By: Senator Rosapepe
Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2020
Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Financial Institutions – Consumer Protection – Money Transmissions and
Virtual Currencies

FOR the purpose of adding certain sources of revenue required to be credited to the
Nondepository Special Fund; requiring the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to
pay certain fines and penalties into the General Fund of the State; altering certain
provisions on the regulation of money transmission by the Commissioner;
authorizing the Commissioner to identify certain activities as money transmission
for certain purposes; establishing licensing requirements for certain money
transmission locations; altering the information that certain applicants are required
to provide; altering the licensing fees for certain locations; requiring certain licensees
to include a certain notice in certain mobile applications and locations; altering the
factors the Commissioner is required to consider in setting the amount of a certain
bond or deposit; authorizing the Commissioner to adopt certain regulations;
repealing the requirements to report certain information to the Commissioner;
requiring certain licensees to submit to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing and
Registry System (NMLS) certain reports required by NMLS; altering the period in
which authorized delegates must remit or deposit funds under certain
circumstances; requiring a certain licensee to maintain in a record policies and
procedures for certain compliance programs; requiring certain licensing revenue to
be credited and used in a certain manner; prohibiting a certain person from providing
currency exchange services unless the person has a certain license or is an exempt
entity; requiring a separate license for certain business locations; requiring a certain
license applicant or licensee to provide certain information to NMLS; establishing
certain eligibility qualifications for a certain license; requiring a certain license
applicant or licensee to provide certain fingerprints to NMLS under certain
circumstances and for a certain purpose; requiring a certain license applicant or
licensee to pay a certain fee; providing for the application of certain provisions of this
Act; extending certain privacy and confidentiality requirements to certain
information provided to NMLS under certain circumstances; extending certain
privileges to certain information provided to NMLS; authorizing the sharing of

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
certain information or material provided to NMLS with certain entities; superseding
certain provisions of law relating to the disclosure of certain information or material;
requiring an applicant for a certain license to apply in a certain manner and include
certain information in an application; requiring an applicant for a certain license to
pay certain fees to the Commissioner and NMLS; requiring separate license
applications and fees for certain business locations; subjecting a person who makes
a certain false statement on a certain application to certain penalties of perjury;
establishing the date on which certain license applications must be submitted
through NMLS; requiring the Commissioner to determine the fitness of an applicant
to receive a license in a certain manner; requiring, under certain circumstances, the
Commissioner to approve or deny an application within a certain time period;
requiring the Commissioner to issue a certain license to any applicant who meets
certain requirements; requiring the Commissioner to take certain actions if a license
applicant does not meet certain requirements; requiring the Commissioner to provide a certain notice to a certain applicant of a denied application within a certain
number of days in a certain manner; requiring the Commissioner to include certain
information on a certain license; establishing that a certain license authorizes the
licensee to provide currency exchange services in a certain manner; authorizing the
Commissioner to issue more than one license under certain circumstances;
authorizing a certain licensee to surrender a license by sending a certain statement
to the Commissioner in a certain manner; prohibiting the Commissioner from
refunding any part of a certain license fee if a license is surrendered under certain
circumstances; establishing that surrender of a certain license does not affect certain
liability for certain acts; establishing the initial term of a certain license; authorizing
the renewal of a certain license under certain circumstances; establishing the
renewal term of a certain license; prohibiting the transfer of a certain license;
requiring a licensee to display a certain license in a certain manner; prohibiting a
licensee from changing the location for which a license is issued unless the licensee
provides certain notice to and receives certain consent from the Commissioner;
requiring the Commissioner to send a certain licensee an amended license under
certain circumstances; requiring a licensee to keep certain books and records for a
certain period of time and in a certain manner; authorizing a certain licensee to
retain certain records at any location under certain circumstances; requiring a
certain licensee to retain a certain register of certain currency exchange services;
authorizing the Commissioner to investigate and access certain records and business
operations in a certain manner; authorizing the Commissioner to examine a certain
person under oath; requiring a certain licensee to comply with certain laws
concerning money laundering; requiring a licensee to post a notice of exchange rates
and fees for currency exchange services at certain places of business and on a certain
website in a certain manner; requiring a certain licensee to provide a customer with
a certain receipt; requiring a certain licensee to maintain certain amounts of virtual
currency under certain circumstances; prohibiting a licensee from providing
currency exchange services to a customer unless the licensee is in full compliance
with certain laws and the customer presents certain identification; prohibiting a
licensee or person from engaging in certain activities while conducting virtual
exchange services; authorizing the Commissioner to enforce certain provisions of this
Act by issuing certain orders; authorizing the Commissioner to suspend or revoke
certain licenses under certain circumstances; establishing certain criteria for the
Commissioner to consider in determining whether to suspend or revoke a certain
license; requiring the Commissioner to provide a certain licensee certain notice and
an opportunity for a certain hearing before the Commissioner takes certain action;
requiring the Commissioner to report certain alleged criminal violations to certain
entities; establishing that a certain penalty applies to a violation of certain
provisions of law; authorizing the Commissioner to impose a certain civil penalty
against a person who violates certain provisions of law; requiring the Commissioner
to consider certain factors in determining a certain civil penalty; authorizing a
person who is injured by a violation of certain provisions of law to bring certain
actions; authorizing a court to award certain damages, fees, and costs to a certain
plaintiff; providing that certain provisions of law may not be construed to affect a
certain jurisdiction of the Securities Commissioner; requiring the Maryland Office of
the Attorney General and the Office of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation to
review certain model legislation and report to certain committees of the General
Assembly on certain findings on or before a certain date; extending the Maryland
Financial Consumer Protection Commission until a certain date; requiring the
Maryland Financial Consumer Protection Commission to assess the impact of
certain financial services issues; requiring the Maryland Financial Consumer
Protection Commission to report certain findings and recommendations to the
General Assembly on or before a certain date; providing for the application of certain
provisions of law; defining certain terms; altering and repealing certain definitions;
providing for the effective dates of this Act; making conforming and technical
changes; and generally relating to virtual currencies and financial consumer
protection.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 12–401(a), (p), and (q)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 12–401(m), (n), (s), and (t), 12–404(a), 12–405(b) and (c), 12–407(b)(2), (6),
and (7), (f), and (h), 12–410(e)(3), 12–411(a) and (c), 12–412(d)(2),
12–413(a)(2), 12–414(d)(1), 12–415(c)(2), 12–416, 12–418, 12–422(a)(2),
12–425(a)(1), (5), and (6), 12–427, and 12–430.1
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 12–401(o) and (r)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)
BY adding to
Article – Financial Institutions
Section 12–401(g–1), (r), and (s), 12–407(b)(7), and 12–425(d); and 12–1101 through
12–1129 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 11. Currency Exchanges”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2011 Replacement Volume and 2019 Supplement)

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 18 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017
Section 1(f) and (h) and 2

BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Chapter 781 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2017
Section 1(f) and (h) and 2

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Financial Institutions

12–401.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(G–1) “CURRENCY” HAS THE MEANING STATED IN 31 C.F.R. § 1010.100(M).

