House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate . Comm: RCS . 01/18/2024 . .

The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Brodeur) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 567 - 2552

and insert:

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9 10 (c) Family members who acquire such securities from persons described in this section through gifts or domestic relations orders.

(d) Former employees, directors, managers, managing members, general partners, officers, consultants, and advisors, if those individuals were employed by or providing services to

283890

11 the issuer when the securities were offered. 12 (e) Insurance agents who are exclusive insurance agents of 13 the issuer, or of the issuer's parents or subsidiaries, or who 14 derive more than 50 percent of their annual income from such 15 persons. 16 (9) The offer or sale of securities to a bank, trust company, savings institution, insurance company, dealer, 17 18 investment company as defined in the Investment Company Act of 19 1940, 15 U.S.C. s. 80a-3, as amended, pension or profit-sharing 20 trust, or qualified institutional buyer, whether any of such 21 entities is acting in its individual or fiduciary capacity. (10) (a) The offer or sale, by or on behalf of an issuer, of 22 23 its own securities if the offer or sale is part of an offering 24 made in accordance with all of the following conditions: 25 1. There are no more than 35 purchasers, or the issuer 26 reasonably believes that there are no more than 35 purchasers, 27 of the securities of the issuer in this state during an offering 28 made in reliance upon this subsection or, if such offering 29 continues for a period in excess of 12 months, in any 30 consecutive 12-month period. 31 2. Neither the issuer nor any person acting on behalf of 32 the issuer offers or sells securities pursuant to this 33 subsection by means of any form of general solicitation or 34 general advertising in this state. 35 3. Before the sale, each purchaser or the purchaser's 36 representative, if any, is provided with, or given reasonable 37 access to, full and fair disclosure of all material information, 38 which must include written notification of a purchaser's right 39 to void the sale under subparagraph 4.

Page 2 of 71

40	4. Any sale made pursuant to this subsection is voidable by
41	the purchaser within 3 days after the first tender of
42	consideration is made by such purchaser to the issuer by
43	notifying the issuer that the purchaser expressly voids the
44	purchase. The purchaser's notice to the issuer must be sent by
45	e-mail to the issuer's e-mail address set forth in the
46	disclosure document provided to the purchaser or purchaser's
47	representative or by hand delivery, courier service, or other
48	method by which written proof of delivery to the issuer of the
49	purchaser's election to rescind the purchase is evidenced.
50	(b) The following purchasers are excluded from the
51	calculation of the number of purchasers under subparagraph
52	<u>(a)1.:</u>
53	1. Any spouse or child of the purchaser or any related
54	family member who has the same principal residence as such
55	purchaser.
56	2. A trust or estate in which a purchaser, any of the
57	persons related to such purchaser specified in subparagraph 1.,
58	and any business entity specified in subparagraph 3.
59	collectively have more than 50 percent of the beneficial
60	interest, excluding any contingent interest.
61	3. A business entity in which a purchaser, any of the
62	persons related to such purchaser specified in subparagraph 1.,
63	and any trust or estate specified in subparagraph 2.
64	collectively are beneficial owners of more than 50 percent of
65	the equity securities or equity interest.
66	4. An accredited investor.
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68	A business entity must be counted as one purchaser. However, if

283890

69	the business entity is organized for the specific purpose of
70	acquiring the securities offered and is not an accredited
71	investor, each beneficial owner of equity securities or equity
72	interests in the business entity must be counted as a separate
73	purchaser. A noncontributory employee benefit plan within the
74	meaning of Title I of the Employee Retirement Income Security
75	Act of 1974 must be counted as one purchaser if the trustee
76	makes all investment decisions for the plan.
77	(11) Offers or sales of securities by an issuer in a
78	transaction that meets all of the following conditions:
79	(a) The offers or sales of securities are made only to
80	persons who are, or who the issuer reasonably believes are,
81	accredited investors.
82	(b) The issuer is not a business entity that has an
83	undefined business operation, lacks a business plan, lacks a
84	stated investment goal for the funds being raised, or plans to
85	engage in a merger or acquisition with an unspecified business
86	entity.
87	(c) The issuer reasonably believes that all purchasers are
88	purchasing for investment and not with the view to or for sale
89	in connection with a distribution of the security. Any resale of
90	a security sold in reliance on this exemption within 12 months
91	after sale is presumed to be with a view to distribution and not
92	for investment, except a resale pursuant to a registration
93	statement effective under this chapter or pursuant to an
94	exemption available under this chapter, the Securities Act of
95	1933, as amended, or the rules and regulations adopted
96	thereunder.
97	(d)1. A general announcement of the proposed offering, made

