1-1 By: Eltife

(In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2015; March 18, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Business and Commerce; 1-4 April 20, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable Committee 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 20, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| 1-8  |                     | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|---------------------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-9  | Eltife              | Χ   | -   |        |     |
| 1-10 | Creighton           | Χ   |     |        |     |
| 1-11 | Ellis               | Χ   |     |        | •   |
| 1-12 | Huffines            | Χ   |     |        |     |
| 1-13 | Schwertner          | X   |     |        |     |
| 1-14 | Seliger             |     |     | X      |     |
| 1-15 | Taylor of Galveston | Χ   |     |        | •   |
| 1-16 | Watson              | Χ   |     |        | •   |
| 1-17 | Whitmire            | X   |     |        |     |

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1282

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By: Eltife

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to the regulation of consumer credit transactions and the regulatory authority of the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner; amending provisions subject to a criminal penalty.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 14.2015, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14.2015. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION.

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), information or material obtained or compiled by the commissioner in relation to an examination or investigation by the commissioner or the commissioner's representative of a license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person under a provision listed in Section 14.201 [Section 339.001, Subtitle B or C, Title 4, Subchapter C of Chapter 393, or Chapter 394] is confidential and may not be disclosed by the commissioner or an officer or employee of the Office of Consumer Credit Commissioner, including:

(1) information obtained from the [a] license holder,

(1) information obtained from the [a] license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person examined or investigated [under Section 339.001, Subtitle B or C, Title 4, Subchapter G of Chapter 393, or Chapter 394];

(2) work performed by the commissioner or the

- (2) work performed by the commissioner or the commissioner's representative on information obtained from the license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person for the purposes of an examination or investigation [conducted under Section 339.001, Subtitle B or C, Title 4, Chapter 393 with respect to a credit access business, or Chapter 394];
- (3) a report on an examination or investigation of the [a] license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person [conducted under Section 339.001, Subtitle B or C, Title 4, Chapter 393 with respect to a credit access business, or Chapter 394]; and (4) any written communications between the license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person, as applicable, and
- (4) any written communications between the license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person, as applicable, and the commissioner or the commissioner's representative relating to or referencing the [an] examination or investigation [conducted under Section 339.001, Subtitle B or C, Title 4, Chapter 393 with respect to a credit access business, or Chapter 394].

  (b) The commissioner or the commissioner's representative
- (b) The commissioner or the commissioner's representative may disclose the confidential information or material described by Subsection (a):
  - (1) to a department, agency, or instrumentality of

this state or the United States if the commissioner considers 2-1 disclosure to be necessary or proper to the enforcement of the laws of this state or the United States and in the best interest of the public;

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- if the information was provided to or provided by (2) the license holder, registrant, applicant, or other person, and the person consents to the release of the information or has published the information contained in the release; or
- (3) if the commissioner determines that release of the information is required for an administrative hearing. SECTION 2. Section 14.251, Finance Code, is

adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

An order of restitution under Subsection (b) is subject to the notice, procedure, and enforcement provisions of Sections 14.253 through 14.260 applicable to an administrative penalty.

SECTION 3. Section 14.256, Finance Code, is amended to read

Section 14.256, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 14.256. ACCEPTANCE OF PENALTY; DEFAULT. If a person accepts the determination and recommended penalty of the commissioner or fails to make a timely written request for a hearing, the commissioner by order shall approve the determination and impose the recommended penalty.

SECTION 4. Section 14.257(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) If a person <u>makes a timely written request for [requests]</u> a hearing [or fails to give a timely response to the notice], the commissioner shall set a hearing and give notice of the hearing to the person by certified mail.

SECTION 5. Section 180.002(5), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

"Dwelling" has the meaning assigned by Section (5) 103(w)  $[\frac{103(v)}{v}]$  of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section  $\overline{1602(w)}$  [ $\frac{1602(v)}{}$ ]).

