 274 act, who is not required to be registered under Section 1507 of the 275 S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing Act of 2008, 12 USC Section 5101 et seq., 276 when acting for such institution or subsidiary; (B) an individual who 277 offers or negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage loan with or on 278 behalf of an immediate family member of such individual; (C) an 279 individual who offers or negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage 280 loan secured by a dwelling that served as the individual's residence, 281 unless the context demonstrates that such individual engaged in such 282 activities with a degree of habitualness or repetition; (D) a Connecticut 283 licensed attorney who negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage 284 loan on behalf of a client as an ancillary matter to the attorney's 285 representation of the client, unless the attorney is compensated by a 286 mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such mortgage lender, 287 288 mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage broker or other mortgage 289 loan originator; (E) an individual who takes a residential mortgage loan 290 application or offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan 291 as an employee of a federal, state or local government agency or housing 292 finance agency exempt from licensure pursuant to section 36a-487, and 293 who does so only pursuant to such individual's official duties as an 294 employee of such agency; (F) an individual who takes a residential 295 mortgage loan application or offers or negotiates terms of a residential 296 mortgage loan as an employee of an organization that has obtained bona 297 fide nonprofit status from the commissioner and is exempt from 298 licensure pursuant to section 36a-487, and who does so only pursuant to 299 such individual's official duties as an employee of such organization; 300 and (G) an individual who offers or negotiates the terms of a residential 301 mortgage loan secured by a dwelling that is not the individual's 302 residence but is owned by such individual, unless the context 303 demonstrates that such individual engaged in such activities with a 304 degree of habitualness or repetition.

(3) No individual shall engage in the activities of a loan processor or
underwriter unless such individual obtains and maintains a license as a
loan processor or underwriter under section 36a-489. The following
individuals are exempt from the foregoing license requirement:

(A) An employee of a licensed mortgage lender, mortgage
correspondent lender or mortgage broker who engages in loan
processor or underwriter activities (i) in connection with residential
mortgage loans either originated or made by such licensee, and (ii) at
the direction of and subject to the supervision of a licensed mortgage
loan originator of such licensee;

(B) An employee of a person exempt from licensure under subdivision (1), (2) or (3) of subsection (a) of section 36a-487 who engages in loan processor or underwriter activities at the direction of and subject to the supervision of either a licensed mortgage loan originator or a registered mortgage loan originator of such exempt person; or

321 (C) Any individual engaged, in any capacity, in loan processor or
322 underwriter activities in connection with a residential mortgage loan
323 originated by an individual not required to be licensed or registered as
324 a mortgage loan originator under this part.

(4) An individual engaging solely in loan processor or underwriter
activities shall not represent to the public, through advertising or other
means of communicating or providing information, including the use of
business cards, stationery, brochures, signs, rate lists or other
promotional items, that such individual can or will perform any of the
activities of a mortgage loan originator.

(5) On and after January 1, 2018, no person shall, directly or
indirectly, act as a lead generator without first obtaining a license under
section 36a-489, unless such person is exempt from licensure. The
following persons shall be exempt from licensure as a lead generator:

335 (A) Any bank, out-of-state bank, Connecticut credit union, federal

336 credit union or out-of-state credit union, provided such bank or credit337 union is federally insured;

338 (B) Any wholly owned subsidiary of any such bank or credit union;

339 (C) Any operating subsidiary where each owner of such operating340 subsidiary is wholly owned by the same such bank or credit union;

341 (D) Any person licensed as a mortgage lender, mortgage
342 correspondent lender or mortgage broker in this state, provided such
343 exemption shall not be effective during any period in which the license
344 of such person is suspended;

345 (E) A consumer reporting agency, as defined in Section 603 (f) of the
346 Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a, as amended from time to time;
347 [and]

348 (F) An employee of a person licensed as a lead generator or exempt
349 from licensure as a lead generator, while engaged in lead generator
350 activities on behalf of such person; [.] and

351 (G) An individual employed by an affiliate of a bank or credit union 352 exempt from licensure pursuant to subparagraph (A) of this 353 subdivision, who is registered or licensed with a state or federal 354 regulator to engage in securities brokerage, investment advisory or 355 insurance sales activities and who, incidental to the performance of such 356 regulated activities, performs lead generation activities by referring one 357 or more leads to such bank or credit union. For purposes of this 358 subparagraph, "affiliate" means an entity that is controlled by or is 359 under common control with the bank or credit union, such that the bank 360 or credit union (i) directly or indirectly acting through one or more other 361 persons owns, controls or has the power to vote more than fifty per cent 362 of any class of voting securities of the affiliate, (ii) controls in any 363 manner the election of a majority of directors or trustees of the affiliate, 364 or (iii) directly or indirectly exercises a controlling influence over the 365 management or policies of the affiliate.