283890

98	by any means, includes only the following information:
99	a. The name, address, and telephone number of the issuer of
100	the securities.
101	b. The name, a brief description, and price, if known, of
102	any security to be issued.
103	c. A brief description of the business.
104	d. The type, number, and aggregate amount of securities
105	being offered.
106	e. The name, address, and telephone number of the person to
107	contact for additional information.
108	f. A statement that:
109	(I) Sales will be made only to accredited investors;
110	(II) Money or other consideration is not being solicited
111	and will not be accepted by way of this general announcement;
112	and
113	(III) The securities have not been registered with or
114	approved by any state securities agency or the Securities and
115	Exchange Commission and are being offered and sold pursuant to
116	an exemption from registration.
117	2. The issuer, in connection with an offer, may provide
118	information in addition to the information provided in the
119	general announcement as specified in subparagraph 1. if such
120	information is delivered:
121	a. Through an electronic database that is restricted to
122	persons who have been prequalified as accredited investors; or
123	b. After the issuer reasonably believes that the
124	prospective purchaser is an accredited investor.
125	(e) The issuer does not use telephone solicitation unless,
126	before placing the call, the issuer reasonably believes that the

Page 5 of 71

283890

127 prospective purchaser to be solicited is an accredited investor. 128 (f) The issuer files with the office a notice of 129 transaction, a consent to service of process, and a copy of the 130 general announcement within 15 days after the first sale is made 131 in this state. The commission may adopt by rule procedures for filing documents by electronic means. 132 133 (g) Dissemination of the general announcement of the 134 proposed offering to persons who are not accredited investors 135 does not disqualify the issuer from claiming the exemption under 136 this subsection. 137 (12) The isolated sale or offer for sale of securities when 138 made by or on behalf of a bona fide owner, not the issuer or 139 underwriter, of the securities, who disposes of such securities 140 for the owner's own account, and such sale is not made directly 141 or indirectly for the benefit of the issuer or an underwriter of 142 such securities or for the direct or indirect promotion of any 143 scheme or enterprise with the intent of violating or evading 144 this chapter. For purposes of this subsection, isolated offers or sales include, but are not limited to, an isolated offer or 145 146 sale made by or on behalf of a bona fide owner, rather than the 147 issuer or underwriter, of the securities if: (a) The offer or sale of securities is in a transaction 148 149 satisfying all of the conditions specified in paragraphs (10)(a) 150 and (b); or 151 (b) The offer or sale of securities is in a transaction 152 exempt under s. 4(a)(1) of the Securities Act of 1933, as 153 amended, or under Securities and Exchange Commission rules or 154 regulations. 155 (13) By or for the account of a pledgeholder, a secured

Page 6 of 71

283890

156 party as defined in s. 679.1021(1)(ttt), or a mortgagee selling 157 or offering for sale or delivery in the ordinary course of 158 business and not for the purposes of avoiding the provisions of 159 this chapter, to liquidate a bona fide debt, a security pledged 160 in good faith as security for such debt. 161 (14) An unsolicited purchase or sale of securities on order of, and as the agent for, another solely and exclusively by a 162 dealer registered pursuant to s. 517.12; provided that this 163 exemption applies solely and exclusively to such registered 164 165 dealers and does not authorize or permit the purchase or sale of 166 securities at the direction of, and as agent for, another by any 167 person other than a dealer so registered; and provided further 168 that such purchase or sale may not be directly or indirectly for 169 the benefit of the issuer or an underwriter of such securities 170 or for the direct or indirect promotion of any scheme or 171 enterprise with the intent of violating or evading this chapter. (15) A nonissuer transaction with a federal covered adviser 172 173 with investments under management in excess of \$100 million acting in the exercise of discretionary authority in a signed 174 175 record for the account of others. 176 (16) The sale by or through a registered dealer of any 177 securities option if, at the time of the sale of the option: 178 (a) The performance of the terms of the option is guaranteed by any dealer registered under the Securities 179 180 Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, which guaranty and dealer are 181 in compliance with such requirements or rules as may be approved 182 or adopted by the commission; or 183 (b)1. Such options transactions are cleared by the Options 184 Clearing Corporation or any other clearinghouse recognized by

Page 7 of 71

283890

185	commission rule;
186	2. The option is not sold by or for the benefit of the
187	issuer of the underlying security; and
188	3. The underlying security may be purchased or sold on a
189	recognized securities exchange registered under the Securities
190	Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
191	(17)(a) The offer or sale of securities, as agent or
192	principal, by a dealer registered pursuant to s. 517.12, when
193	such securities are offered or sold at a price reasonably
194	related to the current market price of such securities, provided
195	that such securities are:
196	1. Securities of an issuer for which reports are required
197	to be filed by s. 13 or s. 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act
198	of 1934, as amended;
199	2. Securities of a company registered under the Investment
200	Company Act of 1940, as amended;
201	3. Securities of an insurance company, as that term is
202	defined in s. 2(a)(17) of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as
203	amended; or
204	4. Securities, other than any security that is a federal
205	covered security and is not subject to any registration or
206	filing requirements under this chapter, that have been listed or
207	approved for listing upon notice of issuance by a securities
208	exchange registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,
209	as amended; and all securities senior to any securities so
210	listed or approved for listing upon notice of issuance, or
211	represented by subscription rights which have been so listed or
212	approved for listing upon notice of issuance, or evidences of
213	indebtedness guaranteed by an issuer with a class of securities

Page 8 of 71

283890

214 listed or approved for listing upon notice of issuance by such securities exchange, such securities to be exempt only so long 215 216 as such listings or approvals remain in effect. The exemption 217 provided in this subparagraph does not apply when the securities 218 are suspended from listing approval for listing or trading. 219 (b) The exemption provided in this subsection does not 220 apply if the sale is made for the direct or indirect benefit of 221 an issuer or a control person of such issuer or if such 2.2.2 securities constitute the whole or part of an unsold allotment 223 to, or subscription or participation by, a dealer as an 224 underwriter of such securities. 225

(c) The exemption provided in this subsection is not available for any securities that have been denied registration pursuant to s. 517.111. Additionally, the office may deny this exemption with reference to any particular security, other than a federal covered security, by order published in such manner as the office finds proper.