SECTION 6. Section 303.015(c), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A variable rate agreement for credit extended primarily for personal, family, or household use must include the disclosures identified for variable rate contracts required by regulations issued by the Federal Reserve Board <u>and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection</u> under the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.), as amended, except that if that Act does not apply because of the amount of the transaction, the following disclosure must be included in a size equal to at least 10-point type that is boldface, capitalized, underlined, or otherwise set out from surrounding material so as to be conspicuous:

"NOTICE TO CONSUMER: UNDER TEXAS LAW, IF YOU CONSENT TO THIS AGREEMENT, YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FUTURE RATE AS HIGH AS 24 PERCENT PER YEAR."

SECTION 7. Section 303.402(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person who contracts for, charges, or receives under a contract subject to Chapter 342, 345, 346, 347, 348, or 353, including a contract for an open-end account, a rate or amount of interest or time price differential that exceeds the maximum applicable rate or amount authorized by the applicable chapter and the maximum applicable rate or amount authorized by [ex] this chapter is subject to a penalty for that violation determined under Chapter 349.

SECTION 8. Sections 308.002(c) and (e), Finance Code, are amended to read as follows:

- (c) In interpreting this section, an administrative agency or a court shall be guided by the applicable advertising provisions
- (1) Part C of the Truth in Lending Act [15 U.S.C. Chapter 41, Subchapter I] (15 U.S.C. Section 1661 [1601] et seq.);
  (2) Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Parts 226 and 1026) [12 C.F.R. Part 226] adopted by the Board of Governors of the Federal
- Reserve System and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection; and (3) the Official Staff Commentary and

C.S.S.B. No. 1282 interpretations of that statute and regulation by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Bureau of Consumer 3-1

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Financial Protection, and the staff of those agencies [its staff].

(e) A creditor who complies with the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.) and [Federal Reserve] Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Parts [Part] 226 and 1026) in advertising a credit transaction is considered to have fully complied with this section.

SECTION 9. Section 341.301(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) In each advertisement that purports to offer credit regulated by this subtitle, Subtitle C, or Chapter 394, the advertiser shall disclose the legal or registered name of the advertiser and:
- (1)shall disclose the street address of the advertiser's place of business unless the advertisement:
- (A) is located on the premises of the advertiser's place of business; or
  - (B) is broadcast by radio or television; or
- if the advertisement is broadcast by radio (2)television, shall:
- (A) disclose the telephone number of the advertiser; and
- (B) comply with the applicable disclosure requirements of Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Parts 226 and 1026) [12 C.F.R. Section 226.1 et seq. (Regulation Z)].

  SECTION 10. Section 341.401(b), Finance Code, is amended to

read as follows:

(b) In interpreting this section, a court or administrative agency shall be guided by the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1691 et seq.) and regulations under and interpretations of that Act by the Federal Reserve Board and the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to the extent that Act and those regulations and interpretations can be made applicable to conduct prohibited by this section.

Section 341.402(b), Finance Code, is amended to SECTION 11. read as follows:

(b) The liability of a person under this section is instead of and not in addition to that person's liability under the Equal Credit Opportunity [Title VII of the Consumer Credit Protection] Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1691 et seq.). If the same act or omission violates Section 341.401 and applicable federal law, the person aggrieved by that conduct may bring a legal action to recover monetary damages either under this section or under that federal law, but not both.

SECTION 12. Section 341.502(a-1), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) If the terms of the agreement for a loan under Subsection (a) were negotiated in Spanish, a copy of a summary of those terms and other pertinent information shall be provided to the debtor in Spanish in a form identical to disclosures required for a closed-end transaction under 12 C.F.R. Sections [Section] 226.18 and 1026.18.