366 (c) If the United States Department of Housing and Urban 367 Development, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection or a court 368 of competent jurisdiction determines that the S.A.F.E. Mortgage 369 Licensing Act of 2008, 12 USC Section 5101 et seq., requires an 370 individual described in subparagraph (B) (iv) of subdivision (20) of 371 section 36a-485, as amended by this act, to be licensed as a mortgage 372 loan originator under state laws implementing said S.A.F.E. Mortgage 373 Licensing Act, such individual may continue to act in such individual's 374 current capacity, provided such individual files an application for a 375 mortgage loan originator license not later than the date sixty days from 376 the date of such determination by the United States Department of 377 Housing and Urban Development, the Bureau of Consumer Financial 378 Protection or a court of competent jurisdiction.

(d) Each residential mortgage loan taken, offered, negotiated,
solicited, arranged, placed, found, made, processed or underwritten
without a license shall constitute a separate violation for purposes of
section 36a-50.

383 (e) (1) An individual who is employed by a person licensed as a 384 mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or mortgage broker in this state shall have temporary authority to act as a mortgage loan 385 386 originator in this state for the period of time described in subdivision (3) 387 of this subsection, provided the individual (A) has not had (i) an 388 application for a loan originator license denied in any governmental 389 jurisdiction, or (ii) a loan originator license revoked or suspended in any 390 governmental jurisdiction; (B) has not been subject to, or served with, a 391 cease and desist order in any governmental jurisdiction or by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection pursuant to 12 USC 5113(c); (C) has 392 393 not been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony that would preclude 394 licensure in this state under subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 395 36a-489; (D) has submitted an application for licensure as a mortgage 396 loan originator in this state pursuant to subsection (c) of section 36a-488; 397 and (E) was registered in the system as a registered loan originator, as 398 defined in 12 USC 5102, during the one-year period immediately 399 preceding the date on which the individual submits in connection with 400 such application for licensure in this state the individual's personal
401 history and experience, including authorization to obtain an
402 independent credit report, criminal background check and information
403 relating to administrative, civil or criminal findings by any
404 governmental jurisdiction.

405 (2) An out-of-state mortgage loan originator employed by a person 406 licensed as a mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender or 407 mortgage broker in this state shall have temporary authority to act as a 408 mortgage loan originator in this state for the period described in 409 subdivision (3) of this subsection, provided the individual (A) meets the requirements of subparagraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of subdivision (1) 410 411 of this subsection; and (B) was an out-of-state mortgage loan originator during the thirty-day period immediately preceding the date on which 412 413 the individual submits in connection with the application for licensure 414 as a mortgage loan originator in this state the individual's personal 415 history and experience, including authorization to obtain an 416 independent credit report, criminal background check and information relating to administrative, civil or criminal findings by any 417 418 governmental jurisdiction.

419 (3) The period of temporary authority described in subdivisions (1) 420 and (2) of this subsection shall commence on the date the registered loan 421 originator or out-of-state mortgage loan originator submits the information required by subsection (c) of section 36a-488 and shall end 422 on the earliest of (A) the date the individual withdraws the application 423 424 to be a licensed mortgage loan originator in this state; (B) the date the 425 commissioner denies the application; (C) the date the commissioner issues the mortgage loan originator license; or (D) one hundred twenty 426 427 days after the date the individual submits the application, provided 428 such application is identified as incomplete on the system.