(m) (1) “Money transmission” means ENGAGING IN the business of selling or
issuing payment instruments or stored value devices, PREPAID ACCESS or receiving
[money or monetary value, for transmission] CURRENCY, FUNDS, OR OTHER VALUE
THAT SUBSTITUTES FOR CURRENCY AND TRANSFERRING CURRENCY, FUNDS, OR
OTHER VALUE THAT SUBSTITUTES FOR CURRENCY to ANOTHER PERSON OR a location
within or outside the United States by any means, including electronically [or], through
the Internet, THROUGH A MOBILE APPLICATION, THROUGH A NETWORK OF PERSONS,
OR THROUGH AN INFORMAL VALUE TRANSFER SYSTEM.

(2) “MONEY TRANSMISSION” INCLUDES ANY OTHER ACTIVITY THAT
THE COMMISSIONER IDENTIFIES AS MONEY TRANSMISSION BY REGULATION.

(N) (1) “MONEY TRANSMITTER” MEANS A PERSON THAT ENGAGES IN
MONEY TRANSMISSION THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE,
WHETHER OR NOT THE PERSON MAINTAINS A LICENSE.

(2) “Money [transmission”] TRANSMITTER” includes:

(i) A bill payer service; AND
(ii) An accelerated mortgage payment service; and

(iii) Any informal money transfer system engaged in as a business for, or network of persons who engage as a business in, facilitating the transfer of money outside the conventional financial institutions system to a location within or outside the United States.

[n] (O) “Outstanding payment instrument” means a payment instrument that has been sold or issued in the United States directly by a licensee or an authorized delegate of a licensee that has been reported as not yet paid by or for the licensee.

(o) “Nationwide licensing system” means a multistate uniform licensing system developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, or by a subsidiary or an affiliate of the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, for the licensing of money services businesses, including money transmitters.

(p) (1) “Payment instrument” means any electronic or written check, draft, money order, traveler’s check, or other electronic or written instrument or order for the transmission or payment of money, sold or issued to one or more persons, whether or not the instrument is negotiable.

(2) “Payment instrument” does not include any credit card voucher, letter of credit, or tangible object redeemable by the issuer in goods or services.

(q) “Permissible investment” means:

(1) Cash;

(2) Unless found by the Commissioner to be unacceptable, a certificate of deposit or other debt obligation, except a capital note, of a State–chartered or federally chartered financial institution, other–state bank, or foreign bank that:

(i) Is located in this State or maintains a branch in this State; and

(ii) Is authorized to maintain deposit or share accounts;

(3) Unless found by the Commissioner to be unacceptable:

(i) Obligations of or guaranteed by the United States, its departments, agencies, or instrumentalities, or obligations of any state, territory, or municipality or any political subdivision of any state, territory, or municipality;

(ii) Any investment securities, money market mutual fund, interest–bearing bills or notes, debentures or stock traded on any national securities exchange or on a national over–the–counter market bearing a rating of one of the three highest grades as defined by a nationally recognized organization that rates such securities;
and

(iii) Any demand borrowing agreement or agreements in an amount
or aggregate amount which does not exceed 10% of the net worth of the company liable for
payment under the agreement or agreements as shown on financial statements certified by
a certified public accountant acceptable to the Commissioner, provided that the company
is a corporation or a subsidiary of a corporation whose capital stock is listed on a national
exchange and is not a licensee or authorized delegate of a licensee under this subtitle;

(4) Receivables that are due to a licensee from its authorized delegates
under a contract described in § 12–413 of this subtitle that are not past due or doubtful of
collection; or

(5) Any other investment that the Commissioner approves.

[(r) (1) “Stored value device” means a card or other tangible object used for the
transmission or payment of money:

(i) That contains a microprocessor chip, magnetic stripe, or other
means for the storage of information;

(ii) That is prefunded; and

(iii) The value of which is reduced after each use.

(2) “Stored value device” does not include any tangible object the value of
which is redeemable only in the issuer’s goods or services.]

(R) (1) “PREPAID ACCESS” MEANS ACCESS TO FUNDS OR THE VALUE OF
FUNDS THAT HAVE BEEN PAID IN ADVANCE AND CAN BE RETRIEVED OR
TRANSFERRED AT A POINT IN THE FUTURE THROUGH AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE OR
VEHICLE INCLUDING:

(I) A CARD;

(II) A CODE;

(III) AN ELECTRONIC SERIAL NUMBER;

(IV) A MOBILE IDENTIFICATION NUMBER; AND

(V) A PERSONAL IDENTIFICATION NUMBER.

(2) “PREPAID ACCESS” DOES NOT INCLUDE ACCESS TO FUNDS OR
THE VALUE OF FUNDS THAT CAN BE REDEEMED ONLY IN THE ISSUER’S GOODS OR
SERVICES.

(S) “SELF–SERVICE FINANCIAL KIOSK” MEANS A STAND–ALONE AUTOMATED PLATFORM THROUGH WHICH A CONSUMER MAY OBTAIN MONEY TRANSMISSION SERVICES.

[(s)] (T) “Surety device” means:

(1) A surety bond; or

(2) A deposit in lieu of a surety bond.

[(t)] (U) “Unique identifier” means a number or another identifier assigned by the nationwide licensing system.

12–404.

(a) All revenue received for the licensing of [persons] MONEY TRANSMITTERS under this subtitle and any other fee, examination assessment, or revenue received by the Commissioner under this subtitle shall be:

(1) Credited to the Nondepository Special Fund established under § 11–610 of this article; and

(2) Used in accordance with § 11–610(c) of this article.

