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By: Delegates Barve and Brown

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Assigned to: Economic Matters

Committee Report: Favorable with amendments

House action: Adopted

Read second time: March 17, 2001

CHAPTER

1 AN ACT concerning

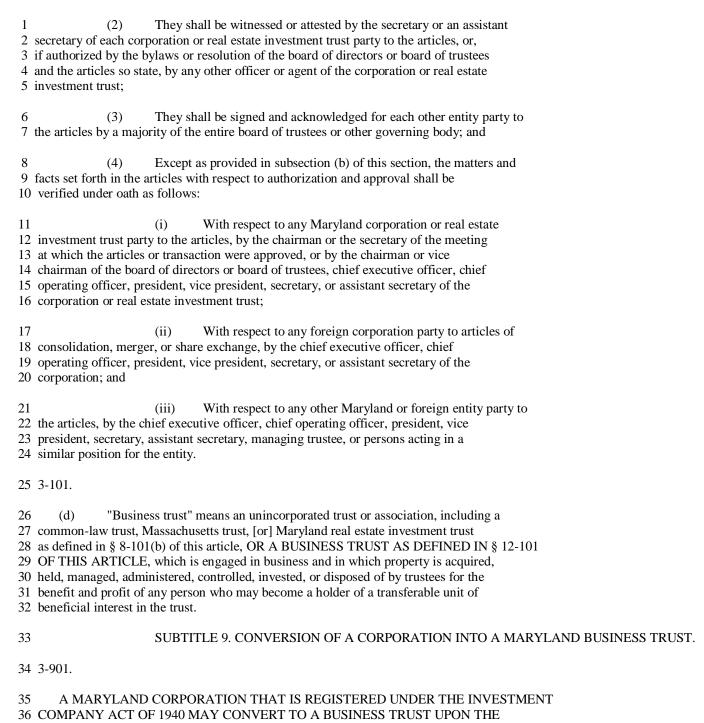
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Maryland and Foreign Business Trusts

- FOR the purpose of authorizing certain Maryland corporations to convert to a
- 4 Maryland business trust; establishing procedures for the conversion;
- 5 establishing a certain fee; providing for the dissolution and winding up of the
- affairs of a series of a Maryland business trust under certain circumstances;
- 7 specifying the procedure for changing the name of the resident agent of a
- 8 Maryland business trust; requiring the certificate of trust of a Maryland
- 9 business trust to contain certain information; altering the manner in which a
- 10 certificate of trust may be amended; establishing a procedure by which a
- certificate of trust may be restated or amended and restated; correcting an
- erroneous reference to the place of filing a certain certificate of cancellation;
- providing for the execution of certain business trust documents pursuant to
- certain authorizations; providing that, to the extent that a trustee has certain
- duties and liabilities to a business trust or a beneficial owner, a trustee acting
- under a governing instrument is not liable to the business trust or a beneficial
- owner for the trustee's good faith reliance on the governing instrument, and that
- the trustee's duties and liabilities may be expanded or restricted in a governing
- instrument; providing that, to the extent that certain persons have certain
- 20 duties and liabilities to a business trust, a beneficial owner, or a trustee, those
- 21 persons acting under a governing instrument are not liable to the business
- trust, a beneficial owner, or a trustee for those persons' good faith reliance on
- 23 the governing instrument, and that those persons' duties and liabilities may be
- 24 expanded or restricted in a governing instrument; providing that beneficial
- 25 owners and trustees may take certain actions without a meeting under certain
- 26 circumstances; providing that beneficial owners and trustees may vote in person
- or by proxy under certain circumstances; clarifying that certain beneficial
- owners have a certain limitation of personal liability; authorizing the governing

1	instrument of a business trust to contain certain provisions with respect to
2	beneficial ownership of income earned on certain securities; authorizing certain
3	property of a business trust to be held in the name of any trustee with the same
4	effect as if the property were held in the name of the business trust under
5	certain circumstances; providing that a creditor of a trustee does not have
6	certain rights with respect to property of the business trust under certain
7	circumstances; clarifying that a business trust has the power to indemnify and
8	hold harmless officers of the business trust from certain claims and demands
9	under certain circumstances; providing that certain trustees of certain business
10	trusts shall be deemed to be independent and disinterested when making
11	certain determinations or taking certain actions; requiring foreign business
12	trusts to register in this State before doing certain business in this State;
13	establishing procedures for registration, issuance of a certificate of registration,
14	and cancellation of registration; providing for forfeiture of the right of a foreign
15	business trust to do business in the State under certain circumstances;
16	requiring a foreign business trust to submit a certain annual report on personal
17	property; authorizing the Attorney General to bring a certain action;
18	establishing certain penalties; establishing procedures for the merger of a
19	foreign business trust with certain other entities; altering certain definitions;
20	defining certain terms; making stylistic changes; clarifying language; and
21	generally relating to Maryland and foreign business trusts.
	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
23	Article - Corporations and Associations
24	Section 1-203(1), 1-301(a), 3-101(d), 4A-101(e), 8-103(a), 8-501.1(a)(2),
25	12-101, 12-102(c), 12-203(c), 12-204, 12-207(a), 12-302(a), 12-303(a),
26	and 12-403
27	Annotated Code of Maryland
28	(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)
	BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
30	Article - Corporations and Associations
31	Section 8-501.1(a)(1)
32	Annotated Code of Maryland
33	(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)
34	BY adding to
35	Article - Corporations and Associations
36	Section 3-901 through 3-907, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 9.
37	Conversion of a Corporation into a Maryland Business Trust"; 12-202(f)
38	and (g), 12-207(c) through (g), 12-303(f) and (g), and 12-404; and 12-901
39	through 12-912, inclusive, to be under the new subtitle "Subtitle 9.
40	Foreign Business Trusts"
41	Annotated Code of Maryland
42	(1999 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

	BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,				
2 3	Article - Tax - Property Section 11-101(a)				
4					
5	(1994 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)				
6 7 N	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:				
8	Article - Corporations and Associations				
9 1	-203.				
10 11 t	In addition to any organization and capitalization fee required under § 1-204 of this article, the Department shall collect the following fees:				
12 13 f	(1) For each of the following documents, the recording fee is \$20 and the filing or special fee is as indicated:				
14	Filing or				
15 l	Document Special Fee				
16	Articles of incorporation none				
17	Articles of amendment none				
18 4	Articles of extension none				
19	Articles of restatement of charter				
20 1	Articles of amendment and restatement none				
21	Articles supplementary none				
22	Articles of share exchange				
	Articles of consolidation, merger, or transfer\$4 for each certificate				
	Articles of dissolution				
	includes the cost of publication of the				
	notice by the Department)				
29	Articles of revival for stock corporation\$30				
30 4	Articles of revival for nonstock corporation				
31	ARTICLES OF CONVERSION TO MARYLAND BUSINESS TRUST NONE				
32	1-301.				
35 t	(a) Articles supplementary and articles of amendment, restatement, restatement and amendment, consolidation, CONVERSION, merger, share exchange, transfer, and extension and, except as provided in § 3-406(b) of this article, articles of dissolution shall be executed as follows:				
39 l	(1) They shall be signed and acknowledged for each corporation or real estate investment trust party to the articles, by its chairman or vice chairman of the board of directors or board of trustees, its chief executive officer, chief operating officer, president or one of its vice presidents;				

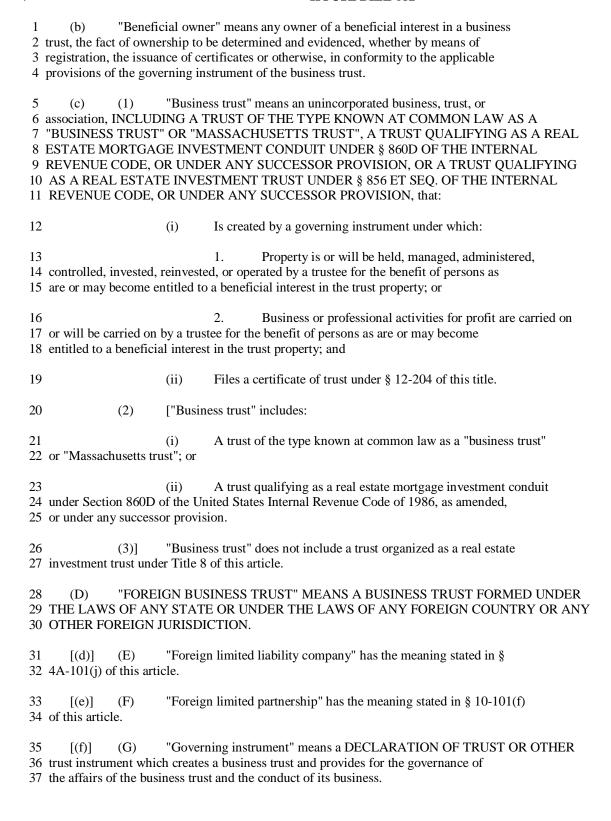


37 AUTHORIZATION OF THE CONVERSION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE.

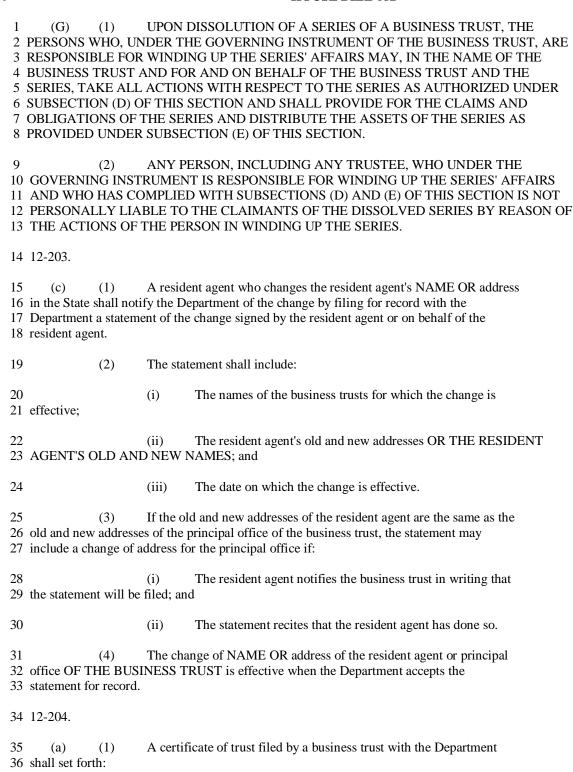
- 1 3-902.
- 2 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION THAT IS CONVERTING
- 3 UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL ADOPT A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE CONVERSION
- 4 AND THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT.
- 5 3-903.
- 6 THE CORPORATION SHALL FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT:
- 7 (1) ARTICLES OF CONVERSION EXECUTED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 1-301 8 OF THIS ARTICLE, WHICH CERTIFY:
- 9 (I) THE NAME OF THE CORPORATION;
- 10 (II) THE DATE OF FILING OF ITS ORIGINAL ARTICLES OF
- 11 INCORPORATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT;
- 12 (III) THE NAME OF THE BUSINESS TRUST INTO WHICH THE
- 13 CORPORATION WILL BE CONVERTED; AND
- 14 (IV) THAT THE CONVERSION AND THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT
- 15 HAVE BEEN APPROVED IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SUBTITLE;
- 16 AND
- 17 (2) THE CERTIFICATE OF TRUST.
- 18 3-904.
- 19 UPON ACCEPTANCE FOR RECORD OF THE ARTICLES OF CONVERSION AND
- 20 CERTIFICATE OF TRUST IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 3-903 OF THIS SUBTITLE AND
- 21 PAYMENT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ALL FEES REQUIRED UNDER § 1-203 OF THIS
- 22 ARTICLE, THE CORPORATION SHALL CEASE TO EXIST AS A MARYLAND CORPORATION
- 23 AND SHALL CONTINUE TO EXIST AS A BUSINESS TRUST AT THE TIME THE ARTICLES
- 24 OF CONVERSION AND CERTIFICATE OF TRUST BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE
- 25 WITH § 1-206 OF THIS ARTICLE.
- 26 3-905.
- 27 THE CONVERSION OF A CORPORATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLES OF
- 28 CONVERSION UNDER THIS SUBTITLE DOES NOT AFFECT ANY OBLIGATIONS OR
- 29 LIABILITIES OF THE CORPORATION INCURRED PRIOR TO THE CONVERSION OR THE
- 30 PERSONAL LIABILITY OF ANY PERSON INCURRED PRIOR TO THE CONVERSION.
- 31 3-906.
- 32 UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN A RESOLUTION OF CONVERSION ADOPTED
- 33 IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE:
- 34 (1) THE CONVERTING CORPORATION IS NOT REQUIRED TO WIND UP ITS
- 35 AFFAIRS OR PAY ITS LIABILITIES AND DISTRIBUTE ITS ASSETS;