429 (4) Any person employing an individual who has temporary
430 authority to act as a mortgage loan originator in this state pursuant to
431 this subsection shall be subject to the laws of this state to the same extent
432 as if the employed individual is licensed as a mortgage loan originator

in this state. Any individual who has temporary authority to act as a
mortgage loan originator in this state pursuant to this subsection and
who engages in residential mortgage loan origination activities shall be
subject to the laws of this state to the same extent as if the individual is

437 <u>licensed as a mortgage loan originator in this state.</u>

438 Sec. 3. Subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of section 36a-490 of the 439 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu 440 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

441 (b) (1) A mortgage lender, mortgage correspondent lender, mortgage 442 broker or lead generator license shall not be transferable or assignable. 443 Any change in any control person of the licensee, except a change of 444 director, general partner or executive officer that is not the result of an 445 acquisition or change [in] of control of the licensee, shall be the subject 446 of an advance change notice filed on the system not later than thirty 447 days prior to the effective date of such change and no such change shall 448 occur without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, 449 "change of control" means any change causing the majority ownership, 450 voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control 451 person or group of control persons.

452 Sec. 4. Subsection (a) of section 36a-540 of the general statutes is 453 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 454 1, 2021):

455 (a) Each license shall specify the location at which the business is to 456 be conducted. Such license shall not be transferable or assignable. Any 457 change [in] of any control person of the licensee, except a change of a 458 director, general partner or executive officer that is not the result of an 459 acquisition or change in control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an 460 advance change notice filed on the system not later than thirty days 461 prior to the effective date of such change and no such change shall occur 462 without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, 463 "change of control" means any change causing the majority ownership, 464 voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control

465 person or group of control persons.

Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 36a-566 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

469 (a) No license issued under section 36a-556 shall be assignable or 470 transferable. Any change [in] of any control person of the licensee, 471 except a change of a director, general partner or executive officer that is 472 not the result of an acquisition or change of control of the licensee, shall 473 be the subject of an advance change notice filed on the system at least 474 thirty days prior to the effective date of such change and no such change 475 shall occur without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this 476 section, "change of control" means any change causing the majority 477 ownership, voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control person or group of control persons. 478

479 Sec. 6. Subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of section 36a-583 of the
480 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
481 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

482 (a) (1) A license issued under section 36a-581 shall not be transferable 483 or assignable. A change in any control person of the licensee, except a 484 change of a director, general partner or executive officer that is not the 485 result of an acquisition or change of control of the licensee, shall be the 486 subject of an advance change notice filed on the system at least thirty 487 days prior to the effective date of such change and no such change shall 488 occur without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, 489 "change of control" means any change causing the majority ownership, 490 voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control 491 person or group of control persons.

492 Sec. 7. Section 36a-598 of the general statutes is repealed and the 493 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

494 (a) Each application for an initial or renewal license required under495 sections 36a-595 to 36a-612, inclusive, shall be made and processed on

496 the system pursuant to section 36a-24b, in the form prescribed by the 497 commissioner. Each such form shall contain content as set forth by 498 instruction or procedure of the commissioner and may be changed or 499 updated as necessary by the commissioner in order to carry out the 500 purposes of sections 36a-595 to 36a-612, inclusive. The applicant shall, 501 at a minimum, furnish to the system information concerning the identity 502 of the applicant, any control person of the applicant, the qualified 503 individual and any branch manager responsible for the actions of the 504 licensee, including, but not limited to, information related to such 505 person's personal history and experience and any administrative, civil 506 or criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction. As part of an 507 application, the commissioner may, (1) in accordance with section 29-508 17a, conduct a state or national criminal history records check of the 509 applicant, any control person of the applicant, the qualified individual 510 and any branch manager, and, (2) in accordance with section 36a-24b, 511 (A) require the submission of fingerprints of any such person to the 512 Federal Bureau of Investigation or other state, national or international 513 criminal databases, and (B) investigate the financial condition of any 514 such person and require authorization from any such person for the 515 system and the commissioner to obtain an independent credit report 516 from a consumer reporting agency, as described in Section 603(p) of the 517 Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a, as amended from time to time. 518 An application for an initial license shall also include:

519 (i) A copy of the applicant's audited financial statements for the most 520 recent fiscal year. If the applicant is a wholly-owned subsidiary of 521 another corporation, the applicant shall include the most recent audited 522 consolidated annual financial statements of the parent corporation. [or 523 the applicant's most recent audited consolidated annual financial 524 statement, and the most recent audited unconsolidated financial 525 statement of the applicant, including its balance sheet and receipts and 526 disbursements for the preceding year.] If the applicant is publicly 527 traded, the applicant shall include a copy of the most recent 10-K report 528 that such applicant filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission 529 or, if the applicant is a wholly-owned subsidiary of a publicly traded

company, a copy of the parent company's most recent 10-K report that 530 531 was filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. If the applicant 532 or parent company of a wholly-owned subsidiary applicant is publicly 533 traded on a foreign exchange, the applicant shall include a copy of 534 documentation similar to the 10-K report that was filed with the 535 applicable securities regulator for the applicant or the parent company 536 the wholly-owned subsidiary applicant, applicable. of as 537 Notwithstanding the provisions of this clause, if the applicant or parent 538 company of the wholly-owned subsidiary applicant has operated for 539 not more than one calendar year, the applicant shall only be required to 540 include an initial statement of condition;