12–405.

(b) Each licensee or license applicant shall obtain and maintain a valid unique identifier issued by [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS:

(1) On forming an account with [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS on or after November 1, 2012; or

(2) If the Commissioner has not joined [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS as of November 1, 2012, on or after the date that the Commissioner joins, as specified by the Commissioner by public notice.

(c) An applicant for an initial license or a license renewal shall apply for the license or renewal through [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS:

(1) On or after November 1, 2012; or

(2) If the Commissioner has not joined [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS as of November 1, 2012, on or after the date that the Commissioner joins, as specified by the Commissioner by public notice.
(b) An applicant shall provide:

(2) The address of the principal executive office of the applicant, [and] each branch location, AND EACH SELF–SERVICE KIOSK;

(6) A history of material litigation against the applicant, if any, for the past 3 years; [and]

(7) INFORMATION THAT SATISFIES THE COMMISSIONER THAT THE APPLICANT HAS CREATED IN A RECORD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES FOR THE COMPLIANCE PROGRAMS REQUIRED UNDER § 12–425(D) OF THIS SUBTITLE; AND

Any other information that the Commissioner reasonably requires.

(f) In addition to the license fee required under subsection (e) of this section, an applicant for an initial license shall pay to [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS the fee that [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS imposes in connection with processing the application.

(h) (1) In addition to any license required under §§ 12–405 and 12–410 of this subtitle, each [person who engages in the business of] money [transmission] TRANSMITTER shall obtain and maintain a license for its principal executive office.

(2) For each branch location license for which an applicant applies, the applicant shall:

(i) Submit a separate application;

(ii) Pay a separate nonrefundable license fee OF $1,000; and

(iii) Pay the application processing fee that [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS imposes in connection with processing the application for the branch location.

(3) FOR EACH SELF–SERVICE FINANCIAL KIOSK LICENSE FOR WHICH AN APPLICANT APPLIES, THE APPLICANT SHALL:

(I) SUBMIT A SEPARATE APPLICATION;

(II) PAY A SEPARATE NONREFUNDABLE LICENSE FEE OF $500; AND
(iii) Pay the application processing fee that NMLS imposes in connection with processing the application for the self-service financial kiosk.

(4) If an applicant has or is applying for more than one license, the applicant may comply with subsection (g) of this section by filing evidence of only one surety device.

[(4)] (5) If an applicant has or is applying for more than one license, the applicant is not required to pay a separate investigation fee.

12–410.

(e) (3) A licensee that offers Internet money transmission services shall include the following notice on [its Web site] ANY WEBSITE OR MOBILE APPLICATION OR ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE SELF-SERVICE FINANCIAL KIOSK:

“The Commissioner of Financial Regulation for the State of Maryland will accept all questions or complaints from Maryland residents regarding (name of licensee, license number, and unique identifier) at (address of Commissioner), phone (toll-free phone number of the Commissioner)”.

12–411.

(a) Subject to any regulations the Commissioner adopts in connection with the transition to [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS, an initial license term shall:

(1) Begin on the day the license is issued; and

(2) Expire on December 31 of the year:

(i) The license is issued, if the license is issued before November 1; or

(ii) Succeeding the year that the license is issued, if the license is issued on or after November 1.

(c) In addition to the license renewal fee required under subsection (b)(3) of this section, an applicant for a license renewal shall pay to [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS the fee that [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS imposes in connection with the renewal application.

12–412.

(d) (2) In setting the amount of the surety bond or the deposit in lieu of a surety
bond, the Commissioner shall consider:

(i) The financial condition of the licensee or applicant;

(ii) For a licensee, the average monthly [outstanding payment instruments or] outstanding money transmission liability for the previous 12 months;

(iii) For an applicant, the projected monthly [payment instrument sales and] money transmission volume in the State, the business experience, and any other factor deemed appropriate; and

(iv) The potential loss of [buyers and holders of payment instruments or] MONEY TRANSMISSION BY persons for whom or to whom money is transmitted if the applicant or licensee becomes financially impaired.

12–413.

(a) (2) Each licensee under this subtitle is liable for the payment of all money [transmitted and payment instruments sold] TRANSMISSIONS by the licensee, in whatever form, directly or through an authorized delegate.

12–414.

(d) (1) All funds received by an authorized delegate from [the sale of a payment instrument] MONEY TRANSMISSION SERVICES, less fees, shall constitute trust funds belonging to the licensee from the time the funds are received by the authorized delegate until the time when the funds are remitted to the licensee.

12–415.

(c) In addition to any sanctions that may be imposed by the Commissioner under this subtitle, a licensee who fails to provide in a timely manner the notice required under subsection (a)(1) or (b)(1) of this section shall:

(2) [Apply] FOR A LICENSEE WHO FAILS TO PROVIDE THE NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER SUBSECTION (B)(1) OF THIS SECTION IN A TIMELY MANNER, FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER AN APPLICATION for a new license, together with all appropriate application and investigation fees.

12–416.

(a) Within 45 days of the end of each calendar semiannual period ending June 30 and December 31, the licensee shall file with the Commissioner a report that includes the following information on a form that the Commissioner requires:

(1) An unaudited, unconsolidated financial statement, including a balance
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sheet, income statement, statement of changes in equity, and statement of cash flows;

(2) A schedule of the permissible investments that the licensee holds as required under § 12–418 of this subtitle;

(3) A statement of outstanding payment instruments;

(4) A report of all authorized delegates that includes:

(i) An alphabetical list of all currently authorized delegates appointed by the licensee that includes the name, business address, business phone number, and business electronic mail address, if known to the licensee, of each authorized delegate;

(ii) An alphabetical list of all authorized delegates appointed by the licensee during the previous 6 months that includes the name, business address, business phone number, business electronic mail address, if known to the licensee, and date of appointment of each authorized delegate; and

(iii) An alphabetical list of all authorized delegates terminated by the licensee during the previous 6 months that includes the name, business address, business phone number, business electronic mail address, if known to the licensee, and date of termination of each authorized delegate; and

(5) A statement under oath by an executive officer of the licensee certifying the information to be true based on the executive officer’s knowledge of the matters in the report.