- 1 (2)THE CONVERSION DOES NOT CONSTITUTE A DISSOLUTION OR A 2 TRANSFER OF ASSETS OF THE CORPORATION; AND THE CONVERSION CONSTITUTES A CONTINUATION OF THE 4 EXISTENCE OF THE CONVERTING CORPORATION IN THE FORM OF THE BUSINESS 5 TRUST. 6 3-907. 7 A CORPORATION THAT HAS CONVERTED TO A BUSINESS TRUST IN 8 ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT ENGAGE IN ANY TRANSACTION THE 9 EFFECT OF WHICH IS TO CHANGE ITS DOMICILE TO A JURISDICTION OTHER THAN 10 MARYLAND WITHOUT FIRST OBTAINING THE PRIOR APPROVAL OF THE HOLDERS OF 11 AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE OUTSTANDING BENEFICIAL INTERESTS OF THE 12 BUSINESS TRUST ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE MATTER. 13 4A-101. 14 (e) "Business trust" means a business trust or a foreign business trust as 15 defined in § 8-501.1 of this article OR A BUSINESS TRUST OR A FOREIGN BUSINESS 16 TRUST AS DEFINED IN § 12-101 OF THIS ARTICLE. 17 8-103. 18 (a) This title does not limit present law as it applies to the creation of or doing 19 of business in the State by: 20 (1) A "common-law trust"; 21 (2) A "business trust"; [or] 22 A "Massachusetts trust[.]"; OR (3) 23 (4) A BUSINESS TRUST FORMED UNDER § 12-204 OF THIS ARTICLE. 24 8-501.1. 25 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated. 26 "Business trust" means an unincorporated trust or association, (2) 27 including a Maryland real estate investment trust FORMED UNDER THIS TITLE, a 28 common-law trust, [or] a Massachusetts trust, OR A BUSINESS TRUST FORMED 29 UNDER § 12-204 OF THIS ARTICLE, which is engaged in business and in which property 30 is acquired, held, managed, administered, controlled, invested, or disposed of for the 31 benefit and profit of any person who may become a holder of a transferable unit of 32 beneficial interest in the trust.
- 34 (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

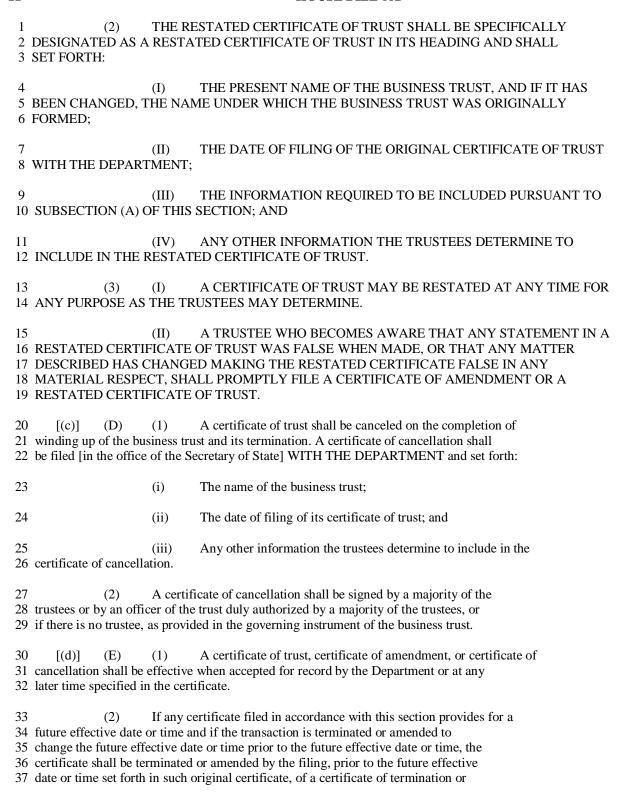
33 12-101.



3	[(g)] (H) (1) "Other business entity" means a corporation, a general or limited partnership, a common-law trust, a limited liability company, a real estate investment trust or corporation, A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST, or any other unincorporated business.
5	(2) "Other business entity" does not include a business trust.
	[(h)] (I) "Person" means a natural person, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company, trust, estate, association, corporation, custodian, nominee or any other individual or entity in its own or any representative capacity.
9 10	[(i)] (J) (1) "Trustee" means the person appointed as a trustee in accordance with the governing instrument of a business trust.
11	(2) "Trustee" may include a beneficial owner of a business trust.
12	12-102.
15	(c) Any business trust qualifying as a real estate mortgage investment conduit under Section 860D of the Internal Revenue Code or any successor provision shall be exempt from income tax except WITH RESPECT TO that portion of its income that is subject to federal income tax.
17	12-202.
20 21	(F) (1) EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT, A SERIES ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 12-207(B) OF THIS TITLE MAY BE DISSOLVED AND ITS AFFAIRS WOUND UP WITHOUT CAUSING THE DISSOLUTION OF THE BUSINESS TRUST OR ANY OTHER SERIES OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.
25 26	(2) (I) UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT, THE DISSOLUTION, WINDING UP, LIQUIDATION, OR TERMINATION OF ANY SERIES OF THE BUSINESS TRUST DOES NOT AFFECT THE LIMITATION OF LIABILITY WITH RESPECT TO A SERIES ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 12-207(B) OF THIS TITLE.
30	(II) A SERIES ESTABLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH § 12-207(B) OF THIS TITLE IS DISSOLVED AND ITS AFFAIRS ARE WOUND UP AT THE TIME OR UPON THE HAPPENING OF EVENTS SPECIFIED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.
34 35 36 37	(3) EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT, THE DEATH, INCAPACITY, DISSOLUTION, TERMINATION, OR BANKRUPTCY OF A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE SERIES DOES NOT RESULT IN THE TERMINATION OR DISSOLUTION OF THE SERIES, AND THE SERIES MAY NOT BE TERMINATED OR REVOKED BY A BENEFICIAL OWNER OF THE SERIES OR OTHER PERSON EXCEPT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE TERMS OF THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.