(ii) A list of the applicant's permissible investments, the book and
market values of such investments, and the dollar amount of the
applicant's aggregate outstanding money transmissions (I) as of the date
of the financial statement filed in accordance with clause (i) of this
subparagraph; and (II) as of a date no earlier than thirty business days
prior to the filing of the application;

547 (iii) (I) The surety bond required by subsection (a) of section 36a-602,548 if applicable;

(II) A list of the investments maintained in accordance with subsection (d) of section 36a-602, if applicable, and the book and market values of any such investments as of the date of the financial statement filed in accordance with clause (i) of this subparagraph; and as of a date no earlier than thirty business days prior to the filing of the application;

(iv) A statement describing the type of money transmission business
that will be conducted by the applicant in this state and whether such
money transmission will include the transmission of monetary value in
the form of virtual currency;

558 (v) The name and address of any financial institution used by the 559 applicant for its money transmission business in this state;

560 (vi) For each authorized delegate, a sample of the contract evidencing

the proposed arrangement between the applicant and the authorizeddelegate; and

563 (vii) Any other information the commissioner may require.

564 (b) The commissioner may deem an application for a license to 565 engage in the business of money transmission in this state abandoned if 566 the applicant fails to respond to any request for information required 567 under sections 36a-595 to 36a-612, inclusive, or any regulations adopted 568 pursuant to said sections. The commissioner shall notify the applicant 569 on the system that if the applicant fails to submit such information not 570 later than sixty days after such request, the application shall be deemed 571 abandoned. An application filing fee paid prior to the date an 572 application is deemed abandoned pursuant to this subsection shall not 573 be refunded. Abandonment of an application pursuant to this 574 subsection shall not preclude the applicant from submitting a new application for a license under sections 36a-595 to 36a-612, inclusive. 575

576 (c) Except as otherwise specified in subsections (d) and (e) of this 577 section, each applicant, licensee, control person and gualified individual 578 shall file with the system any change in the information most recently 579 submitted to the system by such licensee, control person or qualified 580 individual in connection with the application or license, or, if the information cannot be filed on the system, notify the commissioner, in 581 582 writing, of such change in the information not later than fifteen days 583 after the date the applicant, licensee, control person or qualified 584 individual has reason to know of such change.

585 (d) (1) A money transmission license shall not be transferable or 586 assignable. Any change in any control person of the licensee, except a 587 change of a director, general partner or executive officer that is not the 588 result of an acquisition or a change of control of the licensee, shall be the 589 subject of an advance change notice filed on the system at least thirty 590 days prior to the effective date of such change and no such change shall 591 occur without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, 592 "change of control" means any change causing the majority ownership,

593 <u>voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control</u>
594 <u>person or group of control persons.</u>

595 (2) No licensee may use any name other than its legal name or a 596 fictitious name approved by the commissioner, provided such licensee 597 may not use its legal name if the commissioner disapproves use of such 598 name. No licensee shall use any name or address other than the name 599 and address specified on the license issued by the commissioner. A licensee may change the name of the licensee or the address of the office 600 601 specified on the most recent filing with the system if, at least thirty 602 calendar days prior to such change, the licensee files such change with 603 the system and provides a bond rider, endorsement or addendum, as 604 applicable, to the surety bond on file with the commissioner that reflects 605 the new name or address, and the commissioner does not disapprove 606 such change, in writing, or request further information within such 607 thirty-day period.

608 (3) The commissioner may automatically suspend any license for a 609 violation of this subsection. After a license has been automatically 610 suspended pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner shall (A) give 611 the licensee notice of the automatic suspension, pending proceedings for 612 revocation of or refusal to renew the license pursuant to section 36a-608 613 and an opportunity for a hearing in accordance with section 36a-51, and 614 (B) require the licensee to take or refrain from taking action as the 615 commissioner deems necessary to effectuate the purpose of this section.