SECTION 13. Section 342.156, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 342.156. LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. After notice and an opportunity for a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner finds that:

- (1) the license holder failed to pay the annual license fee, an examination fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the commissioner under this chapter;
- (2) the license holder, knowingly or without the exercise of due care, violated this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter;
- (3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's denial of the application; or
- 3-68 the license holder has failed to ensure that an (4)individual acting as a residential mortgage loan originator, as 3-69

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defined by Section 180.002, in the making, transacting, or negotiating of a loan subject to this chapter is licensed under this chapter in accordance with Section 342.0515.

SECTION 14. Section 342.201, Finance Code, is amended by adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(e-1) The interest charge under Subsection (e) must be contracted for, charged, or received using the scheduled installment earnings method or the true daily earnings method under one of the following methods:

(1) applying the applicable daily rate to each part of unpaid principal balance corresponding to the brackets described by Subsection (e) for the actual or scheduled number of days during a payment period; or

(2) applying a single equivalent daily rate to the unpaid principal balance for the actual or scheduled number of days during a payment period, where the single equivalent daily rate is determined at the inception of the loan using the scheduled installment earnings method and would earn an amount of interest authorized under Subsection (e) if the debt were paid to maturity

according to the schedule of payments. SECTION 15. Section 343.201, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 343.201. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

"High-cost home loan" means a loan that:

(A) is made to one or more individuals for personal, family, or household purposes;

(B) is secured in whole or part by:

(i) a manufactured home, as defined by Section 347.002, used or to be used as the borrower's principal residence; or

 $\dot{}$  (ii) real property improved by a dwelling designed for occupancy by four or fewer families and used or to be used as the borrower's principal residence;

(C) has a principal amount equal to or less than one-half of the maximum conventional loan amount for first mortgages as established and adjusted by the Federal National Mortgage Association;

(D) is not:

(i) a reverse mortgage; or

(ii) an open-end account, as defined by

Section 301.002; and

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(E) is a credit transaction described by 12 C.F.R. Section 1026.32 [226.32], as amended, except that the term includes a residential mortgage transaction, as defined by 12 C.F.R. Section 1026.2 [226.2], as amended, if the total loan amount is \$20,000 or more and:

(i) the annual percentage rate exceeds the 12 indicated in C.F.R. Section 1026.32(a)(1)(i)  $[\frac{226.32(a)(1)(i)}{}]$ , as amended; or

 $\,$  (ii) the total points and fees payable by the consumer at or before loan closing will exceed the amount in 12 indicated C.F.R. Section 1026.32(a)(1)(ii)

[<del>226.32(a)(1)(ii)</del>], as amended.

(2) "Points and fees" has the meaning assigned by 12 C.F.R. Section 1026.32(b) [226.32(b)], as amended. SECTION 16. Section 345.106, Finance Code, is amended to

read as follows:

Sec. 345.106. PROCESSING FEE FOR RETURNED CHECK. charge agreement may provide that the holder of the agreement may:

(1) charge the retail buyer, on return of a dishonored check given in payment under the agreement, a reasonable processing fee that does not exceed the amount prescribed by Section 3.506,

Business & Commerce Code [is not more than \$15]; and (2) add the fee to the unpaid balance under the agreement.

SECTION 17. Section 347.002(b), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

To the extent possible, a word or phrase used in this (b) chapter, other than a term defined by this section, has the meaning

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assigned by the Truth in Lending [Part I, Consumer Credit Protection] Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments, as implemented by Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Part 1026) [<del>12 C.F.R. 226.1 et seq</del>].

SECTION 18. Section 347.004(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A creditor comply applicable shall with all requirements, including required disclosures, under the Truth in Lending [Part I, Consumer Credit Protection] Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.) and its subsequent amendments, as implemented by Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Part 1026) [12 C.F.R. 226.1 et seq. (Regulation 2) adopted under that Act.

SECTION 19. Section 347.056, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 347.056. AUTHORITY OF CONSUMER CREDIT COMMISSIONER RELATING TO A CREDIT DOCUMENT. Except as provided by Section 347.004(a), the [The] commissioner may not require the inclusion of any specific language or a disclosure on a credit document that is not expressly required by:

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(1) this chapter; or(2) a regulation of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency [Thrift Supervision].

