## LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

## ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE

#### FIRST SESSION

# **LEGISLATIVE BILL 157**

Introduced by McCollister, 20.

Read first time January 12, 2015

### Committee:

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to corporations; to amend sections 21-245,
- 2 21-2,127, 21-2,128, 21-2,133, 21-2,134, 21-2,143, 21-2,145,
- 3 21-2,230, and 21-2,231, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 4 2014, and Laws 2014, LB 749, section 295; to change operative date
- 5 provisions relating to the Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act;
- to provide operative dates; and to repeal the original sections.
- 7 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

- 1 Section 1. Section 21-245, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 2 2014, is amended to read:
- 3 21-245 (MBCA 6.24) (a) A corporation may issue rights, options, or
- 4 warrants for the purchase of shares or other securities of the
- 5 corporation. The board of directors shall determine (1) the terms upon
- 6 which the rights, options, or warrants are issued and (2) the terms,
- 7 including the consideration for which the shares or other securities are
- 8 to be issued. The authorization by the board of directors for the
- 9 corporation to issue such rights, options, or warrants constitutes
- 10 authorization of the issuance of the shares or other securities for which
- 11 the rights, options, or warrants are exercisable.
- 12 (b) The terms and conditions of such rights, options, or warrants,
- including those outstanding on January 1, 2017 2016, may include, without
- 14 limitation, restrictions or conditions that:
- 15 (1) Preclude or limit the exercise, transfer, or receipt of such
- 16 rights, options, or warrants by any person or persons owning or offering
- 17 to acquire a specified number or percentage of the outstanding shares or
- 18 other securities of the corporation or by any transferee or transferees
- 19 of any such person or persons; or
- 20 (2) Invalidate or void such rights, options, or warrants held by any
- 21 such person or persons or any such transferee or transferees.
- (c) The board of directors may authorize one or more officers to (1)
- 23 designate the recipients of rights, options, warrants, or other equity
- 24 compensation awards that involve the issuance of shares and (2)
- 25 determine, within an amount and subject to any other limitations
- 26 established by the board and, if applicable, the stockholders, the number
- 27 of such rights, options, warrants, or other equity compensation awards
- 28 and the terms thereof to be received by the recipients, except that an
- 29 officer may not use such authority to designate himself or herself or any
- 30 other persons as the board of directors may specify as a recipient of
- 31 such rights, options, warrants, or other equity compensation awards.

- Sec. 2. Section 21-2,127, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 2 2014, is amended to read:
- 3 21-2,127 (MBCA 9.20) (a) A foreign business corporation may become a
- 4 domestic business corporation only if the domestication is permitted by
- 5 the organic law of the foreign corporation.
- 6 (b) A domestic business corporation may become a foreign business
- 7 corporation if the domestication is permitted by the laws of the foreign
- 8 jurisdiction. Regardless of whether the laws of the foreign jurisdiction
- 9 require the adoption of a plan of domestication, the domestication shall
- 10 be approved by the adoption by the corporation of a plan of domestication
- in the manner provided in sections 21-2,127 to 21-2,132.
- 12 (c) The plan of domestication must include:
- 13 (1) A statement of the jurisdiction in which the corporation is to
- 14 be domesticated;
- 15 (2) The terms and conditions of the domestication;
- 16 (3) The manner and basis of reclassifying the shares of the
- 17 corporation following its domestication into shares or other securities,
- 18 obligations, rights to acquire shares or other securities, cash, other
- 19 property, or any combination of the foregoing; and
- 20 (4) Any desired amendments to the articles of incorporation of the
- 21 corporation following its domestication.
- 22 (d) The plan of domestication may also include a provision that the
- 23 plan may be amended prior to filing the document required by the laws of
- 24 this state or the other jurisdiction to consummate the domestication,
- 25 except that subsequent to approval of the plan by the shareholders the
- 26 plan may not be amended to change:
- 27 (1) The amount or kind of shares or other securities, obligations,
- 28 rights to acquire shares or other securities, cash, or other property to
- 29 be received by the shareholders under the plan;
- 30 (2) The articles of incorporation as they will be in effect
- 31 immediately following the domestication, except for changes permitted by