(e) A licensee shall file with the system or, if the information cannot
be filed on the system, provide a written notice to the commissioner not
later than one business day after the licensee has reason to know of the
occurrence of any of the following events:

(1) The filing of a petition by or against the licensee under the United
States Bankruptcy Code for bankruptcy or reorganization or the filing
of a petition under the United States Bankruptcy Code for bankruptcy
or reorganization by any control person, qualified individual or
authorized delegate of the licensee;

(2) 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;

(3) The commencement of a proceeding to revoke or suspend its
license to engage in money transmission in another state or a foreign
country, or other formal or informal regulatory action by any
governmental agency against the licensee or any control person,
qualified individual or authorized delegate of the licensee and the
reasons therefor;

(4) The commencement of any action by the Attorney General or the
attorney general of any other state against the licensee or any control
person, qualified individual or authorized delegate of the licensee and
the reasons therefor;

(5) The cancellation or other impairment of the licensee's bond or
other security, including notice of claims filed against the licensee's
bond or other security;

(6) A conviction or indictment of the licensee or of any control person
or qualified individual of the licensee for a misdemeanor involving the
money transmission business or a felony; or

645 (7) A conviction or indictment of an authorized delegate for a 646 misdemeanor involving the money transmission business or a felony.

Sec. 8. Subsection (a) of section 36a-658 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

(a) Each license shall state the location at which the business is to be
conducted and shall state fully the name of the licensee. If the licensee
desires to engage in the business of debt adjustment in more than one
location, the licensee shall procure a license for each location where the
business is to be conducted. A license issued under section 36a-656 shall

655 not be transferable or assignable. Any change in any control person of 656 the licensee, except a change of a director, general partner or executive 657 officer that is not the result of an acquisition or change of control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an advance change notice filed on the 658 659 system at least thirty days prior to the effective date of such change and 660 no such change shall occur without the commissioner's approval. For 661 purposes of this section, "change of control" means any change causing 662 the majority ownership, voting rights or control of a licensee to be held 663 by a different control person or group of control persons.

664 Sec. 9. Subsection (h) of section 36a-671 of the general statutes is 665 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 666 1, 2021):

(h) The license shall not be transferable or assignable. Any change in 667 668 any control person of the [license] licensee, except a change of a director, 669 general partner or executive officer that is not the result of an acquisition 670 or change of control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an advance 671 change notice filed on the system at least thirty days prior to the effective 672 date of such change and no such change shall occur without the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, "change of 673 674 control" means any change causing the majority ownership, voting 675 rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control person or 676 group of control persons.

Sec. 10. Subsection (a) of section 36a-719a of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

(a) A mortgage servicer license shall not be transferable or assignable.
Any change in any control person of a licensee, except a change of a
director, general partner or executive officer that is not the result of an
acquisition or change of control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an
advance change notice filed on the system at least thirty days prior to
the effective date of such change and no such change shall occur without
the commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, "change of

687 control" means any change causing the majority ownership, voting rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control person or 688 689 group of control persons. Any licensee who intends to permanently 690 cease acting as a mortgage servicer at any time during a license period 691 for any cause, including, but not limited to, bankruptcy or voluntary 692 dissolution, shall file a request to surrender the license in accordance 693 with subsection (c) of section 36a-51, for each office at which the licensee 694 intends to cease to do business, on the system, not later than fifteen days 695 after the date of such cessation, provided this requirement shall not 696 apply when a license has been suspended pursuant to section 36a-51. 697 No surrender shall be effective until accepted by the commissioner.

Sec. 11. Subdivision (14) of subsection (c) of section 36a-770 of the
general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

(14) "Retail seller" means a person who sells or agrees to sell one or
more articles of goods under a retail installment contract <u>or an</u>
<u>installment loan contract</u> to a retail buyer.