(18) Any nonissuer transaction by a registered dealer, and any resale transaction by a sponsor of a unit investment trust registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, in a security of a class that has been outstanding in the hands of the public for at least 90 days; provided that, at the time of the transaction, the following conditions in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) and either paragraph (d) or (e) are met:

(a) The issuer of the security is actually engaged in 239 business and is not in the organizational stage or in bankruptcy 240 or receivership and is not a blank check, blind pool, or shell 241 company whose primary plan of business is to engage in a merger or combination of the business with, or an acquisition of, an 242

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243	unidentified person.
244	(b) The security is sold at a price reasonably related to
245	the current market price of the security.
246	(c) The security does not constitute the whole or part of
247	an unsold allotment to, or a subscription or participation by,
248	the dealer as an underwriter of the security.
249	(d) The security is listed in a nationally recognized
250	securities manual designated by rule of the commission or a
251	document filed with and publicly viewable through the Securities
252	and Exchange Commission electronic data gathering and retrieval
253	system and contains:
254	1. A description of the business and operations of the
255	issuer;
256	2. The names of the issuer's officers and directors, if
257	any, or, in the case of an issuer not domiciled in the United
258	States, the corporate equivalents of such persons in the
259	issuer's country of domicile;
260	3. An audited balance sheet of the issuer as of a date
261	within 18 months before such transaction or, in the case of a
262	reorganization or merger in which parties to the reorganization
263	or merger had such audited balance sheet, a pro forma balance
264	sheet; and
265	4. An audited income statement for each of the issuer's
266	immediately preceding 2 fiscal years, or for the period of
267	existence of the issuer, if in existence for less than 2 years
268	or, in the case of a reorganization or merger in which the
269	parties to the reorganization or merger had such audited income
270	statement, a pro forma income statement.
271	(e)1. The issuer of the security has a class of equity

Page 10 of 71

283890

272	securities listed on a national securities exchange registered
273	under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended;
274	2. The class of security is quoted, offered, purchased, or
275	sold through an alternative trading system registered under
276	Securities and Exchange Commission Regulation ATS, 17 C.F.R. s.
277	242.301, as amended, and the issuer of the security has made
278	current information publicly available in accordance with
279	Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15c2-11, 17 C.F.R. s.
280	240.15c2-11, as amended;
281	3. The issuer of the security is a unit investment trust
282	registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended;
283	4. The issuer of the security has been engaged in
284	continuous business, including predecessors, for at least 3
285	years; or
286	5. The issuer of the security has total assets of at least
287	\$2 million based on an audited balance sheet as of a date within
288	18 months before such transaction or, in the case of a
289	reorganization or merger in which parties to the reorganization
290	or merger had such audited balance sheet, a pro forma balance
291	sheet.
292	(19) The offer or sale of any security effected by or
293	through a person in compliance with s. 517.12(16).
294	(20) A nonissuer transaction in an outstanding security by
295	or through a dealer registered or exempt from registration under
296	this chapter, if all of the following are true:
297	(a) The issuer is a reporting issuer in a foreign
298	jurisdiction designated by this subsection or by commission
299	rule, and the issuer has been subject to continuous reporting
300	requirements in such foreign jurisdiction for not less than 180

Page 11 of 71

283890

301	days before the transaction.
302	(b) The security is listed on the securities exchange
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303	designated by this subsection or by commission rule, is a
304	security of the same issuer which is of senior or substantially
305	equal rank to the listed security, or is a warrant or right to
306	purchase or subscribe to any such security.
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308	For purposes of this subsection, Canada, together with its
309	provinces and territories, is designated as a foreign
310	jurisdiction, and The Toronto Stock Exchange, Inc., is
311	designated as a securities exchange. If, after an administrative
312	hearing in compliance with ss. 120.569 and 120.57, the office
313	finds that revocation is necessary or appropriate in furtherance
314	of the public interest and for the protection of investors, it
315	may revoke the designation of a securities exchange under this
316	subsection.
317	(21) Other transactions exempted by commission rule upon a
318	finding by the office that the application of s. 517.07 to a
319	particular transaction is not necessary or appropriate in
320	furtherance of the public interest and for the protection of
321	investors due to the small dollar amount of the securities
322	involved or the limited character of the offering. In
323	conjunction with its adoption by rule of such exemptions, the
324	commission may exempt persons selling or offering for sale
325	securities in such a transaction from the registration
326	requirements of s. 517.12. A rule adopted by the commission
327	under this subsection may not have the effect of narrowing or
328	limiting any exemption specified in this section.
329	Section 4. Section 517.0611, Florida Statutes, is amended