(b) On or before 120 days after the close of the fiscal year of the licensee, each licensee shall file with the Commissioner an annual report that:

(1) Includes financial statements of the licensee audited by a certified public accountant and prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles for the previous calendar year;

(2) States the number and aggregate dollar amount of payment instruments issued or sold and the aggregate number and dollar amount of money transmissions during the previous calendar year;

(3) Contains any other information the Commissioner reasonably requires;

(4) Is on a form that the Commissioner requires; and

(5) Is signed by an executive officer of the licensee who certifies under oath that the information in the report is true based on the executive officer’s knowledge of the matters in the report.]
(A) A licensee shall submit to NMLS a call report once each quarter on the date, in the form, and containing the information that NMLS requires.

[c)(B) (1) Within 15 days after the occurrence of any of the following events, a licensee shall file a written report with the Commissioner describing the event and its expected impact on the licensee’s activities in the State:

(i) The filing for bankruptcy or reorganization by the licensee;

(ii) The institution of revocation or suspension proceedings against the licensee by any state or governmental authority with regard to the licensee’s money transmission activities in any state;

(iii) Any felony indictment or conviction of the licensee or any of its officers or directors related to money transmission activities;

(iv) The commencement of any civil action by a buyer or holder of a payment instrument or person for whom or to whom money is transmitted against a licensee; and

(v) The filing of any material litigation against the licensee.

(2) The written report required under paragraph (1) of this subsection shall be [sent] SUBMITTED to the Commissioner [by certified mail, return receipt requested, bearing a postmark from the United States Postal Service, within 10 days after the action is begun and include details sufficient to identify the event] THROUGH NMLS.

(C) A licensee shall submit to NMLS the Uniform Authorized Agent Reporting once each quarter on the date that NMLS requires.

(d) A licensee promptly shall file with the Commissioner any demand borrowing agreement or agreements into which the licensee may enter as a permissible investment or a deposit in lieu of a surety bond.

12–418.

(a) (1) Subject to the provisions of paragraph (2) of this subsection, a licensee shall have at all times permissible investments having an aggregate market value, calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, of not less than the aggregate face amount of all outstanding [payment instruments issued or sold] MONEY TRANSMISSIONS CONDUCTED by the licensee in the United States.

(2) The requirement imposed under paragraph (1) of this subsection may be waived by the Commissioner if the dollar volume of a licensee’s outstanding [payment instruments] MONEY TRANSMISSIONS does not exceed the surety device filed in
accordance with § 12–412 of this subtitle.

(b) (1) [A] EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, a licensee shall require each authorized delegate, within 48 hours after the next regular business day after the authorized delegate receives the proceeds from a money transmission, to remit the proceeds to the licensee or the licensee’s authorized representative, or deposit the proceeds in the licensee’s account with a financial institution.

(2) A LICENSEE SHALL REQUIRE EACH AUTHORIZED DELEGATE WHO SELLS PREPAID ACCESS, WITHIN 5 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER THE NEXT REGULAR BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE AUTHORIZED DELEGATE RECEIVES THE PROCEEDS FROM THE SALE OF PREPAID ACCESS, TO:

(I) REMIT THE PROCEEDS TO THE LICENSEE OR THE LICENSEE’S AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE; OR

(II) DEPOSIT THE PROCEEDS IN THE LICENSEE’S ACCOUNT WITH A FINANCIAL INSTITUTION.

c) Deposit by the authorized delegate in an account with a financial institution of funds in advance of money transmissions, but in an amount not less than the amount that the authorized delegate would normally receive from money transmissions, constitutes compliance with this section.

12–422.

(a) (2) The statement shall provide a listing, by identifying number, face amount, and place of issue, of all outstanding [payment instruments] MONEY TRANSMISSIONS, and the reasons for the license surrender.

12–425.

(a) Each licensee shall make and preserve the following books, accounts, and records for a period of at least 3 years:

(1) A record of each [payment instrument sold or issued] MONEY TRANSMISSION CONDUCTED;

(5) Records of outstanding [payment instruments] MONEY TRANSMISSIONS;

(6) Records of each [payment instrument paid] MONEY TRANSMISSION CONDUCTED within the 3–year period;

(D) A LICENSEE SHALL MAINTAIN IN A RECORD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES
FOR THE FOLLOWING PROGRAMS:

(1) AN INFORMATION SECURITY AND OPERATIONAL SECURITY PROGRAM;

(2) A BUSINESS CONTINUITY PROGRAM;

(3) A DISASTER RECOVERY PROGRAM;

(4) AN ANTIFRAUD PROGRAM;

(5) AN ANTI–MONEY–LAUNDERING PROGRAM; AND

(6) A PROGRAM TO PREVENT FUNDING OF TERRORIST ACTIVITY.

12–427.

A [person that engages in the business of] money [transmission] TRANSMITTER is subject to the enforcement provisions of §§ 2–114 through 2–116 of this article if the [person] MONEY TRANSMITTER:

(1) Is not licensed under this subtitle; or

(2) Is not an authorized delegate of a licensee.

12–430.1.

(a) (1) Notwithstanding Title 4, Subtitles 1 through 5 of the General Provisions Article, and subject to § 12–408.1 of this subtitle, the Commissioner shall report adjudicated enforcement actions against a money transmitter or its authorized delegate and other relevant information to [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS.

(2) The Commissioner shall adopt regulations establishing a process by which a licensee or an applicant for a license may challenge information entered by the Commissioner into [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS.

(b) The Commissioner may submit to [the nationwide licensing system] NMLS information regarding enforcement actions against [persons engaged in the] money [transmission business] TRANSMITTERS who are not licensees or authorized delegates.

SUBTITLE 11. CURRENCY EXCHANGES.

12–1101.

(A) IN THIS SUBTITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS
(B) “Branch location” means any location other than the principal executive office of a licensee or license applicant at which the licensee conducts, or the license applicant, on licensure, will conduct, activities for which a license is required under this subtitle.

(C) “Control” has the meaning stated in § 12–401 of this title.

(D) “Control of virtual currency” means:

(1) When used in reference to a transaction or relationship involving virtual currency, the power to execute unilaterally or prevent indefinitely a virtual currency; and

(2) When used in reference to a person, the direct or indirect power to direct the management, operations, or policies of the person through legal or beneficial voting power in the person or under a contract, agreement, or an understanding.