Sec. 12. Subdivision (4) of section 36a-800 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

707 (4) "Consumer debtor" means any natural person, not an 708 organization, who has incurred indebtedness or owes a debt for 709 personal, family or household purposes, including current or past due 710 child support, who has incurred indebtedness or owes a debt to a 711 municipality due to a levy by such municipality of a [personal] property 712 tax or who has incurred indebtedness or owes a debt to the United States 713 Department of the Treasury under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 714 or any subsequent corresponding internal revenue code of the United 715 States, as amended from time to time;

Sec. 13. Subsections (b) and (c) of section 36a-801 of the general
statutes are repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
(*Effective October 1, 2021*):

719 (b) An application for a license as a consumer collection agency or for 720 renewal of such license shall be made and processed on the system 721 pursuant to section 36a-24b, in the form prescribed by the 722 commissioner. Each such form shall contain content as set forth by 723 instruction or procedure of the commissioner and may be changed or 724 updated as necessary by the commissioner in order to carry out the 725 purposes of sections 36a-800 to 36a-814, inclusive, as amended by this 726 act. The applicant shall, at a minimum, furnish to the system 727 information concerning the identity of the applicant, any control person 728 of the applicant, the qualified individual and any branch manager 729 responsible for the actions of the licensee, including, but not limited to, 730 information related to such person's personal history and experience, 731 and any administrative, civil or criminal findings by any governmental 732 jurisdiction. As part of the application, the commissioner may (1) in 733 accordance with section 29-17a, conduct a state or national criminal 734 history records check of the applicant, any control person of the 735 applicant, the qualified individual or any branch manager, and (2) in accordance with section 36a-24b (A) require the submission of 736 737 fingerprints of the applicant, any control person of the applicant, the 738 qualified individual or any branch manager to the Federal Bureau of 739 Investigation or other state, national or international criminal databases, 740 and (B) investigate the financial condition of any such person and 741 require authorization from any such person for the system and the 742 commissioner to obtain an independent credit report from a consumer 743 reporting agency, as described in Section 603(p) of the Fair Credit 744 Reporting Act, 15 USC 1681a, as amended from time to time. Such 745 application shall be accompanied by a financial statement prepared by 746 a certified public accountant and [, for any applicant not solely engaged 747 in the business of debt buying, such application] shall evidence that the 748 applicant has a tangible net worth of more than zero dollars if the 749 applicant is engaged solely in the business of debt buying, and a 750 [minimum] tangible net worth of at least fifty thousand dollars if the 751 applicant is not engaged solely in the business of debt buying. The 752 commissioner shall cause to be made such inquiry and examination as 753 to the qualifications of each such applicant or any control person,

qualified individual or branch manager of the applicant as the
commissioner deems necessary. Each applicant shall furnish
satisfactory evidence to the commissioner that the applicant is a person
of good moral character and is financially responsible.

758 (c) (1) Each applicant for a consumer collection agency license shall 759 pay to the system any required fees or charges and a license fee of five 760 hundred dollars. Each such license shall expire at the close of business on December thirty-first of the year in which the license was approved, 761 unless such license is renewed, except that any such license approved 762 763 on or after November first shall expire at the close of business on 764 December thirty-first of the year following the year in which it is 765 approved. An application for renewal of a license shall be filed between 766 November first and December thirty-first of the year in which the license 767 expires. Each applicant for renewal of a consumer collection agency 768 license shall pay to the system any required fees or charges and a 769 renewal fee of four hundred dollars.

770 (2) If the commissioner finds, upon the filing of an application for a 771 consumer collection agency, that (A) the financial responsibility, 772 character, reputation, integrity and general fitness of the applicant, the 773 control persons of the applicant, the qualified individual and any branch 774 manager are such as to warrant belief that the business will be operated 775 soundly and efficiently, in the public interest and consistent with the 776 purposes of sections 36a-800 to 36a-814, inclusive, as amended by this 777 act, and (B) the applicant [is solvent] meets the applicable tangible net 778 worth requirement in subsection (b) of this section and no proceeding 779 in bankruptcy, receivership or assignment for the benefit of creditors 780 has been commenced against the applicant, the commissioner may [, 781 upon such finding,] thereupon issue the applicant a consumer collection 782 agency license. If the commissioner fails to make such findings, the 783 commissioner shall not issue a license and shall notify the applicant of 784 the reasons for such denial. The commissioner may deny an application 785 if the commissioner finds that the applicant or any control person, 786 qualified individual or branch manager of such applicant has been 787 convicted of any misdemeanor involving any aspect of the consumer

collection agency business, or any felony. Any denial of an application
by the commissioner shall, when applicable, be subject to the provisions
of section 46a-80.