Page 12 of 71

283890

330 to read: 331 517.0611 The Florida Limited Offering Exemption Intrastate 332 crowdfunding.-333 (1) This section may be cited as the "The Florida Limited 334 Offering Intrastate Crowdfunding Exemption." 335 (2) The registration provisions of s. 517.07 do not apply 336 to a securities transaction conducted in accordance with this 337 section; however, such transaction is subject to s. 517.301 338 Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, an offer or 339 sale of a security by an issuer is an exempt transaction under 340 s. 517.061 if the offer or sale is conducted in accordance with 341 this section. The exemption provided in this section may not be 342 used in conjunction with any other exemption under s. 517.051 or 343 s. 517.061. 344 (3) The offer or sale of securities under this section must 345 be conducted in accordance with the requirements of the federal 346 exemption for intrastate offerings in s. 3(a)(11) of the 347 Securities Act of 1933, 15 U.S.C. s. 77c(a)(11), as amended, and United States Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 147, 17 348 349 C.F.R. s. 230.147, as amended, or Securities and Exchange 350 Commission Rule 147A, 17. C.F.R. s. 230.147A, as amended adopted 351 pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933. 352 (4) An issuer must: (a) Must be a for-profit business entity that maintains 353 354 formed under the laws of the state, be registered with the 355 Secretary of State, maintain its principal place of business in 356 the state, and derives derive its revenues primarily from 357 operations in this the state.

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(b) Must conduct transactions for an the offering of \$2.5

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283890

359 <u>million or more</u> through a dealer registered with the office or 360 an intermediary registered under <u>s. 517.12</u> s. 517.12(19). For an 361 <u>offering of less than \$2.5 million, the issuer may, but is not</u> 362 <u>required to, use such a dealer or intermediary.</u>

(c) <u>May</u> not be, <u>either</u> before or as a result of the offering, an investment company as defined in s. 3 of the Investment Company Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. s. 80a-3, <u>as amended</u>, or subject to the reporting requirements of s. 13 or s. 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. s. 78m or s. 780(d), as amended.

(d) <u>May</u> not be a <u>business entity that has</u> company with an undefined business operation, a <u>company that</u> lacks a business plan, a <u>company that</u> lacks a stated investment goal for the funds being raised, or a <u>company that</u> plans to engage in a merger or acquisition with an unspecified business entity.

(e) <u>May</u> not be subject to a disqualification established by the commission or office or a disqualification described in <u>s.</u> <u>517.0616 or</u> s. 517.1611 or United States Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 506(d), 17 C.F.R. 230.506(d), adopted pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933. Each director, officer, <u>manager</u>, <u>managing member</u>, or general partner, or person occupying a similar status or performing a similar function, or person holding more than 20 percent of the <u>equity interest</u> shares of the issuer, is subject to this <u>paragraph</u> requirement.

(f) <u>Must deposit all funds received from investors in an</u> account in <u>Execute an escrow agreement with</u> a federally insured financial institution authorized to do business in <u>this</u> the state, and maintain all such funds in the account until the target offering amount has been reached or the offering has been

Page 14 of 71

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283890

388 terminated or has expired. If the target offering amount has not 389 been reached within the period specified by the issuer in the disclosure statement provided to investors, or if the offering 390 391 is terminated or expires, the issuer must refund invested funds 392 to all investors within 10 business days after such occurrence 393 for the deposit of investor funds, and ensure that all offering 394 proceeds are provided to the issuer only when the aggregate 395 capital raised from all investors is equal to or greater than 396 the target offering amount.

397 (g) Must use all funds in accordance with the use of proceeds as disclosed to prospective investors Allow investors 399 to cancel a commitment to invest within 3 business days before the offering deadline, as stated in the disclosure statement, and issue refunds to all investors if the target offering amount 402 is not reached by the offering deadline.

403 (5) The issuer must file a notice of the offering with the office, in writing or in electronic form, in a format prescribed 404 405 by commission rule, together with a nonrefundable filing fee of 406 \$200. The filing fee must shall be deposited into the Regulatory 407 Trust Fund of the office. The commission may adopt rules 408 establishing procedures for the deposit of fees and the filing 409 of documents by electronic means if the procedures provide the 410 office with the information and data required by this section. A notice is effective upon receipt, by the office, of the 411 412 completed form, filing fee, and an irrevocable written consent 413 to service of civil process, similar to that provided for in s. 414 517.101. The notice may be terminated by filing with the office a notice of termination. The notice and offering expire 12 415 416 months after filing the notice with the office and are not

Page 15 of 71



417 eligible for renewal. The notice must:

(a) Be filed with the office at least 10 days before the
issuer commences an offering of securities or the offering is
displayed on a website of an intermediary in reliance upon the
exemption provided by this section.

(b) Indicate that the issuer is conducting an offering in reliance upon the exemption provided by this section.

(c) Contain the name and contact information, including an <u>e-mail address</u>, of the issuer.