(E) (1) “Control person” means a person that has the power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a licensee or license applicant, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise.

(2) “Control person” includes a person that:

(I) is a general partner, an officer, a director, or a member, or occupies a similar position or performs a similar function;

(II) directly or indirectly has the right to vote 5% or more of a class of voting securities, or has the power to sell or direct the sale of 5% or more of a class of voting securities, of a licensee or license applicant; or

(III) in the case of a partnership, a limited partnership, a limited liability partnership, a limited liability company, or any other business entity:

1. has the right to receive on liquidation or dissolution of a licensee or license applicant 5% or more of the capital of the licensee or license applicant; or
2. HAS CONTRIBUTED 5% OR MORE OF THE CAPITAL OF A LICENSEE OR LICENSE APPLICANT.

(F) "CURRENCY" has the meaning stated in 31 C.F.R. § 1010.100(m).

(G) "CURRENCY EXCHANGE SERVICES" MEANS:

(1) RECEIPT OF REVENUES FROM THE EXCHANGE OF CURRENCY OF ONE GOVERNMENT FOR CURRENCY OF ANOTHER GOVERNMENT; OR

(2) THE ASSUMED CONTROL OF VIRTUAL CURRENCY FROM OR ON BEHALF OF A PERSON, AT LEAST MOMENTARILY, TO SELL, TRADE, OR CONVERT:

   (I) VIRTUAL CURRENCY FOR CURRENCY, BANK CREDIT, OR ONE OR MORE FORMS OF VIRTUAL CURRENCY; OR

   (II) CURRENCY OR BANK CREDIT FOR ONE OR MORE FORMS OF VIRTUAL CURRENCY.

(H) "EXEMPT ENTITY" MEANS AN ENTITY THAT IS EXEMPT FROM ALL REQUIREMENTS OF LICENSING UNDER § 12–1102(B) AND (C) OF THIS SUBTITLE.

(I) "LICENSE" MEANS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT REQUIRES OTHERWISE, A LICENSE ISSUED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO PROVIDE CURRENCY EXCHANGE SERVICES.

(J) "LICENSEE" MEANS, UNLESS THE CONTEXT REQUIRES OTHERWISE, A PERSON THAT IS LICENSED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO PROVIDE CURRENCY EXCHANGE SERVICES.

(K) "UNIQUE IDENTIFIER" MEANS A NUMBER OR ANOTHER IDENTIFIER ASSIGNED BY NMLS.

(L) (1) "VIRTUAL CURRENCY" MEANS A DIGITAL REPRESENTATION OF VALUE THAT:

   (I) MAY BE USED AS A MEDIUM OF EXCHANGE, A UNIT OF ACCOUNT, OR A STORE OF VALUE; AND

   (II) IS NOT CURRENCY, WHETHER OR NOT DENOMINATED IN CURRENCY.

(2) "VIRTUAL CURRENCY" DOES NOT INCLUDE:
(I) A transaction in which a merchant grants, as part of an affinity or rewards program, value that cannot be taken from or exchanged with the merchant or others for currency, bank credit, or virtual currency; or

(II) A digital representation of value issued by or on behalf of a publisher and used solely within an online game, a game platform, or a family of games sold by the same publisher or offered on the same game platform that cannot be taken from or exchanged with the publisher or others for currency, bank credit, or virtual currency.

12–1102.

(A) This subtitle does not apply to:

(1) A bank, trust company, savings bank, savings and loan association, or credit union incorporated or chartered under the laws of the State or the United States that maintains its principal office in the State;

(2) An out-of-state bank, as defined in § 5–1001 of this article, having a branch that accepts deposits in the State; or

(3) An institution incorporated under federal law as a savings association or savings bank that does not maintain its principal office in the State but has a branch that accepts deposits in the State.

(B) A subsidiary or an affiliate of an institution described in subsection (A) of this section is exempt from all requirements of licensing under this subtitle if the subsidiary or affiliate:

(1) Is subject to audit or examination by a regulatory body or agency of the State, the United States, or the state in which the subsidiary or affiliate maintains its principal office; and

(2) Submits to the Commissioner in writing and prior to providing currency exchange services the following information:

(1) The subsidiary’s or affiliate’s name and address, and the names and addresses of each:
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1. Owner who owns 5% or more of the subsidiary or affiliate; and

2. Officer, director, or principal of the subsidiary or affiliate;

   (ii) Each address at which currency exchange services will be provided; and

   (iii) Any other information that the Commissioner requests.

(c) The licensing provisions of this subtitle do not apply to a money transmitter licensed under § 12–405 of this title.

(d) (1) An exempt entity is not subject to §§ 12–1107 through 12–1115 and 12–1123 of this subtitle.

   (2) An exempt entity is subject to:

      (i) §§ 12–1116 through 12–1122 and 12–1124 through 12–1128 of this subtitle; and

      (ii) Any regulation, except to the extent the regulation concerns licensing, adopted under this subtitle.

12–1103.

The Commissioner may adopt regulations to carry out this subtitle.

12–1104.

(A) All revenue received for the licensing of persons under this subtitle and any other fee or revenue received by the Commissioner under this subtitle shall be:

   (1) Credited to the Nondepository Special Fund under § 11–610 of this article; and

   (2) Used in accordance with § 11–610(c) of this article.

(B) The Commissioner shall pay all fines and penalties
collected by the Commissioner under this subtitle into the General Fund of the State.

12–1105.

(A) A person may not provide currency exchange services unless the person is licensed under this subtitle or is an exempt entity.

(B) A separate license is required for:

(1) The principal executive office of the applicant or licensee; and

(2) Each branch location at which a person provides exchange services.

12–1106.

In connection with an initial application for a license, and at any other time the Commissioner requests, an applicant or a licensee shall provide to NMLS information concerning the applicant’s or licensee’s identity, as well as other information that NMLS requires.

12–1107.

To qualify for a license, an applicant shall satisfy the Commissioner that:

(1) The applicant’s business will promote the convenience and advantage of the community in which the applicant’s place of business will be located; and

(2) The applicant or, if the applicant is not an individual, each of the owners, officers, directors, or principals of the entity:

(i) Has sufficient experience, character, financial responsibility, and general fitness to:

1. Command the confidence of the public; and

2. Warrant the belief that the business will be operated lawfully, honestly, fairly, and efficiently; and
(II) Has not committed any act that would be a ground for suspension or revocation of a license.