1		(i)	The name	e of the business trust;		
2		(ii)	The name	e and the business address of the resident agent;		
3 4	State; [and]	(iii)	The addre	ess of the principal office of the business trust in the		
7 8	CERTIFICATE IS A EFFECTIVENESS C	CCEPTE OF THE C	NOT TO EX D FOR RE ERTIFICA	TURE EFFECTIVE DATE OR TIME, WHICH SHALL BE A XCEED 30 DAYS FROM THE DATE ON WHICH THE ECORD BY THE DEPARTMENT, OF THE ATE, IF THE CERTIFICATE IS NOT TO BE THE CERTIFICATE; AND		
10 11	certificate.	[(iv)]	(V) A	Any other matters the trustees determine to include in the		
14	certificate of trust wi	th the De in either	partment o	formed at the time of the filing of the initial or at any later date or time specified in the has been substantial compliance with the		
16	(3)	A certif	icate of trus	ast shall be signed by all of the trustees.		
19	GOVERNING INST	RUMEN g a certific	T OR THE cate of ame	THE EXTENT OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE E CERTIFICATE OF TRUST, A certificate of trust may endment to the certificate of trust with the ent shall set forth:		
21		(i)	The name	e of the business trust; and		
22		(ii)	The amen	ndment to the certificate of trust.		
25 26	A certificate of trust may be amended at any time for any purpose as the trustees may determine. A trustee who becomes aware that any statement in a certificate of trust was false when made or that any matter described has changed making the certificate of trust false in any material respect shall promptly file a certificate of amendment.					
	(3) MAJORITY of the trustees.			nendment shall be signed by [one or more] A cer of the trust duly authorized by a majority of		
33 34 35 36 37	CERTIFICATE OF INTEGRATING IN CERTIFICATE OF OF THERE HAVIN PURSUANT TO SU	TRUST, 1 FO A SIN TRUST V G BEEN BSECTIO ED OR FU	A CERTIF IGLE INST WHICH AR FILED ON ON (B) OF	IE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OR FICATE OF TRUST MAY BE RESTATED BY TRUMENT ALL THE PROVISIONS OF THE RE THEN IN EFFECT AND OPERATIVE AS A RESULT NE OR MORE CERTIFICATES OF AMENDMENT F THIS SECTION, AND THE CERTIFICATE OF TRUST AMENDED BY THE FILING OF A RESTATED		



- 1 amendment of the original certificate, executed and filed in accordance with this title,
- 2 which shall identify the original certificate which has been terminated or amended
- 3 and shall state that the original certificate has been terminated or amended.
- 4 [(e)] (F) (1) The execution of a certificate by a trustee or duly authorized
- 5 officer constitutes an affirmation under the penalties of perjury that, to the best of
- 6 the trustee's or officer's knowledge and belief, the facts stated in the certificate are
- 7 true.
- 8 (2) (I) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING
- 9 INSTRUMENT, ANY PERSON MAY SIGN A CERTIFICATE, AN AMENDMENT OF A
- 10 CERTIFICATE, OR A RESTATEMENT OF A CERTIFICATE, OR ENTER INTO A
- 11 GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OR AN AMENDMENT OF A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT, BY
- 12 ANY AGENT, INCLUDING AN ATTORNEY-IN-FACT.
- 13 (II) AN AUTHORIZATION, INCLUDING A POWER OF ATTORNEY, TO
- 14 SIGN A CERTIFICATE, AN AMENDMENT OF A CERTIFICATE, OR A RESTATEMENT OF A
- 15 CERTIFICATE, OR TO ENTER INTO A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OR AN AMENDMENT
- 16 OF A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT, NEED NOT BE IN WRITING, SWORN TO, VERIFIED, OR
- 17 ACKNOWLEDGED, AND NEED NOT BE FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT, BUT IF AN
- 18 AUTHORIZATION IS IN WRITING, IT MUST BE RETAINED BY THE BUSINESS TRUST, A
- 19 TRUSTEE, OR OTHER PERSON AUTHORIZED TO MANAGE THE BUSINESS AND AFFAIRS
- 20 OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.
- 21 12-207.
- 22 (a) A governing instrument may:
- 23 (1) Provide that a person shall become a beneficial owner and shall
- 24 become bound by the governing instrument if such person, or a representative
- 25 authorized by such person orally, in writing, or by other action such as payment for a
- 26 beneficial interest, complies with the conditions for becoming a beneficial owner set
- 27 forth in the governing instrument or any other writing and acquires a beneficial
- 28 interest:
- 29 (2) Consist of one or more agreements, instruments, or other writings
- 30 and may REFER TO, [include], INCLUDES or incorporate bylaws containing provisions
- 31 relating to the business of the business trust, the conduct of its affairs, and its rights
- 32 or powers or the rights, DUTIES, or powers of its trustees, beneficial owners, agents, or
- 33 employees; and
- 34 (3) Contain any provision that is not inconsistent with law or with the
- 35 information contained in the certificate of trust.
- 36 (C) TO THE EXTENT THAT, AT LAW OR IN EQUITY, A TRUSTEE HAS DUTIES,
- 37 AND LIABILITIES RELATING TO THOSE DUTIES, TO A BUSINESS TRUST OR TO A
- 38 BENEFICIAL OWNER:

- 1 (1) THE TRUSTEE ACTING UNDER A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT IS NOT 2 LIABLE TO THE BUSINESS TRUST OR TO A BENEFICIAL OWNER FOR THE TRUSTEE'S 3 GOOD FAITH RELIANCE ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT; AND
- 4 (2) THE TRUSTEE'S DUTIES AND LIABILITIES MAY BE EXPANDED OR 5 RESTRICTED BY PROVISIONS IN A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT.
- 6 (D) TO THE EXTENT THAT, AT LAW OR IN EQUITY, AN OFFICER, EMPLOYEE,
- 7 MANAGER, OR OTHER PERSON APPOINTED, ELECTED, OR ENGAGED UNDER
- 8 SUBSECTION (B)(7) OF THIS SECTION HAS DUTIES, AND LIABILITIES RELATING TO
- 9 THOSE DUTIES, TO A BUSINESS TRUST, A BENEFICIAL OWNER, OR A TRUSTEE:
- 10 (1) THE OFFICER, EMPLOYEE, MANAGER, OR OTHER PERSON ACTING
- 11 UNDER A GOVERNING INSTRUMENT IS NOT LIABLE TO THE BUSINESS TRUST, A
- 12 BENEFICIAL OWNER, OR A TRUSTEE FOR THE OFFICER'S, EMPLOYEE'S, MANAGER'S,
- 13 OR OTHER PERSON'S GOOD FAITH RELIANCE ON THE PROVISIONS OF THE
- 14 GOVERNING INSTRUMENT; AND
- 15 (2) THE DUTIES AND LIABILITIES OF AN OFFICER, EMPLOYEE,
- 16 MANAGER, OR OTHER PERSON ACTING AS AUTHORIZED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(7) OF
- 17 THIS SECTION MAY BE EXPANDED OR RESTRICTED BY PROVISIONS IN A GOVERNING
- 18 INSTRUMENT.
- 19 (E) IF PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OF A BUSINESS TRUST, ON
- 20 ANY MATTER THAT IS TO BE VOTED ON BY THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS:
- 21 (1) THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS MAY TAKE AN ACTION WITHOUT A
- 22 MEETING, WITHOUT A PRIOR NOTICE, AND WITHOUT A VOTE IF A CONSENT OR
- 23 CONSENTS IN WRITING, SETTING FORTH THE ACTION TAKEN, IS SIGNED BY THE
- 24 BENEFICIAL OWNERS HAVING NOT LESS THAN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF VOTES
- 25 THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO AUTHORIZE OR TAKE THE ACTION AT A MEETING AT
- 26 WHICH ALL INTERESTS IN THE BUSINESS TRUST ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE
- 27 MATTER WERE PRESENT AND VOTED; AND
- 28 (2) THE BENEFICIAL OWNERS MAY VOTE IN PERSON OR BY PROXY.
- 29 (F) IF PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OR BYLAWS OF A
- 30 BUSINESS TRUST, ON ANY MATTER THAT IS TO BE VOTED ON BY THE TRUSTEES:
- 31 (1) THE TRUSTEES MAY TAKE AN ACTION WITHOUT A MEETING,
- 32 WITHOUT A PRIOR NOTICE, AND WITHOUT A VOTE IF A CONSENT OR CONSENTS IN
- 33 WRITING, SETTING FORTH THE ACTION SO TAKEN, IS SIGNED BY THE TRUSTEES
- 34 HAVING NOT LESS THAN THE MINIMUM NUMBER OF VOTES THAT WOULD BE
- 35 NECESSARY TO AUTHORIZE OR TAKE THE ACTION AT A MEETING AT WHICH ALL
- 36 TRUSTEES ENTITLED TO VOTE ON THE MATTER WERE PRESENT AND VOTED; AND
- 37 (2) THE TRUSTEES MAY VOTE IN PERSON OR BY PROXY.
- 38 (G) THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OR BYLAWS OF A BUSINESS TRUST MAY
- 39 PROVIDE FOR THE CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH ONE OR MORE BENEFICIAL OWNERS

- 1 OR TRUSTEES MAY BE ENTITLED TO ATTEND MEETINGS, TO VOTE OR EXECUTE
- 2 WRITTEN CONSENTS, TO SERVE AS A TRUSTEE OR OFFICER OR AS A MEMBER OF ANY
- 3 COMMITTEE OF TRUSTEES, TO RECEIVE COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES, OR TO
- 4 EXERCISE ANY OTHER POWER OR RIGHT UNDER THE LAWS OF THIS STATE OR
- 5 UNDER ANY OTHER LAW TO THE EXTENT NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THE OTHER LAW.
- 6 12-302.
- 7 (a) Except to the extent otherwise provided in the governing instrument of the
- 8 business trust, the beneficial owners shall [be entitled to] HAVE the same limitation
- 9 of personal liability extended to [shareholders] STOCKHOLDERS of a Maryland
- 10 corporation formed under Title 2 of this article.
- 11 12-303.
- 12 (a) (1) Except to the extent otherwise provided in the governing instrument
- 13 of the business trust, a beneficial owner shall have an undivided beneficial interest in
- 14 the property of the business trust and shall share in the profits and losses of the
- 15 business trust in the proportion of the entire undivided beneficial interest in the
- 16 business trust owned by the beneficial owner.
- 17 (2) THE GOVERNING INSTRUMENT OF A BUSINESS TRUST MAY PROVIDE
- 18 THAT THE BUSINESS TRUST OR THE TRUSTEES, ACTING FOR AND ON BEHALF OF THE
- 19 BUSINESS TRUST, SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO HOLD BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ANY
- 20 INCOME EARNED ON SECURITIES OF THE BUSINESS TRUST ISSUED BY ANY
- 21 BUSINESS ENTITIES FORMED, ORGANIZED, OR EXISTING UNDER THE LAWS OF ANY
- 22 JURISDICTION, INCLUDING THE LAWS OF ANY FOREIGN COUNTRY.
- 23 (F) EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THE GOVERNING
- 24 INSTRUMENT OF THE BUSINESS TRUST, LEGAL TITLE TO THE PROPERTY OF THE
- 25 BUSINESS TRUST, OR ANY PART OF THE BUSINESS TRUST, MAY BE HELD IN THE
- 26 NAME OF ANY TRUSTEE OF THE BUSINESS TRUST, IN THE TRUSTEE'S CAPACITY AS A
- 27 TRUSTEE, WITH THE SAME EFFECT AS IF THE PROPERTY WERE HELD IN THE NAME
- 28 OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.
- 29 (G) NO CREDITOR OF A TRUSTEE HAS THE RIGHT TO OBTAIN POSSESSION OF,
- 30 OR OTHERWISE EXERCISE LEGAL OR EQUITABLE REMEDIES WITH RESPECT TO, THE
- 31 PROPERTY OF THE BUSINESS TRUST WITH RESPECT TO ANY CLAIM AGAINST, OR
- 32 OBLIGATION OF, THE TRUSTEE IN THE TRUSTEE'S INDIVIDUAL CAPACITY, AND NOT
- 33 IN A CAPACITY RELATED TO THE BUSINESS TRUST.
- 34 12-403.
- 35 (a) Subject to the standards and restrictions, if any, set forth in the governing
- 36 instrument of a business trust, a business trust shall have the power to indemnify
- 37 and hold harmless any trustee, OFFICER, or other person from and against any and
- 38 all claims and demands.