(d) Identify any predecessors, owners, officers, directors, <u>general partners, managers, managing members, and control</u> <u>persons</u> or any person occupying a similar status or performing a similar function of the issuer, including that person's title, <u>his or her</u> status as a partner, trustee, <u>or</u> sole proprietor or <u>a</u> similar role, and <u>his or her</u> ownership percentage.

(e) Identify the federally insured financial institution <u>into</u>, authorized to do business in the state, in which investor funds will be deposited, in accordance with the escrow agreement.

(f) Require an attestation under oath that the issuer, its predecessors, affiliated issuers, directors, officers, and control persons, or any other person occupying a similar status or performing a similar function, are not currently and have not been within the past 10 years the subject of regulatory or criminal actions involving fraud or deceit.

442 (g) Include documentation verifying that the issuer is 443 organized under the laws of the state and authorized to do 444 business in the state.

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(h) If applicable, include the intermediary's website

283890

446 address where the issuer's securities will be offered. (g) (i) State Include the target offering amount and the 447 448 date, not to exceed 365 days, by which the target amount must be 449 reached in order to avoid termination of the offering. 450 (6) The issuer must amend the notice form within 10 451 business 30 days after any material information contained in the 452 notice becomes inaccurate for any reason. The commission may 453 require, by rule, an issuer who has filed a notice under this 454 section to file amendments with the office. 455 (7) The issuer may engage in general advertising and 456 general solicitation of the offering to prospective investors. 457 Any oral or written statements in advertising or solicitation of 458 the offering which contain a material misstatement, or which 459 fail to disclose material information, are subject to 460 enforcement under this chapter. Any general advertising or other 461 general announcement must state that the offering is limited and 462 open only to residents of this state. 463 (8) The issuer must provide a disclosure statement to 464 investors and the dealer or intermediary, along with a copy to 465 the office at the time that the notice is filed, and make 466 available to potential investors through the dealer or 467 intermediary, as applicable; to the office at the time that the 468 notice is filed; and to each prospective investor at least 3 469 days before the investor's commitment to purchase or payment of 470 any consideration. The, a disclosure statement must contain 471 containing material information about the issuer and the 472 offering, including all of the following: 473 (a) The name, legal status, physical address, e-mail

474 address, and website address of the issuer.

Page 17 of 71

283890

475 (b) The names of the directors, officers, managers, 476 managing members, and general partners and any person occupying 477 a similar status or performing a similar function, and the name 478 and ownership percentage of each person holding more than 20 479 percent of the issuer's equity interests shares of the issuer. 480 (c) A description of the current business of the issuer and 481 the anticipated business plan of the issuer. 482 (d) A description of the stated purpose and intended use of 483 the proceeds of the offering. 484 (e) The target offering amount and \overline{t} the deadline to reach 485 the target offering amount, and regular updates regarding the 486 progress of the issuer in meeting the target offering amount. 487 (f) The price to the public of the securities or the method 488 for determining the price. However, before the sale, each 489 investor must receive in writing the final price and all required disclosures and have an opportunity to rescind the 490 491 commitment to purchase the securities. (g) A description of the ownership and capital structure of 492 493 the issuer, including: 494 1. Terms of the securities being offered and each class of 495 security of the issuer, including how those terms may be 496 modified, and a summary of the differences between such 497 securities, including how the rights of the securities being 498 offered may be materially limited, diluted, or qualified by 499 rights of any other class of security of the issuer. 500 2. A description of how the exercise of the rights held by 501 the principal equity holders shareholders of the issuer could 502 negatively impact the purchasers of the securities being 503 offered.

504	3. The name and ownership level of each existing
505	shareholder who owns more than 20 percent of any class of the
506	securities of the issuer.
507	4. How the securities being offered are being valued, and
508	examples of methods of how such securities may be valued by the
509	issuer in the future, including during subsequent corporate
510	actions.
511	5. The risks to purchasers of the securities relating to
512	minority ownership in the issuer, the risks associated with
513	corporate action, including additional issuances of shares, a
514	sale of the issuer or of assets of the issuer, or transactions
515	with related parties.
516	(h) A statement that the security being offered is not
517	registered under federal or state securities laws and that the
518	securities are subject to the limitation on resale contained in
519	Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 147 or Rule 147A.
520	(i) Any issuer plans, formal or informal, to offer
521	additional securities in the future.
522	(j) The risks to purchasers of the securities relating to
523	minority ownership in the issuer.
524	<u>(k)</u> A description of the financial condition of the
525	issuer.
526	1. For offerings that, in combination with all other
527	offerings of the issuer within the preceding 12-month period,
528	have target offering amounts of <u>\$500,000</u> \$100,000 or less, the
529	financial statements of the issuer may be, but are not required
530	to be, included description must include the most recent income
531	tax return filed by the issuer, if any, and a financial
532	statement that must be certified by the principal executive

Page 19 of 71



533 officer of the issuer as true and complete in all material 534 respects.

2. For offerings that, in combination with all other 535 536 offerings of the issuer within the preceding 12-month period, 537 have target offering amounts of more than \$500,000 \$100,000, but 538 not more than \$2.5 million \$500,000, the description must 539 include financial statements prepared in accordance with 540 generally accepted accounting principles and reviewed by a certified public accountant, as defined in s. 473.302, who is 541 542 independent of the issuer, using professional standards and 543 procedures for such review or standards and procedures 544 established by commission the office, by rule, for such purpose.