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section 21-2,154 or by comparable provisions of the laws of the other 1

- 2 jurisdiction; or
- 3 (3) Any of the other terms or conditions of the plan if the change
- would adversely affect any of the shareholders in any material respect. 4
- (e) Terms of a plan of domestication may be made dependent upon 5
- facts objectively ascertainable outside the plan in accordance with 6
- 7 subsection (k) of section 21-203.
- (f) If any debt security, note, or similar evidence of indebtedness 8
- 9 for money borrowed, whether secured or unsecured, or a contract of any
- kind, issued, incurred, or signed by a domestic business corporation 10
- before January 1, 2017 2016, contains a provision applying to a merger of 11
- the corporation and the document does not refer to a domestication of the 12
- 13 corporation, the provision shall be deemed to apply to a domestication of
- the corporation until such time as the provision is amended subsequent to 14
- 15 that date.
- Sec. 3. Section 21-2,128, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 16
- 17 2014, is amended to read:
- 21-2,128 (MBCA 9.21) In the case of a domestication of a domestic 18
- business corporation in a foreign jurisdiction: 19
- (1) The plan of domestication must be adopted by the board of 20
- 21 directors.
- 22 (2) After adopting the plan of domestication, the board of directors
- must submit the plan to the shareholders for their approval. The board of 23
- 24 directors must also transmit to the shareholders a recommendation that
- 25 the shareholders approve the plan unless (i) the board of directors makes
- a determination that because of conflicts of interest or other special 26
- circumstances it should not make such a recommendation or (ii) section 27
- 21-2,101 applies. If subdivision (2)(i) or (ii) of this section applies, 28
- the board must transmit to the shareholders the basis for so proceeding. 29
- (3) The board of directors may condition its submission of the plan 30
- of domestication to the shareholders on any basis. 31

- 1 (4) If the approval of the shareholders is to be given at a meeting, 2 the corporation must notify each shareholder, whether or not entitled to vote, of the meeting of shareholders at which the plan of domestication 3 4 is to be submitted for approval. The notice must state that the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the plan and must 5 contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the plan. The notice 6 7 shall include or be accompanied by a copy of the articles of incorporation they will be in effect immediately after 8 as the 9 domestication.
- 10 (5) Unless the articles of incorporation, or the board of directors acting pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section, requires a greater 11 vote or a greater number of votes to be present, approval of the plan of 12 domestication requires the approval of the shareholders at a meeting at 13 which a quorum consisting of at least a majority of the votes entitled to 14 be cast on the plan exists, and if any class or series of shares is 15 16 entitled to vote as a separate group on the plan, the approval of each 17 such separate voting group at a meeting at which a quorum of the voting group consisting of at least a majority of the votes entitled to be cast 18 on the domestication by that voting group exists. 19
- 20 (6) Subject to subdivision (7) of this section, separate voting by voting groups is required by each class or series of shares that:
- (i) Are to be reclassified under the plan of domestication into other securities, obligations, rights to acquire shares or other securities, cash, other property, or any combination of the foregoing;
- (ii) Are entitled to vote as a separate group on a provision of the plan that constitutes a proposed amendment to articles of incorporation of the corporation following its domestication that requires action by separate voting groups under section 21-2,153; or
- 29 (iii) Is entitled under the articles of incorporation to vote as a 30 voting group to approve an amendment of the articles.
- 31 (7) The articles of incorporation may expressly limit or eliminate

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the separate voting rights provided in subdivision (6)(i) of this 1