12–1108.

(A) In connection with an initial application for a license under this subtitle, and at any other time the Commissioner requires, an applicant or a licensee shall provide fingerprints, as directed by the Commissioner, to NMLS for use by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to conduct a criminal history records check.

(B) An applicant or a licensee required under this section to provide fingerprints shall pay any processing or other required fee.

(C) If the applicant or licensee is a corporation, the fingerprinting and criminal history records check requirements shall apply to the president, and any other officer, director, principal, or owner of the corporation as required by the Commissioner.

12–1109.

(A) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection:

(I) The requirements of federal law and the Public Information Act regarding the privacy or confidentiality of information or material continue to apply to the information or material after the information or material is provided to NMLS under this subtitle; and

(II) Any privileges arising under federal or state law, including the rules of any federal or state court with respect to information or material, continue to apply to the information or material after the information or material is provided to NMLS under this subtitle.

(2) (I) Information or material provided to NMLS under this subtitle may be shared with any state or federal regulatory official that has oversight authority over persons required to be licensed under this subtitle, including the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, the Office of Foreign Assets Control, and any successor to those agencies.

(II) Information or material shared under
SUBPARAGRAPH (I) OF THIS PARAGRAPH DOES NOT LOSE ANY CONFIDENTIALITY OR PRIVILEGE THAT APPLIES UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION.

(B) INFORMATION OR MATERIAL THAT IS CONFIDENTIAL OR PRIVILEGED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION IS NOT SUBJECT TO:

(1) Disclosure under any federal or state law governing the disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or agency of the federal government or a state that has received the information or material; or

(2) Unless the person to whom the information or material pertains waives a privilege held by NMLS, subpoena, discovery, or admission into evidence in any private civil litigation or administrative process.

(C) THIS SECTION SUPERSEDES THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 4, SUBTITLES 1 THROUGH 5 OF THE GENERAL PROVISIONS ARTICLE RELATING TO THE DISCLOSURE OF ANY INFORMATION OR MATERIAL DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION THAT ARE INCONSISTENT WITH SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.

(D) THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO INFORMATION OR MATERIAL RELATING TO PUBLICLY ADJUDICATED DISCIPLINARY AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS AGAINST A PERSON REQUIRED TO BE LICENSED THAT IS INCLUDED IN NMLS AND DESIGNATED FOR ACCESS BY THE PUBLIC.

12–1110.

(A) (1) TO APPLY FOR A LICENSE, AN APPLICANT SHALL:

(1) Complete, sign, and submit to the Commissioner an application made under oath in the form, and in accordance with the process, that the Commissioner requires through NMLS; and

(II) PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION THAT THE COMMISSIONER REQUESTS.

(2) THE APPLICATION SHALL INCLUDE:

(1) THE APPLICANT'S NAME, THE APPLICANT'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICE ADDRESS, AND, IF THE APPLICANT IS NOT AN INDIVIDUAL, THE NAME AND RESIDENCE ADDRESS OF EACH CONTROL PERSON;
(II) The address of each branch location, if any;

(III) Any other information that the Commissioner requires for an investigation and findings under § 12–1111 of this subtitle; and

(iv) Information that satisfies the Commissioner that the applicant has created in a record policies and procedures for the compliance programs required under § 12–425(d) of this title.

(b) With the application, the applicant shall pay to the Commissioner:

(1) A nonrefundable investigation fee of $1,000; and

(2) A nonrefundable license fee of $1,000.

(c) In addition to the fees required under subsection (b) of this section, a licensee shall pay to NMLS any fees that NMLS imposes in connection with an initial license.

(d) For the principal executive office and each branch location for which an applicant applies, the applicant shall:

(1) Submit a separate application; and

(2) Pay a separate investigation fee and license fee.

(e) A person who knowingly makes a false statement under oath on an application filed with the Commissioner under this section is guilty of perjury and on conviction is subject to the penalties of § 9–101 of the Criminal Law Article.

(f) Subject to subsection (c) of this section, an applicant for an initial license or a license renewal shall apply through NMLS:

(1) On or after July 1, 2020; or

(2) If the Commissioner has not joined NMLS with respect to persons required to be licensed under this subtitle as of July 1, 2020, on or after the date that the Commissioner joins, as specified by the Commissioner by public notice.
1 12–1111.

2 (A) When an applicant for a license files the application and
3 pays the fees required by § 12–1110 of this subtitle, the Commissioner
4 shall investigate the facts relevant to the application to determine
5 whether the applicant meets the requirements of this subtitle.

6 (B) Unless the Commissioner and an applicant agree in writing to
7 extend the time, the Commissioner shall approve or deny each
8 application for a license within 60 days after the date on which the
9 complete application is filed and the fees are paid.

10 (C) The Commissioner shall issue a license to any applicant who
11 meets the requirements of this subtitle.

12 (D) (1) If an applicant does not meet the requirements of this
13 subtitle, the Commissioner shall:

14 (I) Deny the application;
15 (II) Notify the applicant immediately of the denial;
16 (III) Refund the license fee; and
17 (IV) Retain the investigation fee.

18 (2) (I) Within 10 days after the Commissioner denies an
19 application, the Commissioner shall send a written notice to the
20 applicant stating the reasons for the denial.

21 (II) The notice shall be sent by United States mail,
22 e-mail, or any means provided through NMLS to the address listed in
23 the application.

24 12–1112.

25 (A) The Commissioner shall include on each license:

26 (1) The name of the licensee;
27 (2) Any trade name or alias approved by the Commissioner;
28 (3) The address of the location at which currency
EXCHANGE SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED; AND

(4) The license number or unique identifier of the licensee.

(B) (1) A license authorizes the licensee to provide currency exchange services under any name stated on the license and at the location at which currency exchange services will be provided.

(2) Only one location may be maintained under any one license.

(C) Subject to § 12–1105(B) of this subtitle, the Commissioner may issue more than one license to an applicant who:

(1) Conducts activities for which a license is required at more than one location;

(2) Complies with § 12–1110 of this subtitle; and

(3) Otherwise meets the requirements of this subtitle.

12–1113.