- 1 (b) Unless otherwise provided by the governing instrument of a business
- 2 trust, a trustee OR OFFICER shall be indemnified to the same extent as a director OR
- 3 OFFICER of a corporation under § 2-418 of this article.
- 4 12-404.
- 5 (A) THIS SECTION APPLIES TO A BUSINESS TRUST THAT IS AN INVESTMENT
- 6 COMPANY, AS DEFINED BY THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940.
- 7 (B) A TRUSTEE OF A BUSINESS TRUST WHO WITH RESPECT TO THE BUSINESS
- 8 TRUST IS NOT AN INTERESTED PERSON, AS DEFINED BY THE INVESTMENT COMPANY
- 9 ACT OF 1940, SHALL BE DEEMED TO BE INDEPENDENT AND DISINTERESTED WHEN
- 10 MAKING ANY DETERMINATION OR TAKING ANY ACTION AS A TRUSTEE.
- 11 SUBTITLE 9. FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUSTS.
- 12 12-901.
- 13 (A) SUBJECT TO THE MARYLAND CONSTITUTION:
- 14 (1) THE LAWS OF THE STATE UNDER WHICH A BUSINESS TRUST IS
- 15 ORGANIZED GOVERN ITS ORGANIZATION, INTERNAL AFFAIRS, AND THE LIABILITY OF
- 16 ITS TRUSTEES; AND
- 17 (2) A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST MAY NOT BE DENIED REGISTRATION BY
- 18 REASON OF ANY DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THOSE LAWS AND THE LAWS OF THIS
- 19 STATE.
- 20 (B) A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST MAY NOT DO ANY KIND OF INTRASTATE,
- 21 INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE WHICH THE LAWS OF THIS
- 22 STATE PROHIBIT A DOMESTIC BUSINESS TRUST FROM DOING.
- 23 12-902.
- 24 (A) BEFORE DOING ANY INTERSTATE, INTRASTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN
- 25 THIS STATE, A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST SHALL REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT.
- 26 (B) TO REGISTER, A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST SHALL SUBMIT TO THE
- 27 DEPARTMENT AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION AS A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST
- 28 EXECUTED BY AN AUTHORIZED PERSON AND SETTING FORTH:
- 29 (1) THE NAME OF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST AND, IF DIFFERENT,
- 30 THE NAME UNDER WHICH IT PROPOSES TO REGISTER AND DO BUSINESS IN THIS
- 31 STATE:
- 32 (2) THE STATE UNDER WHOSE LAWS IT WAS FORMED AND THE DATE OF
- 33 ITS FORMATION;
- 34 (3) THE GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE BUSINESS IT PROPOSES TO
- 35 TRANSACT IN THIS STATE;

- 1 (4) THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF ITS RESIDENT AGENT IN THIS STATE;
- 2 (5) A STATEMENT THAT THE DEPARTMENT IS APPOINTED AS THE
- 3 RESIDENT AGENT OF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST IF NO RESIDENT AGENT HAS
- 4 BEEN DESIGNATED UNDER ITEM (4) OF THIS SUBSECTION OR, IF A RESIDENT AGENT
- 5 HAS BEEN DESIGNATED, THE RESIDENT AGENT'S AUTHORITY HAS BEEN REVOKED
- 6 OR THE RESIDENT AGENT CANNOT BE FOUND OR SERVED WITH THE EXERCISE OF
- 7 REASONABLE DILIGENCE; AND
- 8 (6) THE ADDRESS OF THE OFFICE REQUIRED TO BE MAINTAINED IN THE
- 9 STATE OF ITS ORGANIZATION BY THE LAWS OF THAT STATE OR, IF NOT SO REQUIRED,
- 10 OF THE PRINCIPAL OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS TRUST.
- 11 12-903.
- 12 IF THE DEPARTMENT FINDS THAT AN APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION MEETS
- 13 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS TITLE AND ALL REQUIRED FEES HAVE BEEN PAID, IT
- 14 SHALL:
- 15 (1) ENDORSE ON THE APPLICATION THE DATE AND TIME OF ITS
- 16 ACCEPTANCE FOR RECORD;
- 17 (2) RECORD THE DOCUMENT PROMPTLY;
- 18 (3) ISSUE A CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS
- 19 STATE; AND
- 20 (4) RETURN THE CERTIFICATE OF REGISTRATION TO THE PERSON WHO
- 21 FILED THE APPLICATION OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PERSON WHO FILED THE
- 22 APPLICATION.
- 23 12 904. 12-903.
- 24 A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST MAY REGISTER WITH THE DEPARTMENT UNDER
- 25 ANY NAME, WHETHER OR NOT IT IS THE NAME UNDER WHICH IT IS REGISTERED IN
- 26 ITS STATE OF ORGANIZATION, AS PROVIDED UNDER TITLE 1, SUBTITLE 5 OF THIS
- 27 ARTICLE.
- 28 12-905. 12-904.
- 29 IF ANY STATEMENT IN THE APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF A FOREIGN
- 30 BUSINESS TRUST IS FALSE WHEN MADE OR ANY ARRANGEMENTS OR OTHER FACTS
- 31 DESCRIBED HAVE CHANGED MAKING THE APPLICATION INACCURATE IN ANY
- 32 RESPECT. THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST SHALL PROMPTLY FILE WITH THE
- 33 DEPARTMENT A CERTIFICATE, EXECUTED BY AN AUTHORIZED PERSON,
- 34 CORRECTING THE STATEMENT.