545 3. For offerings that, in combination with all other offerings of the issuer within the preceding 12-month period, 547 have target offering amounts of more than \$2.5 million \$500,000, the description must include audited financial statements 549 prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting 550 principles by a certified public accountant, as defined in s. 551 473.302, who is independent of the issuer, and other 552 requirements as the commission may establish by rule.

553 (1) (i) The following statement in boldface, conspicuous type on the front page of the disclosure statement:

> Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved these securities or determined if this disclosure statement is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

> > Page 20 of 71

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562 These securities are offered under, and will be sold 563 in reliance upon, an exemption from the registration 564 requirements of federal and Florida securities laws. 565 Consequently, Neither the Federal Government nor the 566 State of Florida has reviewed the accuracy or 567 completeness of any offering materials. In making an 568 investment decision, investors must rely on their own 569 examination of the issuer and the terms of the offering, including the merits and risks involved. 570 571 These securities are subject to restrictions on 572 transferability and resale and may not be transferred 573 or resold except as specifically authorized by 574 applicable federal and state securities laws. 575 Investing in these securities involves a speculative 576 risk, and investors should be able to bear the loss of 577 their entire investment.

578 (8) The issuer shall provide to the office a copy of the escrow agreement with a financial institution authorized to 579 580 conduct business in this state. All investor funds must be 581 deposited in the escrow account. The escrow agreement must 582 require that all offering proceeds be released to the issuer 583 only when the aggregate capital raised from all investors is 584 equal to or greater than the minimum target offering amount 585 specified in the disclosure statement as necessary to implement 586 the business plan, and that all investors will receive a full 587 return of their investment commitment if that target offering 588 amount is not raised by the date stated in the disclosure 589 statement.

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(9) The sum of all cash and other consideration received

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591 for sales of a security under this section may not exceed \$5 \$1592 million, less the aggregate amount received for all sales of 593 securities by the issuer within the 12 months preceding the 594 first offer or sale made in reliance upon this exemption. Offers 595 or sales to a person owning 20 percent or more of the 596 outstanding equity interests shares of any class or classes of securities or to an officer, director, manager, managing member, 597 598 general partner, or trustee, or a person occupying a similar status, do not count toward this limitation. 599

(10) Unless the investor is an accredited investor, or the issuer reasonably believes that the investor is an accredited investor as defined by Rule 501 of Regulation D, adopted pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, the aggregate amount of securities sold by an issuer to an investor in transactions exempt from registration requirements under this subsection in a 12-month period may not exceed \$10,000÷

(a) The greater of \$2,000 or 5 percent of the annual income or net worth of such investor, if the annual income or the net worth of the investor is less than \$100,000.

610 (b) Ten percent of the annual income or net worth of such 611 investor, not to exceed a maximum aggregate amount sold of 612 \$100,000, if either the annual income or net worth of the 613 investor is equal to or exceeds \$100,000.

614 (11) The issuer shall file with the office and provide to 615 investors free of charge an annual report of the results of 616 operations and financial statements of the issuer within 45 days 617 after the end of its fiscal year, until no securities under this 618 offering are outstanding. The annual reports must meet the 619 following requirements:

Page 22 of 71

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283890

(a) Include an analysis by management of the issuer of the

621 business operations and the financial condition of the issuer, 622 and disclose the compensation received by each director, 623 executive officer, and person having an ownership interest of 20 624 percent or more of the issuer, including cash compensation 625 carned since the previous report and on an annual basis, and any 626 bonuses, stock options, other rights to receive securities of 627 the issuer, or any affiliate of the issuer, or other 62.8 compensation received. 629 (b) Disclose any material change to information contained 630 in the disclosure statements which was not disclosed in a 631 previous report. 632 (11) (12) (a) A notice-filing under this section must shall 633 be summarily suspended by the office if: 634 (a) The payment for the filing is dishonored by the 635 financial institution upon which the funds are drawn. For 636 purposes of s. 120.60(6), failure to pay the required notice filing fee constitutes an immediate and serious danger to the 637 public health, safety, and welfare. The office shall enter a 638 639 final order revoking a notice-filing in which the payment for 640 the filing is dishonored by the financial institution upon which 641 the funds are drawn; or-642 (b) A notice-filing under this section shall be summarily 643 suspended by the office if The issuer made a material false 644 statement in the issuer's notice-filing. The summary suspension 645 remains shall remain in effect until a final order is entered by 646 the office. For purposes of s. 120.60(6), a material false 647 statement made in the issuer's notice-filing constitutes an 648 immediate and serious danger to the public health, safety, and

Page 23 of 71

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649 welfare. If an issuer made a material false statement in the 650 issuer's notice-filing, the office must shall enter a final 651 order revoking the notice-filing, issue a fine as prescribed by 652 s. 517.191(9) s. 517.221(3), and issue permanent bars under s. 653 517.191(10) s. 517.221(4) to the issuer and all owners, 654 officers, directors, general partners, and control persons, or 655 any person occupying a similar status or performing a similar 656 function of the issuer, including title; status as a partner, 657 trustee, sole proprietor, or similar role; and ownership 658 percentage.