791 (3) The minimum standards for renewal of a consumer collection 792 agency license shall include the following: (A) The applicant continues 793 to meet the minimum standards under this section; (B) the applicant has 794 paid all required fees for renewal of the license; and (C) the applicant 795 has paid all outstanding examination fees or other moneys due to the 796 commissioner. The license of a consumer collection agency licensee 797 failing to satisfy the minimum standards for license renewal shall 798 expire. The commissioner may adopt procedures for the reinstatement 799 of expired licenses consistent with the standards established by the 800 system. Every license shall remain in force and effect until the license 801 has been surrendered, revoked or suspended or has expired in 802 accordance with the provisions of sections 36a-800 to 36a-814, inclusive, 803 as amended by this act.

Sec. 14. Subsection (i) of section 36a-801 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

807 (i) No person licensed to act within this state as a consumer collection 808 agency shall do so under any other name or at any other place of 809 business than that named in the license. No licensee may use any name 810 other than its legal name or a fictitious name approved by the 811 commissioner, provided such licensee may not use its legal name if the 812 commissioner disapproves use of such name. A licensee may change the 813 name of the licensee or address of the office specified on the most recent 814 filing with the system if, at least thirty calendar days prior to such 815 change, (1) the licensee files such change with the system and provides 816 a bond rider, endorsement or addendum, as applicable, to the surety 817 bond on file with the commissioner that reflects the new name or 818 address, and (2) the commissioner does not disapprove such change, in 819 writing, or request further information from the licensee within such 820 thirty-day period. Not more than one place of business shall be

821 maintained under the same license but the commissioner may issue 822 more than one license to the same licensee upon compliance with the 823 provisions of sections 36a-800 to 36a-814, inclusive, as to each new 824 licensee. A license shall not be transferable or assignable. Any change in 825 any control person of the licensee, except a change of a director, general 826 partner or executive officer that is not the result of an acquisition or 827 change of control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an advance 828 change notice filed on the system at least thirty days prior to the effective 829 date of such change and no such change shall occur without the 830 commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, "change of 831 control" means any change causing the majority ownership, voting 832 rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control person or 833 group of control persons. Any licensee holding, applying for, or seeking 834 renewal of more than one license may, at its option, file the bond 835 required under section 36a-802 separately for each place of business 836 licensed, or to be licensed, or a single bond, naming each place of 837 business, in an amount equal to twenty-five thousand dollars for each 838 place of business. The commissioner may automatically suspend a 839 license for any violation of this subsection. After a license has been 840 automatically suspended pursuant to this section, the commissioner 841 shall (A) give the licensee notice of the automatic suspension, pending 842 proceedings for revocation or refusal to renew pursuant to section 36a-843 804 and an opportunity for a hearing on such action in accordance with 844 section 36a-51, and (B) require such licensee to take or refrain from 845 taking such action as the commissioner deems necessary to effectuate 846 the purposes of this section.

Sec. 15. Subsection (b) of section 36a-848 of the general statutes is
repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*1, 2021):

(b) A license shall not be transferable or assignable. Any change in any control person of the licensee, except a change of a director, general partner or executive officer that is not the result of an acquisition or change of control of the licensee, shall be the subject of an advance change notice filed on the system at least thirty days prior to the effective

855	date of such change and no such change shall occur without the
856	commissioner's approval. For purposes of this section, "change of
857	control" means any change causing the majority ownership, voting
858	rights or control of a licensee to be held by a different control person or
859	group of control persons.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2021	36a-485
Sec. 2	October 1, 2021	36a-486
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	36a-490(b)(1)
Sec. 4	October 1, 2021	36a-540(a)
Sec. 5	October 1, 2021	36a-566(a)
Sec. 6	October 1, 2021	36a-583(a)(1)
Sec. 7	October 1, 2021	36a-598
Sec. 8	October 1, 2021	36a-658(a)
Sec. 9	October 1, 2021	36a-671(h)
Sec. 10	October 1, 2021	36a-719a(a)
Sec. 11	October 1, 2021	36a-770(c)(14)
Sec. 12	October 1, 2021	36a-800(4)
Sec. 13	October 1, 2021	36a-801(b) and (c)
Sec. 14	October 1, 2021	36a-801(i)
Sec. 15	October 1, 2021	36a-848(b)

## Statement of Purpose:

To implement the Department of Banking's recommended changes to banking statutes concerning consumer credit licenses.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]