1 12 906. 12-905.

- 2 (A) A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST MAY CANCEL ITS REGISTRATION BY FILING
- 3 WITH THE DEPARTMENT A CERTIFICATE OF CANCELLATION EXECUTED BY AN
- 4 AUTHORIZED PERSON.
- 5 (B) THE FILING OF A CERTIFICATE OF CANCELLATION DOES NOT TERMINATE
- 6 THE AUTHORITY OF THE DEPARTMENT TO ACCEPT SERVICE OF PROCESS ON THE
- 7 FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST WITH RESPECT TO CAUSES OF ACTION ARISING OUT OF
- 8 DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE.

9 12 907. 12-906.

- 10 (A) IF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST IS DOING OR HAS DONE ANY INTRASTATE,
- 11 INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE WITHOUT COMPLYING WITH
- 12 THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST AND ANY
- 13 PERSON CLAIMING UNDER IT MAY NOT MAINTAIN SUIT IN ANY COURT IN THIS
- 14 STATE, UNLESS THE BUSINESS TRUST SHOWS TO THE SATISFACTION OF THE COURT
- 15 THAT:
- 16 (1) THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST OR THE PERSON CLAIMING UNDER
- 17 IT HAS PAID THE PENALTY SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (D)(1) OF THIS SECTION; AND
- 18 (2) (I) THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST OR A SUCCESSOR TO IT HAS
- 19 COMPLIED WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS TITLE; OR
- 20 (II) THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST AND ANY FOREIGN BUSINESS
- 21 TRUST SUCCESSOR TO IT ARE NO LONGER DOING INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE, OR
- 22 FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE.
- 23 (B) THE FAILURE OF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST TO REGISTER IN THIS
- 24 STATE DOES NOT IMPAIR THE VALIDITY OF A CONTRACT OR ACT OF THE FOREIGN
- 25 BUSINESS TRUST OR PREVENT THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST FROM DEFENDING
- 26 ANY ACTION, SUIT, OR PROCEEDING IN A COURT OF THIS STATE.
- 27 (C) A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST, BY DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE
- 28 WITHOUT REGISTRATION, APPOINTS THE DEPARTMENT AS ITS AGENT FOR SERVICE
- 29 OF PROCESS WITH RESPECT TO CAUSES OF ACTION ARISING OUT OF DOING
- 30 BUSINESS IN THIS STATE.
- 31 (D) (I) IF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST DOES ANY INTRASTATE,
- 32 INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE WITHOUT REGISTERING, THE
- 33 DEPARTMENT SHALL IMPOSE A PENALTY OF \$200 ON THE BUSINESS TRUST.
- 34 (II) THE PENALTY UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL BE COLLECTED
- 35 AND MAY BE REDUCED OR ABATED UNDER § 14-704 OF THE TAX-PROPERTY ARTICLE.
- 36 (2) EACH TRUSTEE OF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST THAT DOES
- 37 INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE WITHOUT
- 38 REGISTERING, AND EACH AGENT OF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST WHO

- 1 TRANSACTS INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE FOR IT
- 2 IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO A FINE NOT
- 3 EXCEEDING \$1,000.
- 4 12 908. 12-907.
- 5 THE ATTORNEY GENERAL MAY BRING AN ACTION TO RESTRAIN A FOREIGN
- 6 BUSINESS TRUST FROM DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE IN VIOLATION OF THIS
- 7 SUBTITLE.
- 8 12-909. <u>12-908.</u>
- 9 (A) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY NOT CONSTITUTE
- 10 DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE
- 11 FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES OF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST DO NOT CONSTITUTE
- 12 DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE:
- 13 (1) MAINTAINING, DEFENDING, OR SETTLING AN ACTION, SUIT, CLAIM,
- 14 DISPUTE, OR ADMINISTRATIVE OR ARBITRATION PROCEEDING;
- 15 (2) HOLDING MEETINGS OF ITS TRUSTEES OR AGENTS OR CARRYING ON
- 16 OTHER ACTIVITIES THAT RELATE TO ITS INTERNAL AFFAIRS;
- 17 (3) MAINTAINING BANK ACCOUNTS;
- 18 (4) CONDUCTING AN ISOLATED TRANSACTION NOT IN THE COURSE OF A
- 19 NUMBER OF SIMILAR TRANSACTIONS;
- 20 (5) FORECLOSING MORTGAGES AND DEEDS OF TRUST ON PROPERTY IN
- 21 THIS STATE;
- 22 (6) AS A RESULT OF DEFAULT UNDER A MORTGAGE OR DEED OF TRUST,
- 23 ACQUIRING TITLE TO PROPERTY IN THIS STATE BY FORECLOSURE, DEED IN LIEU OF
- 24 FORECLOSURE, OR OTHERWISE;
- 25 (7) HOLDING, PROTECTING, RENTING, MAINTAINING, AND OPERATING
- 26 PROPERTY IN THIS STATE ACQUIRED AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM (6) OF THIS
- 27 SUBSECTION; OR
- 28 (8) SELLING OR TRANSFERRING TITLE TO PROPERTY IN THIS STATE
- 29 ACQUIRED AS DESCRIBED IN ITEM (6) OF THIS SUBSECTION TO ANY PERSON,
- 30 INCLUDING THE FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION OR THE VETERANS
- 31 ADMINISTRATION.
- 32 (B) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER ACTIVITIES WHICH MAY CONSTITUTE DOING
- 33 BUSINESS IN THIS STATE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SUBTITLE, A FOREIGN
- 34 BUSINESS TRUST THAT OWNS INCOME PRODUCING REAL OR TANGIBLE PERSONAL
- 35 PROPERTY IN THIS STATE, OTHER THAN PROPERTY EXEMPTED BY SUBSECTION (A)
- 36 OF THIS SECTION, SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO BE DOING BUSINESS IN THIS STATE.