SECTION 20. Section 347.155(b), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) On prepayment, after deduction of an acquisition charge that does not exceed \$50, the consumer is entitled to a refund credit of the time price differential or interest. The amount of the credit is computed on an actuarial basis in accordance with regulations of the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency [Thrift Supervision] adopted under the Depository Institutions Deregulation and Monetary Control Act of 1980 (12 U.S.C. Section 1735f-7a [4a] et seq.) for the prepayment of a mortgage loan that is secured by a first lien on a residential manufactured home.

SECTION 21. Section 347.356, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 347.356. REQUIREMENTS ACTION FOR TOREPOSSESS, FORECLOSE, OR ACCELERATE PAYMENT OF ENTIRE DEBT. An action to repossess a manufactured home, foreclose a lien on a manufactured home, or accelerate payment of the entire unpaid balance of a credit transaction must comply with the regulations of the Office of  $\underline{\text{the}}$   $\underline{\text{Comptroller}}$  of the  $\underline{\text{Currency}}$  [ $\underline{\text{Thrift Supervision}}$ ] relating to  $\underline{\text{the}}$ disclosure required for repossession, foreclosure, or acceleration except in extreme circumstances, including abandonment or voluntary surrender of the manufactured home.

SECTION 22. Section 347.455(b), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (b) If the real property is included in the cash price of a credit transaction, the creditor may:
- (1) charge a fee that is ordinarily associated with a real property transaction and is not prohibited by law, including a fee that is associated with a real property transaction and excluded from a finance charge under this chapter by the Consumer Credit Protection Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.) and Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Part 1026) [12 C.F.R. Section 226.1 et seq. (Regulation Z)] adopted under that Act; and
- (2) elect to treat the manufactured home as if it were residential real property for all purposes in connection with the credit transaction by conspicuously disclosing that election to the consumer.

SECTION 23. Section 348.005, Finance Code, as amended by Chapters 355 (H.B. 2462), 1135 (H.B. 2741), and 1287 (H.B. 2202), Acts of the 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

Sec. 348.005. ITEMIZED CHARGE. An amount in a retail installment contract is an itemized charge if the amount is not included in the cash price and is the amount of:

the price of accessories; (1)

(1-a) the price of services related to the sale;

(1-b) fees for registration, certificate of title, and

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license and any additional registration fees charged by a deputy as authorized by rules adopted under Section 520.0071 [520.008], 6-1 6-2 6-3 Transportation Code; 6-4

(2) any taxes;

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- (3) fees or charges prescribed by law and connected with the sale or inspection of the motor vehicle; and
- (4) charges authorized for insurance, service contracts, warranties, automobile club memberships, or a debt cancellation agreement by  $\underline{\text{this chapter}}$  [Subchapter C].

Section 348.009(a), Finance Code, is amended to SECTION 24. read as follows:

The disclosure requirements of Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. (a) 226 and 1026) [<del>12 C.F.R. Part 226 (Regulation Z)</del>] adopted under the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.) and C.F.R. <u>Sections</u> [<del>Section</del>] specifically 12 226.18(f) and 

SECTION 25. Section 348.208(b), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (b) A retail installment contract may include as a separate charge an amount for:
- (1) motor vehicle property damage or bodily injury liability insurance;
  - (2) mechanical breakdown insurance;
- participation in a [motor] (3) vehicle [<del>theft</del>] protection product authorized under Chapter 2306, Occupations Code [plan];
- (4)insurance to reimburse the retail buyer for the amount computed by subtracting the proceeds of the buyer's basic collision policy on the motor vehicle from the amount owed on the vehicle if the vehicle has been rendered a total loss;
- (5) a warranty or service contract relating to the motor vehicle;
  - (6) an identity recovery service contract; or
- a debt cancellation agreement if the agreement is included as a term of a retail installment contract under Section 348.124.