- 2 section.
- 3 (8) If any provision of the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or an
- agreement to which any of the directors or shareholders are parties, 4
- 5 adopted or entered into before January 1, 2017 2016, applies to a merger
- of the corporation and that document does not refer to a domestication of 6
- 7 the corporation, the provision shall be deemed to apply to a
- domestication of the corporation until such time as the provision is 8
- 9 amended subsequent to that date.
- 10 Sec. 4. Section 21-2,133, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 2014, is amended to read: 11
- 21-2,133 (MBCA 9.30) (a) A domestic business corporation may become 12
- 13 a domestic nonprofit corporation pursuant to a plan of nonprofit
- conversion. 14
- (b) A domestic business corporation may become a foreign nonprofit 15
- corporation if the nonprofit conversion is permitted by the laws of the 16
- 17 foreign jurisdiction. Regardless of whether the laws of the foreign
- jurisdiction require the adoption of a plan of nonprofit conversion, the 18
- 19 foreign nonprofit conversion shall be approved by the adoption by the
- domestic business corporation of a plan of nonprofit conversion in the 20
- manner provided in sections 21-2,133 to 21-2,138. 21
- 22 (c) The plan of nonprofit conversion must include:
- (1) The terms and conditions of the conversion; 23
- 24 (2) The manner and basis of reclassifying the shares of the
- 25 corporation following its conversion into memberships, if any,
- securities, obligations, rights to acquire memberships or securities, 26
- cash, other property, or any combination of the foregoing; 27
- (3) Any desired amendments to the articles of incorporation of the 28
- corporation following its conversion; and 29
- (4) If the domestic business corporation is to be converted to a 30
- foreign nonprofit corporation, a statement of the jurisdiction in which 31

- 1 the corporation will be incorporated after the conversion.
- 2 (d) The plan of nonprofit conversion may also include a provision
- 3 that the plan may be amended prior to filing articles of nonprofit
- 4 conversion, except that subsequent to approval of the plan by the
- 5 shareholders the plan may not be amended to change:
- 6 (1) The amount or kind of memberships or securities, obligations,
- 7 rights to acquire memberships or securities, cash, or other property to
- 8 be received by the shareholders under the plan;
- 9 (2) The articles of incorporation as they will be in effect
- 10 immediately following the conversion, except for changes permitted by
- 11 section 21-2,154; or
- 12 (3) Any of the other terms or conditions of the plan if the change
- would adversely affect any of the shareholders in any material respect.
- 14 (e) Terms of a plan of nonprofit conversion may be made dependent
- 15 upon facts objectively ascertainable outside the plan in accordance with
- 16 subsection (k) of section 21-203.
- 17 (f) If any debt security, note, or similar evidence of indebtedness
- 18 for money borrowed, whether secured or unsecured, or a contract of any
- 19 kind, issued, incurred, or signed by a domestic business corporation
- 20 before January 1, 2017 2016, contains a provision applying to a merger of
- 21 the corporation and the document does not refer to a nonprofit conversion
- of the corporation, the provision shall be deemed to apply to a nonprofit
- 23 conversion of the corporation until such time as the provision is amended
- 24 subsequent to that date.
- 25 Sec. 5. Section 21-2,134, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 26 2014, is amended to read:
- 27 21-2,134 (MBCA 9.31) In the case of a conversion of a domestic
- 28 business corporation to a domestic or foreign nonprofit corporation:
- 29 (1) The plan of nonprofit conversion must be adopted by the board of
- 30 directors.
- 31 (2) After adopting the plan of nonprofit conversion, the board of

- 1 directors must submit the plan to the shareholders for their approval.
- 2 The board of directors must also transmit to the shareholders a
- 3 recommendation that the shareholders approve the plan, unless (i) the
- 4 board of directors makes a determination that because of conflicts of
- 5 interest or other special circumstances it should not make such a
- 6 recommendation or (ii) section 21-2,101 applies. If subdivision (2)(i) or
- 7 (ii) of this section applies, the board must transmit to the shareholders
- 8 the basis for so proceeding.
- 9 (3) The board of directors may condition its submission of the plan 10 of nonprofit conversion to the shareholders on any basis.
- 11 (4) If the approval of the shareholders is to be given at a meeting,
- 12 the corporation must notify each shareholder of the meeting of
- 13 shareholders at which the plan of nonprofit conversion is to be submitted
- 14 for approval. The notice must state that the purpose, or one of the
- 15 purposes, of the meeting is to consider the plan and must contain or be
- 16 accompanied by a copy or summary of the plan. The notice shall include or
- 17 be accompanied by a copy of the articles of incorporation as they will be
- in effect immediately after the nonprofit conversion.
- 19 (5) Unless the articles of incorporation, or the board of directors
- 20 acting pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section, requires a greater
- 21 vote or a greater number of votes to be present, approval of the plan of
- 22 nonprofit conversion requires the approval of each class or series of
- 23 shares of the corporation voting as a separate voting group at a meeting
- 24 at which a quorum of the voting group consisting of at least a majority
- 25 of the votes entitled to be cast on the nonprofit conversion by that
- 26 voting group exists.
- 27 (6) If any provision of the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or an
- 28 agreement to which any of the directors or shareholders are parties,
- 29 adopted or entered into before January 1, 2017 2016, applies to a merger,
- 30 other than a provision that eliminates or limits voting or appraisal
- 31 rights, and the document does not refer to a nonprofit conversion of the