- 1 12 910. 12-909.
- 2 BY DOING INTRASTATE, INTERSTATE, OR FOREIGN BUSINESS IN THIS STATE, A
- 3 FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST ASSENTS TO THE LAWS OF THIS STATE.
- 4 12 911. 12-910.

11 12-912. 12-911.

- 5 WITH RESPECT TO A CAUSE OF ACTION AS TO WHICH A FOREIGN BUSINESS
- 6 TRUST WOULD NOT OTHERWISE BE SUBJECT TO SUIT IN THIS STATE, COMPLIANCE
- 7 WITH THIS SUBTITLE:
- 8 (1) DOES NOT OF ITSELF RENDER A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST SUBJECT 9 TO SUIT IN THIS STATE: AND
- 10 (2) IS NOT CONSIDERED AS CONSENT BY IT TO BE SUED IN THIS STATE.
- 12 (A) IF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST THAT OWNS PROPERTY RIGHTS,
- 13 PRIVILEGES, FRANCHISES, OR OTHER ASSETS LOCATED IN THIS STATE IS A PARTY TO
- 14 A MERGER IN WHICH A FOREIGN CORPORATION, FOREIGN LIMITED PARTNERSHIP,
- 15 OR A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST IS THE SUCCESSOR, THE TRANSFER TO, VESTING IN,
- 16 OR DEVOLUTION ON THE SUCCESSOR OF THE PROPERTY RIGHTS, PRIVILEGES.
- 17 FRANCHISES, OR OTHER ASSETS OF THE NONSURVIVING FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST
- 18 IS EFFECTIVE AS PROVIDED BY THE LAWS OF THE PLACE THAT GOVERNS THE
- 19 MERGER.
- 20 (B) THE SUCCESSOR SHALL FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT A CERTIFICATE
- 21 EXECUTED BY AN AUTHORIZED PERSON THAT SPECIFIES:
- 22 (1) EACH COUNTY IN THIS STATE WHERE A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST
- 23 PARTY TO THE MERGER, EXCEPT THE SUCCESSOR, OWNED AN INTEREST IN LAND;
- 24 (2) THE NAME OF EACH PARTY TO THE MERGER;
- 25 (3) THE PLACE UNDER THE LAWS OF WHICH EACH PARTY WAS
- 26 ORGANIZED; AND
- 27 (4) THE NAME OF THE SUCCESSOR.
- 28 (C) IF A COPY OF THE DOCUMENT EFFECTING THE MERGER HAS NOT BEEN
- 29 FILED WITH THE DEPARTMENT AS PROVIDED IN § 12-205 OF THIS TITLE, THE
- 30 SUCCESSOR SHALL FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT AN OFFICIALLY CERTIFIED COPY
- 31 OF THAT DOCUMENT.
- 32 (D) (1) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION,
- 33 WHEN THE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES THE ARTICLES AND ANY CERTIFICATE OF THE
- 34 SUCCESSOR, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PREPARE AND FILE CERTIFICATES OF
- 35 MERGER IN THE MANNER PROVIDED FOR A BUSINESS TRUST.

1 THE CERTIFICATE OF MERGER NEED NOT STATE THE PRINCIPAL (2)2 OFFICE IN THE STATE OF ANY BUSINESS TRUST THAT DOES NOT HAVE A PRINCIPAL 3 OFFICE, AND THE CERTIFICATE OF MERGER SHALL INCLUDE OTHER INFORMATION 4 SPECIFIED IN THE CERTIFICATE FILED BY THE SUCCESSOR. 5 12-912. THE DEPARTMENT MAY FORFEIT THE RIGHT OF ANY FOREIGN BUSINESS 6 (A) 7 TRUST TO DO BUSINESS IN THE STATE IF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST FAILS TO 8 FILE WITH THE DEPARTMENT ANY REPORT OR FAILS TO PAY ANY LATE FILING FEE 9 REQUIRED BY LAW: 10 <u>(1)</u> WITHIN THE TIME REQUIRED BY LAW; AND 11 THEREAFTER, WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DEPARTMENT MAKES A 12 WRITTEN DEMAND FOR THE DELINOUENT REPORT OR LATE FILING PENALTIES. UNLESS THE DEPARTMENT EXCUSES A REASONABLE DELAY FOR GOOD 13 14 CAUSE SHOWN, THE FORFEITURE IS EFFECTIVE 15 DAYS AFTER WRITTEN NOTICE OF 15 FORFEITURE FROM THE DEPARTMENT, WITHOUT PROCEEDINGS OF ANY KIND 16 EITHER AT LAW OR EQUITY. 17 THE DEMAND FOR A DELINQUENT REPORT OR LATE FILING PENALTIES 18 AND THE NOTICE OF FORFEITURE SHALL BE ADDRESSED TO THE FOREIGN BUSINESS 19 TRUST: AT THE ADDRESS OF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST ON FILE WITH 21 THE DEPARTMENT; OR 22 (2) IF THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST HAS NO ADDRESS ON FILE WITH 23 THE DEPARTMENT, IN CARE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE OR CORRESPONDING 24 OFFICIAL OF THE PLACE WHERE THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST WAS CHARTERED 25 OR IS EXISTING, IF KNOWN TO THE DEPARTMENT. ON FORFEITURE OF THE RIGHT OF A FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST TO DO 27 BUSINESS IN THIS STATE, THE FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST IS SUBJECT TO THE SAME 28 RULES, LEGAL PROVISIONS, AND SANCTIONS AS IF IT HAD NEVER QUALIFIED OR 29 BEEN LICENSED TO DO BUSINESS IN THIS STATE. 30 **Article - Tax - Property** 31 11-101. 32 On or before April 15 of each year, a person shall submit a report on 33 personal property to the Department if: (1) the person is a business trust, domestic corporation, limited liability 35 company, limited liability partnership, or limited partnership;

- 1 (2) the person is a FOREIGN BUSINESS TRUST, foreign corporation,
 2 foreign limited liability company, foreign limited liability partnership, or foreign
 3 limited partnership registered or qualified to do business in the State; or

- the person owns or during the preceding calendar year owned
- 5 property that is subject to property tax.
- 6 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 7 June October 1, 2001.