SECTION 26. Section 348.404(d), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) A retail seller may include money advanced under Subsection (b) in the retail installment contract only if it is included as an itemized charge and may disclose money advanced under Subsection (b) in any manner permitted by Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Parts 226 and 1026) [12 C.F.R. Part 226 (Regulation Z)] adopted under the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.). Section 349.003 does not apply to this subsection. This subsection does not create a private right of action. The jurisdiction to commissioner has exclusive subsection.

SECTION 27. Section 348.508, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 348.508. LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. notice and an opportunity for a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner finds that:

(1) the license holder failed to pay the annual license fee, an examination fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the commissioner;

(2) the license holder, knowingly or without the exercise of due care, violated this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter; or

(3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's denial of the application.

SECTION 28. Section 351.0022, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

6-66 Sec. 351.0022. WAIVER PROHIBITED. Except as specifically permitted by this chapter or Chapter 32, Tax Code, a property owner may not waive or limit a requirement imposed on a property tax 6-68 6-69

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lender by this chapter or Chapter 32, Tax Code.

SECTION 29. Subchapter A, Chapter 351, Fina amended by adding Section 351.0081 to read as follows: Finance Code, is

Sec. 351.0081. LENDER'S RECORDS; DOCUMENT RETENTION REQUIREMENTS. (a) A property tax lender shall maintain a record of each property tax loan made under this chapter as necessary to enable the commissioner to determine whether the lender is complying with this chapter.

(b) A property tax lender shall keep the record until the

later of:

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- the fourth anniversary of the date of the property (1)tax loan; or
- (2) the second anniversary of the date on which the final entry is made in the record.

A record described by Subsection (a) must be prepared in (c)

- accordance with accepted accounting practices.

  (d) The commissioner shall accept a lender's system of records if the system discloses the information reasonably required under Subsection (a).
- (e) A property tax lender shall keep each obligation signed by a property owner at an office in this state designated by the lender unless the obligation is transferred under an agreement that gives the commissioner access to the obligation.

SECTION 30. Section 351.156, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 351.156. LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. After notice and an opportunity for a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner finds that:

(1) the license holder failed to pay the annual license fee, an examination fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the commissioner under this chapter;

(2) the license holder, knowingly or without the exercise of due care, violated this chapter or Section 32.06 or 32.065, Tax Code, or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter or Section 32.06 or 32.065, Tax Code;

(3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's denial of the application; or

(4) the license holder has failed to ensure that an individual acting as a residential mortgage loan originator, as defined by Section 180.002, in the making, transacting, negotiating of a property tax loan for a principal dwelling is licensed under this chapter in accordance with Section 351.0515.

SECTION 31. Section 352.006(b), Finance Code, is amended to

read as follows:

(b) If the commissioner proposes to revoke a registration, the facilitator is entitled to  $\underline{\text{notice}}$  and an opportunity for a hearing before the commissioner or a hearings officer, who shall The commissioner propose a decision to the commissioner. hearings officer shall prescribe the time and place of the hearing if the facilitator makes a written request for a hearing not later than the 20th day after the date the facilitator receives the notice of hearing. The hearing is governed by Chapter 2001, Government

SECTION 32. Section 353.508, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 353.508. LICENSE SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION. After notice and an opportunity for a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner finds that:
(1) the license holder failed to pay the

- annual license fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the commissioner;
- (2) the license holder, knowingly or without the exercise of due care, violated this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter; or
- 7-66 7-67 (3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed 7-68 or had been known to exist at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's 7-69

denial of the application. 8-1

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SECTION 33. Section 371.157, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 371.157. PAWN TICKET. A pawnbroker, at the time a pawn transaction is entered, shall deliver to the pledgor a pawn ticket or other memorandum that clearly shows:

- the name and address of the pawnshop; (1)
- (2) pledgor's name, address, the physical description and a driver's license number, military identification number, identification certificate number, or other official number that can identify the pledgor;
  (3) the date of the transaction;
- (4)an identification and description of the pledged goods, including serial numbers if reasonably available;
- (5) the amount of cash advanced or credit extended to the pledgor, designated as "Amount Financed";
- (6) the amount of the pawn service charge, designated as "Finance Charge";
- (7) the total amount, consisting of the financed plus the finance charge, that must be paid to redeem the pledged goods on the maturity date, designated as "Total of Payments";
- the "Annual Percentage Rate," computed according (8) to Regulation Z (12 C.F.R. Part 1026) adopted [regulations issued] by the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection [Federal Reserve Board] under the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1601 et seq.), as amended;
  - (9)the maturity date of the pawn transaction; and
  - a statement that: (10)
- (A) the pledgor is not obligated to redeem the pledged goods; and
- (B) the pledged goods may be forfeited to the pawnbroker on the 31st day after the maturity date.
- SECTION 34. Section 371.251(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:
- (a) After notice and  $\frac{an\ opportunity\ for\ a}{suspend\ a\ pawnshop\ license\ if}$ the the commissioner finds that:
- (1) the pawnbroker has not paid a fee or charge imposed by the commissioner under this chapter;
- (2) the pawnbroker, knowingly or without exercising due care to prevent the violation, has violated this chapter or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter;
- (3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original license application, clearly would have justified refusal to issue the license;
- (4)the pawnbroker has established an association with an unlicensed person who, with the knowledge of the pawnbroker, has violated this chapter;
- (5) the pawnbroker has aided or conspired with a person to circumvent this chapter;
- (6) the pawnbroker or a legal or beneficial owner of the pawnbroker is not of good moral character or has been convicted of a crime that the commissioner finds directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the occupation of pawnbroker or would otherwise make the person unfit for a pawnshop license under Section 371.052;
- (7) the financial responsibility, experience, character, or general fitness of the pawnbroker or its owners and managers do not command the confidence of the public or warrant the belief that the business will be operated lawfully, fairly, and within the purposes of this chapter; or
- (8) the pawnbroker has not maintained the minimum net assets required by Section 371.072.
- SECTION 35. Section 371.255, Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:
- Sec. 371.255. REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF PAWNSHOP EMPLOYEE 8-68 8-69 LICENSE. After notice and an opportunity for a hearing, the

9-1 commissioner may revoke or suspend a pawnshop employee license if 9-2 the commissioner finds that:

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- (1) the license holder knowingly or recklessly violated this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter;
- (2) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original license application, clearly would have justified refusal to issue the license; or
- (3) the moral character, business repute, and general fitness of the license holder do not warrant belief that the license holder will operate the business lawfully and fairly within the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 36. Section 393.614(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) After notice and  $\underline{an}$  opportunity for a hearing the commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner finds that:
- (1) the license holder failed to pay the annual license fee, an examination fee, an investigation fee, or another charge imposed by the commissioner under this subchapter;
- (2) the license holder, knowingly or without the exercise of due care, violated this chapter or a rule adopted or order issued under this chapter; or
- (3) a fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or had been known to exist at the time of the original application for the license, clearly would have justified the commissioner's denial of the application.