(A) A licensee may surrender a license by sending to the Commissioner, in the form and in accordance with the process that the Commissioner requires, a statement that the license is surrendered.

(B) If a license is surrendered voluntarily, or is suspended or revoked, the Commissioner may not refund any part of the license fee regardless of the time remaining in the license term.

(C) The surrender of a license does not affect any civil or criminal liability of the licensee for acts committed before the license was surrendered.

12–1114.

(A) An initial license term shall:

(1) Begin on the date the license is issued; and

(2) Expire on December 31 of the year:
(I) In which the license is issued if the license is issued before November 1; or

(II) Immediately following the year in which the license is issued if the license is issued on or after November 1.

(B) On or after November 1 of the year a license expires, the license may be renewed for an additional 1–year term if the licensee:

(1) Otherwise is entitled to be licensed;
(2) Pays to the Commissioner a renewal fee of $1,000;
(3) Submits to the Commissioner a renewal registration on the form that the Commissioner requires through NMLS; and
(4) Pays to NMLS any fees that NMLS imposes in connection with the registration.

(C) Subject to any regulations the Commissioner adopts in connection with NMLS, a renewal term shall:

(1) Be for a period of 1 year;
(2) Begin on January 1 each year after the initial term; and
(3) Expire on December 31 of the year the renewal term begins.

12–1115.

(A) A license is not transferable.

(B) A licensee shall display the license conspicuously at the licensee’s licensed location.

12–1116.

(A) A licensee may not change the location for which a license is issued unless the licensee:

(1) Provides to the Commissioner, in the form and in accordance with the process that the Commissioner requires, notice of
(2) Receives the written consent of the Commissioner by United States mail, e-mail, or any means provided through NMLS prior to the change.

(B) If the Commissioner consents to a proposed change of location, the Commissioner shall send the licensee an amended license.

12–1117.

(A) A licensee shall keep the books and records that the Commissioner requires to determine compliance with this subtitle.

(B) Unless a longer period is expressly required by state or federal law, a licensee shall retain the records required under this subtitle for a period of at least 2 years.

(C) A licensee may retain the records required under this subtitle at any location, if the licensee:

(1) notifies the Commissioner in writing of the location of the records; and

(2) makes the records available at a place of business for which a license has been issued or at the licensee’s principal place of business, as agreed by the Commissioner and the licensee, within 7 days after a written request for examination by the Commissioner.

(D) In addition to any other books and records that the Commissioner may require, a licensee shall retain a chronological register of all currency exchange services provided by the licensee showing:

(1) the name of the customer;

(2) the transaction date;

(3) the rate of exchange;

(4) the types and amount of currency or virtual currency exchanged;
(5) The amount of fees charged; and

(6) A complete description of the identification presented by the customer.

(E) A licensee shall retain the records required under this section in one of the following ways:

(1) The original form;

(2) An electronic equivalent approved by the Commission; or

(3) A microphotographic copy approved by the Commission.

(F) A licensee shall maintain in a record policies and procedures for the following compliance programs:

(1) An information security and operational security program;

(2) A business continuity program;

(3) A disaster recovery program;

(4) An antifraud program;

(5) An anti-money-laundering program;

(6) A program to prevent funding of terrorist activity; and

(7) A program designed to:

   (i) Ensure compliance with this subtitle, other State laws, and federal laws that are relevant to the virtual currency business activity contemplated by the licensee with or on behalf of residents of the State; and

   (ii) Assist the licensee in achieving the purposes of this subtitle, other State law, and federal law.

12–1118.
(A) At any time and as often as the Commissioner considers appropriate, the Commissioner may investigate the records and business operations of a licensee or a person who acts on behalf of a licensee.

(B) For the purposes of this section, the Commissioner:

   (1) Shall have access to any books, papers, records, safes, or vaults of the person under investigation; and

   (2) May examine under oath a person whose testimony the Commissioner requires.

12–1119.

A licensee shall comply with all federal and state laws concerning money laundering.

12–1120.

(A) (1) A licensee shall conspicuously post, in 48 point type or larger, at each place of business at which the licensee provides currency exchange services, a notice of the rate of exchange and fees for providing currency exchange services.

   (2) If a licensee provides currency exchange services on the licensee's website, the website shall conspicuously show a notice of the rate of exchange and fees for providing currency exchange services.

(B) A licensee shall provide each customer with a written receipt sufficient to identify:

   (1) The transaction;

   (2) The licensee;

   (3) The rate of exchange;

   (4) The amount and type of currency or virtual currency exchanged; and
(5) The fees charged.

12–1121.

(A) As part of a currency exchange service transaction, including before or after the transaction, if a licensee has control of virtual currency for one or more customers, the licensee shall maintain in its control an amount of each type of virtual currency sufficient to satisfy the aggregate entitlements of the customers to the type of virtual currency.

(B) A licensee may not provide currency exchange services to a customer unless:

(1) The licensee is in full compliance with:

(i) Federal anti-money-laundering laws, including 31 C.F.R. Part 1010; and

(ii) Federal customer due diligence requirements, including 31 C.F.R. Part 1010; and

(2) The customer presents a form of customarily acceptable identification, including:

(i) A valid driver’s license with photograph issued by a state government;

(ii) A valid identity card with photograph issued by a state government;

(iii) A valid United States passport or alien registration card; or

(iv) A valid military identification card.

(C) A licensee or person, in the conduct of virtual currency exchange services, may not engage in:

(1) An unsafe or unsound act or practice;

(2) An unfair or deceptive act or practice;
(3) Fraud or intentional misrepresentation;

(4) Another dishonest act; or

(5) Misappropriation of currency, virtual currency, or other value held by a fiduciary.

12–1122.

The Commissioner may enforce this subtitle by issuing an order:

(1) To cease and desist and to take affirmative action from the violation and any further similar violations; and

(2) Requiring the violator to take affirmative action to correct the violation, including the restitution of money or property to any person aggrieved by the violation.

12–1123.