- 1 corporation, the provision shall be deemed to apply to a nonprofit
- 2 conversion of the corporation until such time as the provision is amended
- 3 subsequent to that date.
- 4 Sec. 6. Section 21-2,143, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 5 2014, is amended to read:
- 6 21-2,143 (MBCA 9.50) (a) A domestic business corporation may become
- 7 a domestic unincorporated entity pursuant to a plan of entity conversion.
- 8 (b) A domestic business corporation may become a foreign
- 9 unincorporated entity if the entity conversion is permitted by the laws
- 10 of the foreign jurisdiction.
- 11 (c) A domestic unincorporated entity may become a domestic business
- 12 corporation. If the organic law of a domestic unincorporated entity does
- 13 not provide procedures for the approval of an entity conversion, the
- 14 conversion shall be adopted and approved, and the entity conversion
- 15 effectuated, in the same manner as a merger of the unincorporated entity.
- 16 If the organic law of a domestic unincorporated entity does not provide
- 17 procedures for the approval of either an entity conversion or a merger, a
- 18 plan of entity conversion shall be adopted and approved, the entity
- 19 conversion effectuated, and appraisal rights exercised in accordance with
- 20 the procedures in sections 21-2,143 to 21-2,149 and sections 21-2,171 to
- 21 21-2,183. Without limiting the provisions of this subsection, a domestic
- 22 unincorporated entity whose organic law does not provide procedures for
- 23 the approval of an entity conversion shall be subject to subsection (e)
- 24 of this section and subdivision (7) of section 21-2,145. For purposes of
- 25 applying sections 21-2,143 to 21-2,149 and 21-2,171 to 21-2,183:
- 26 (1) The unincorporated entity, its interest holders, interests, and
- 27 organic documents taken together, shall be deemed to be a domestic
- 28 business corporation, shareholders, shares, and articles of
- 29 incorporation, respectively and vice versa, as the context may require;
- 30 and
- 31 (2) If the business and affairs of the unincorporated entity are

- 1 managed by a group of persons that is not identical to the interest
- 2 holders, that group shall be deemed to be the board of directors.
- 3 (d) A foreign unincorporated entity may become a domestic business
- 4 corporation if the organic law of the foreign unincorporated entity
- 5 authorizes it to become a corporation in another jurisdiction.
- 6 (e) If any debt security, note, or similar evidence of indebtedness
- 7 for money borrowed, whether secured or unsecured, or a contract of any
- 8 kind, issued, incurred, or signed by a domestic business corporation
- 9 before January 1, 2017 2016, applies to a merger of the corporation and
- 10 the document does not refer to an entity conversion of the corporation,
- 11 the provision shall be deemed to apply to an entity conversion of the
- 12 corporation until such time as the provision is amended subsequent to
- 13 that date.
- 14 (f) As used in sections 21-2,143 to 21-2,149:
- 15 (1) Converting entity means the domestic business corporation or
- 16 domestic unincorporated entity that adopts a plan of entity conversion or
- 17 the foreign unincorporated entity converting to a domestic business
- 18 corporation; and
- 19 (2) Surviving entity means the corporation or unincorporated entity
- 20 that is in existence immediately after consummation of an entity
- 21 conversion pursuant to sections 21-2,143 to 21-2,149.
- Sec. 7. Section 21-2,145, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 23 2014, is amended to read:
- 24 21-2,145 (MBCA 9.52) In the case of an entity conversion of a
- 25 domestic business corporation to a domestic or foreign unincorporated
- 26 entity:
- 27 (1) The plan of entity conversion must be adopted by the board of
- 28 directors.
- 29 (2) After adopting the plan of entity conversion, the board of
- 30 directors must submit the plan to the shareholders for their approval.
- 31 The board of directors must also transmit to the shareholders a