SECTION  $\overline{37}$ . Section 394.204(k), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (k) In addition to the power to refuse an initial application as specified in this section, the commissioner may suspend or revoke a provider's registration after notice and <u>an opportunity for a</u> hearing if the commissioner finds that any of the following conditions are met:
- (1) a fact or condition exists that if it had existed when the provider applied for registration would have been grounds for denying registration;
- (2) a fact or condition exists that the commissioner was not aware of when the provider applied for registration and would have been grounds for denying registration;
- (3) the provider violates this subchapter or rule or order of the commissioner under this subchapter;
  - (4) the provider is insolvent;
- (5) the provider refuses to permit the commissioner to make an examination authorized by this subchapter;
- (6) the provider fails to respond within a reasonable time and in an appropriate manner to communications from the commissioner;
  (7) the provider has received money from or on behalf
- (7) the provider has received money from or on behalf of a consumer for disbursement to a creditor under a debt management plan that provides for regular periodic payments to creditors in full repayment of the principal amount of the debts and the provider has failed to disburse money to the creditor on behalf of the consumer within a reasonable time, normally 30 days;
- consumer within a reasonable time, normally 30 days;
  (8) the commissioner determines that the provider's trust account is not materially in balance with and reconciled to the consumer's account; or
- (9) the provider fails to warrant the belief that the business will be operated lawfully and fairly and within the provisions and purposes of this subchapter.

SECTION 38. Section 394.212(a), Finance Code, is amended to read as follows:

- (a) A provider may not:
  - (1) purchase a debt or obligation of a consumer;
- (2) receive or charge a fee in the form of a promissory note or other negotiable instrument other than a check or a draft;
  - (3) lend money or provide credit to the consumer;
  - (4) obtain a mortgage or other security interest in

10-1 property owned by a consumer;

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(5) engage in business with a for-profit business  $[\frac{an}{a}]$  entity described by Section  $\frac{394.204(c)(7)}{394.204(c)(7)}$  [ $\frac{394.204(c)(3)}{394.204(c)(3)}$ ] without prior consent of the commissioner, except that unless denied, consent is considered granted 30 days after the date the provider notifies the commissioner of the intent to engage in business with the for-profit business entity [ $\frac{an}{a}$  organization] described by Section  $\frac{394.204(c)(7)}{394.204(c)(3)}$ ];

(6) offer, pay, or give a gift, bonus, premium, reward, or other compensation to a person for entering into a debt

management services agreement;

- (7) represent that the provider is authorized or competent to furnish legal advice or perform legal services unless supervised by an attorney as required by State Bar of Texas rules;
- (8) use an unconscionable means to obtain a contract with a consumer;
- (9) engage in an unfair, deceptive, or unconscionable act or practice in connection with a service provided to a consumer; or
- (10) require or attempt to require payment of an amount that the provider states, discloses, or advertises to be a voluntary contribution from the consumer.

SECTION 39. Section 1956.0614(b), Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) If the commissioner proposes to revoke a registration, the dealer is entitled to notice and an opportunity for a hearing before the commissioner or a hearings officer, who shall propose a decision to the commissioner. The commissioner or hearings officer shall prescribe the time and place of the hearing if the dealer makes a written request for a hearing not later than the 20th day after the date the dealer receives the notice of the hearing. The hearing is governed by Chapter 2001, Government Code.

SECTION 40. Sections 32.06(d-1) and (f-3), Tax Code, are amended to read as follows:

- (d-1) A right of rescission described by the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. Section 1635) and Regulation  $\overline{Z}$  (12 C.F.R. Section 1026.23) [12 C.F.R. Section 226.23] applies to a transfer under this section of a tax lien on residential property owned and used by the property owner for personal, family, or household purposes.
- (f-3) Notwithstanding any contractual agreement with the property owner, the transferee of a tax lien must provide the payoff information required by this section to the greatest extent permitted by the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (15 U.S.C. Section 6802) and Regulation P (12 C.F.R. Section 1016) [15 U.S.C. Section 6802] and 12 C.F.R. Part 216]. The payoff statement must meet the requirements of a payoff statement defined by Section 12.017, Property Code. A transferee may charge a reasonable fee for a payoff statement that is requested after an initial payoff statement is provided. However, a transferee is not required to release payoff information pursuant to a notice under Subsection (f-1) unless the notice contains the information prescribed by the Finance Commission of Texas.

SECTION 41. To the extent of any conflict, this Act prevails over another Act of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, relating to nonsubstantive additions to and corrections in enacted codes.

SECTION 42. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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