(A) Subject to the hearing provisions of § 12–1124 of this subtitle, the Commissioner may suspend or revoke the license of any licensee if the licensee or any owner, director, officer, member, partner, stockholder, employee, or agent of the licensee:

(1) Makes any material misstatement in an application for a license;

(2) Is convicted under the laws of the United States or of any other state of:

(I) A felony; or

(II) A misdemeanor that is directly related to the fitness and qualification of the person to provide currency exchange services;

(3) In connection with any currency exchange service:

(I) Commits any fraud;

(II) Engages in any illegal or dishonest activities; or
(III) Misrepresents or fails to disclose any material facts to anyone entitled to that information;

(4) Violates any provision of this subtitle or any rule or regulation adopted under this subtitle, or any other law regulating currency exchange services in the State; or

(5) Otherwise demonstrates unworthiness, bad faith, dishonesty, or any other quality that indicates that the business of the licensee has not been or will not be conducted honestly, fairly, equitably, and efficiently.

(B) In determining whether the license of the licensee should be suspended or revoked for a reason listed in subsection (A)(2) of this section, the Commissioner shall consider:

(1) The nature of the crime;

(2) The relationship of the crime to the activities authorized by the license;

(3) With respect to a felony, the relevance of the conviction to the fitness and qualification of the licensee to provide check cashing services;

(4) The length of time since the conviction; and

(5) The behavior and activities of the licensee since the conviction.

12–1124.

(A) Before the Commissioner takes any action under § 12–1122, § 12–1123, or § 12–1127 of this subtitle, the Commissioner shall give the licensee an opportunity for a hearing before the Commissioner.

(B) Notice of the hearing shall be given and the hearing shall be held in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the State Government Article.

12–1125.

The Commissioner shall report to the appropriate State’s
ATTORNEY OR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL ANY ALLEGED CRIMINAL VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE.

12–1126.

A PERSON WHO KNOWINGLY VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 3 YEARS OR A FINE NOT EXCEEDING $5,000 OR BOTH.

12–1127.

(A) THE COMMISSIONER MAY IMPOSE A CIVIL PENALTY AGAINST A PERSON WHO VIOLATES THIS SUBTITLE IN AN AMOUNT NOT EXCEEDING:

(1) $10,000 FOR A FIRST OFFENSE; AND

(2) $25,000 FOR EACH SUBSEQUENT OFFENSE.

(B) IN DETERMINING THE AMOUNT OF CIVIL PENALTY TO BE IMPOSED UNDER SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL CONSIDER THE FOLLOWING:

(1) THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE VIOLATION;

(2) THE GOOD FAITH OF THE VIOLATOR;

(3) THE VIOLATOR’S HISTORY OF PREVIOUS VIOLATIONS;

(4) THE DELETERIOUS EFFECT OF THE VIOLATION ON THE PUBLIC;

(5) THE ASSETS OF THE VIOLATOR; AND

(6) ANY OTHER FACTOR RELEVANT TO THE DETERMINATION OF THE CIVIL PENALTY.

12–1128.

(A) A PERSON WHO IS INJURED BY A VIOLATION OF THIS SUBTITLE MAY FILE AN ACTION TO RECOVER DAMAGES OR FOR INJUNCTIVE RELIEF.

(B) A COURT MAY AWARD A PREVAILING PLAINTIFF UNDER THIS SECTION:

(1) UP TO 3 TIMES THE AMOUNT OF ACTUAL DAMAGES; AND
(2) AN AMOUNT AT LEAST EQUAL TO THE AMOUNT PAID BY THE
PLAINTIFF TO THE DEFENDANT, REASONABLE ATTORNEY’S FEES, AND COSTS.

12–1129.

THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE CONSTRUED TO AFFECT THE JURISDICTION OF
THE SECURITIES COMMISSIONER UNDER TITLE 11 OF THE CORPORATIONS AND
ASSOCIATIONS ARTICLE.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read
as follows:

Chapter 18 of the Acts of 2017

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That:

(f) The Commission shall:

(1) assess the impact of potential changes to federal financial industry laws
and regulations, budgets, and policies, including changes to:

(i) the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection
Act;

(ii) the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau;

(iii) the Securities and Exchange Commission;

(iv) the Commodity Futures Trading Commission;

(v) the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation;

(vi) the Department of Labor;

(vii) the Federal Reserve Board; and

(viii) any other federal financial regulators; [and]

(2) ASSESS THE IMPACT OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FINANCIAL
SERVICES THAT HAVE REVEALED NEW RISKS TO CONSUMERS; AND

[(2)] (3) provide recommendations for federal and State actions that will
protect residents of the State in financial transactions and when receiving financial
services.
(h) On or before December 31, 2017, [and] on or before December 31, 2018, on or before December 31, 2020, and on or before December 31, 2021, the Commission shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Governor and, in accordance with § 2–1246 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of 5 years and 1 month and, at the end of June 30, 2022, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

Chapter 781 of the Acts of 2017

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That:

(f) The Commission shall:

(1) assess the impact of potential changes to federal financial industry laws and regulations, budgets, and policies, including changes to:

(i) the Dodd–Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act;
(ii) the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau;
(iii) the Securities and Exchange Commission;
(iv) the Commodity Futures Trading Commission;
(v) the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation;
(vi) the Department of Labor;
(vii) the Federal Reserve Board; and
(viii) any other federal financial regulators; [and]

(2) ASSESS THE IMPACT OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN FINANCIAL SERVICES THAT HAVE REVEALED NEW RISKS TO CONSUMERS; AND

[(2)] (3) provide recommendations for federal and State actions that will protect residents of the State in financial transactions and when receiving financial services.
(h) On or before December 31, 2017, [and] on or before December 31, 2018, ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2020, AND ON OR BEFORE DECEMBER 31, 2021, the Commission shall submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including any legislative proposals, to the Governor and, in accordance with § [2–1246] 2–1257 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect June 1, 2017. It shall remain effective for a period of [2] 5 years and 1 month and, at the end of [June 30, 2019] JUNE 30, 2022, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Maryland Office of the Attorney General and the Office of the Commissioner of Financial Regulation shall:

(1) review Title I of the National Consumer Law Center’s “The Model State Consumer and Employee Justice Enforcement Act”, developed in November 2015; and

(2) on or before October 1, 2020, report to the Senate Finance Committee and the House Economic Matters Committee on the potential impact on consumers and businesses of the General Assembly’s adoption of Title I in legislation.

SECTION 4. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section 1 of this Act shall take effect October 1, 2020.

SECTION 5. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That, except as provided in Section 4 of this Act, this Act shall take effect July 1, 2020.