- 1 recommendation that the shareholders approve the plan unless (i) the
- 2 board of directors makes a determination that because of conflicts of
- 3 interest or other special circumstances it should not make such a
- 4 recommendation or (ii) section 21-2,101 applies. If subdivision (2)(i) or
- 5 (ii) of this section applies, the board must transmit to the shareholders
- 6 the basis for so proceeding.
- 7 (3) The board of directors may condition its submission of the plan
- 8 of entity conversion to the shareholders on any basis.
- 9 (4) If the approval of the shareholders is to be given at a meeting,
- 10 the corporation must notify each shareholder, whether or not entitled to
- 11 vote, of the meeting of shareholders at which the plan of entity
- 12 conversion is to be submitted for approval. The notice must state that
- 13 the purpose, or one of the purposes, of the meeting is to consider the
- 14 plan and must contain or be accompanied by a copy or summary of the plan.
- 15 The notice shall include or be accompanied by a copy of the organic
- 16 documents as they will be in effect immediately after the entity
- 17 conversion.
- 18 (5) Unless the articles of incorporation, or the board of directors
- 19 acting pursuant to subdivision (3) of this section, requires a greater
- 20 vote or a greater number of votes to be present, approval of the plan of
- 21 entity conversion requires the approval of each class or series of shares
- 22 of the corporation voting as a separate voting group at a meeting at
- 23 which a quorum of the voting group consisting of at least a majority of
- 24 the votes entitled to be cast on the conversion by that voting group
- 25 exists.
- 26 (6) If any provision of the articles of incorporation, bylaws, or an
- 27 agreement to which any of the directors or shareholders are parties,
- 28 adopted or entered into before January 1, 2017 2016, applies to a merger
- 29 of the corporation, other than a provision that limits or eliminates
- 30 voting or appraisal rights, and the document does not refer to an entity
- 31 conversion of the corporation, the provision shall be deemed to apply to

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1 an entity conversion of the corporation until such time as the provision

- 2 is subsequently amended.
- 3 (7) If as a result of the conversion one or more shareholders of the
- 4 corporation would become subject to owner liability for the debts,
- 5 obligations, or liabilities of any other person or entity, approval of
- 6 the plan of conversion shall require the signing, by each such
- 7 shareholder, of a separate written consent to become subject to such
- 8 owner liability.
- 9 Sec. 8. Section 21-2,230, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 10 2014, is amended to read:
- 11 21-2,230 (MBCA 17.01) The Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act
- 12 applies to all domestic corporations in existence on January 1, 2017
- 13 2016, that were incorporated under any general statute of this state
- 14 providing for incorporation of corporations for profit if power to amend
- 15 or repeal the statute under which the corporation was incorporated was
- 16 reserved.
- 17 Sec. 9. Section 21-2,231, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
- 18 2014, is amended to read:
- 19 21-2,231 (MBCA 17.02) A foreign corporation authorized to transact
- 20 business in this state on January 1, 2017 2016, is subject to the
- 21 Nebraska Model Business Corporation Act but is not required to obtain a
- 22 new certificate of authority to transact business under the act.
- 23 Sec. 10. Laws 2014, LB749, section 295, is amended to read:
- Sec. 295. This act becomes operative on January 1,  $\underline{2017}$   $\underline{2016}$ .
- 25 Sec. 11. Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 12 of this act
- 26 become operative on January 1, 2017. The other sections of this act
- 27 become operative on their effective date.
- 28 Sec. 12. Original sections 21-245, 21-2,127, 21-2,128, 21-2,133,
- 29 21-2,134, 21-2,143, 21-2,145, 21-2,230, and 21-2,231, Revised Statutes
- 30 Cumulative Supplement, 2014, are repealed.
- 31 Sec. 13. Original Laws 2014, LB749, section 295, is repealed.