(12) (13) If the issuer employs the services of an intermediary, the An intermediary must:

(a) Take measures, as established by commission rule, to reduce the risk of fraud with respect to <u>the</u> transactions, including verifying that the issuer is in compliance with the requirements of this section and, if necessary, denying an issuer access to its platform if the intermediary believes it is unable to adequately assess the risk of fraud of the issuer or its potential offering.

(b) Provide basic information on its website regarding the high risk of investment in and limitation on the resale of exempt securities and the potential for loss of an entire investment. The basic information must include, but need not be limited to, all of the following:

1. A description of the <u>financial institution into which</u> investor funds will be deposited escrow agreement that the issuer has executed and the conditions for <u>the use</u> release of such funds <u>by to</u> the issuer <u>in accordance with the agreement and</u> subsection (4).

283890

678	2. A description of whether financial information provided
679	by the issuer has been audited by an independent certified
680	public accountant, as defined in s. 473.302.
681	(c) Obtain from each prospective investor a zip code or
682	residence address, a copy of a driver license, and any other
683	proof of residency in order for the issuer or intermediary to
684	reasonably believe that the potential investor is a resident of
685	this state. The commission may adopt rules authorizing
686	additional forms of identification and prescribing the process
687	for verifying any identification presented by the prospective
688	investor.
689	(d) Obtain information sufficient for the issuer or
690	intermediary to reasonably believe that a particular prospective
691	investor is an accredited investor
692	(c) Obtain a zip code or residence address from each
693	potential investor who seeks to view information regarding
694	specific investment opportunities, in order to confirm that the
695	potential investor is a resident of the state.
696	(d) Obtain and verify a valid Florida driver license number
697	or Florida identification card number from each investor before
698	purchase of a security to confirm that the investor is a
699	resident of the state. The commission may adopt rules
700	authorizing additional forms of identification and prescribing
701	the process for verifying any identification presented by the
702	investor.
703	(c) Obtain an affidavit from each investor stating that the
704	investment being made by the investor is consistent with the
705	income requirements of subsection (10).
706	(f) Direct the release of investor funds in escrow in

Page 25 of 71

283890

707 accordance with subsection (4). 708 (g) Direct investors to transmit funds directly to the 709 financial institution designated in the escrow agreement to hold 710 the funds for the benefit of the investor. 711 (e) (h) Provide a monthly update for each offering, after the first full month after the date of the offering. The update 712 713 must be accessible on the intermediary's website and must 714 display the date and amount of each sale of securities, and each 715 cancellation of commitment to invest, in the previous calendar 716 month. 717 (i) Require each investor to certify in writing, including 718 as part of such certification his or her signature and his or 719 her initials next to each paragraph of the certification, as 720 follows: 721 I understand and acknowledge that: 722 I am investing in a high-risk, speculative business 723 venture. I may lose all of my investment, and I can afford the 724 loss of my investment. 725 This offering has not been reviewed or approved by any 726 state or federal securities commission or other regulatory 727 authority and no regulatory authority has confirmed the accuracy 728 or determined the adequacy of any disclosure made to me relating 729 to this offering. 730 The securities I am acquiring in this offering are illiquid 731 and are subject to possible dilution. There is no ready market 732 for the sale of the securities. It may be difficult or impossible for me to sell or otherwise dispose of the 733 734 securities, and I may be required to hold the securities 735 indefinitely.

Page 26 of 71

283890

736 I may be subject to tax on my share of the taxable income 737 and losses of the issuer, whether or not I have sold or otherwise disposed of my investment or received any dividends or 738 739 other distributions from the issuer. 740 By entering into this transaction with the issuer, I am affirmatively representing myself as being a Florida resident at 741 the time this contract is formed, and if this representation is 742 743 subsequently shown to be false, the contract is void. 744 If I resell any of the securities I am acquiring in this 745 offering to a person that is not a Florida resident within 9 746 months after the closing of the offering, my contract with the 747 issuer for the purchase of these securities is void. 748 (j) Require each investor to answer questions demonstrating 749 an understanding of the level of risk generally applicable to 750 investments in startups, emerging businesses, and small issuers, 751 and an understanding of the risk of illiquidity. 752 (f) (k) Take reasonable steps to protect personal information collected from investors, as required by s. 501.171. 753 754 (g) (1) Prohibit its directors, and officers, managers, 755 managing members, general partners, employees, and agents from 756 having any financial interest in the issuer using its services. 757 (m) Implement written policies and procedures that are 758 reasonably designed to achieve compliance with federal and state 759 securities laws; comply with the anti-money laundering 760 requirements of 31 C.F.R. chapter X applicable to registered 761 brokers; and comply with the privacy requirements of 17 C.F.R. part 248 relating to brokers. 762 763

763 (13)(14) An intermediary not registered as a dealer under 764 s. 517.12(5) may not:

283890

765 (a) Offer investment advice or recommendations. A refusal 766 by an intermediary to post an offering that it deems not 767 credible or that represents a potential for fraud may not be construed as an offer of investment advice or recommendation. 768 769 (b) Solicit purchases, sales, or offers to buy securities 770 offered or displayed on its website. 771 (c) Compensate employees, agents, or other persons for the 772 solicitation of, or based on the sale of, securities offered or 773 displayed on its website. 774 (d) Hold, manage, possess, or otherwise handle investor 775 funds or securities. 776 (e) Compensate promoters, finders, or lead generators for 777 providing the intermediary with the personal identifying 778 information of any prospective potential investor. 779 (f) Engage in any other activities set forth by commission 780 rule. 781 (14) If the issuer does not employ a dealer or an 782 intermediary for an offering pursuant to the exemption created 783 under this section, the issuer must fulfill each of the 784 obligations specified in paragraphs (12)(c)-(f). 785 (15) Any sale made pursuant to the exemption created under 786 this section is voidable by the purchaser within 3 days after 787 the first tender of consideration is made by such purchaser to 788 the issuer by notifying the issuer that the purchaser expressly 789 voids the purchase. The purchaser's notice to the issuer must be 790 sent by e-mail to the issuer's e-mail address set forth in the 791 disclosure statement that is provided to the purchaser or 792 purchaser's representative or by certified mail or overnight 793 delivery service with proof of delivery to the mailing address

Page 28 of 71

283890

794	set forth in the disclosure statement All funds received from
795	investors must be directed to the financial institution
796	designated in the escrow agreement to hold the funds and must be
797	used in accordance with representations made to investors by the
798	intermediary. If an investor cancels a commitment to invest, the
799	intermediary must direct the financial institution designated to
800	hold the funds to promptly refund the funds of the investor.
801	Section 5. Section 517.0612, Florida Statutes, is created
802	to read:
803	517.0612 Florida Invest Local Exemption
804	(1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Invest Local
805	Exemption."
806	(2) The registration provisions of s. 517.07 do not apply
807	to a securities transaction conducted in accordance with this
808	section; however, such transaction is subject to s. 517.301.
809	(3) The offer or sale of securities under this section must
810	meet the requirements of the federal exemption for intrastate
811	offerings in s. 3(a)(11) of the Securities Act of 1933,
812	Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 147, or Securities and
813	Exchange Commission Rule 147A, as amended.
814	(4) The issuer must be a for-profit business entity
815	registered with the Department of State which has its principal
816	place of business in this state. The issuer may not be, before
817	or as a result of the offering:
818	(a) An investment company as defined in the Investment
819	Company Act of 1940, as amended;
820	(b) Subject to the reporting requirements of the Securities
821	and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended;
822	(c) A business entity that has an undefined business

Page 29 of 71

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

283890

823	operation, lacks a business plan, lacks a stated investment goal
824	for the funds being raised, or plans to engage in a merger or
825	acquisition with an unspecified business entity; or
826	(d) Subject to a disqualification as provided in s.
827	517.0616.
828	(5) The sum of all cash and other consideration received
829	from all sales of the securities in reliance upon the exemption
830	under this section may not exceed \$500,000, less the aggregate
831	amount received for all sales of securities by the issuer within
832	the 12 months before the first offer or sale made in reliance on
833	this exemption.
834	(6)(a) The issuer may not accept more than \$10,000 from any
835	single purchaser unless any of the following apply:
836	1. The issuer reasonably believes that the purchaser is an
837	accredited investor.
838	2. The purchaser is an officer, director, partner, or
839	trustee, or an individual occupying a similar status or
840	performing similar functions, of the issuer.
841	3. The purchaser is an owner of 10 percent or more of the
842	issuer's outstanding equity.
843	(b) For purposes of this subsection, the following persons
844	must be treated collectively as a single purchaser:
845	1. Any spouse or child of the purchaser or any related
846	family member who has the same primary residence as the
847	purchaser.
848	2. Any business entity of which the purchaser and any
849	person related to the purchaser as provided in subparagraph 1.
850	collectively own more than 50 percent of the equity interest.
851	(7) The issuer may engage in general advertising and

Page 30 of 71

283890

852	general solicitation of the offering. Any general advertising or
853	other general announcement must state that the offer is limited
854	and open only to residents of this state. Any oral or written
855	statements in advertising or solicitation of the offer which
856	contain a material misstatement, or which fail to disclose
857	material information, are subject to enforcement under this
858	chapter.
859	(8) A purchaser must receive, at least 3 business days
860	before any binding commitment to purchase or consideration paid,
861	a disclosure statement that provides material information
862	regarding the issuer, including, but not limited to, all of the
863	following information:
864	(a) The issuer's name, type of entity, and contact
865	information.
866	(b) The name and contact information of each director,
867	officer, or other manager of the issuer.
868	(c) A description of the issuer's business.
869	(d) A description of the security being offered.
870	(e) The total amount of the offering.
871	(f) The intended use of proceeds from the sale of the
872	securities.
873	(g) The target offering amount.
874	(h) A statement that if the target offering amount is not
875	obtained in cash or in the value of other tangible consideration
876	received on a date that is no more than 180 days after the
877	commencement of the offering, the offering will be terminated,
878	and any funds or other consideration received from purchasers
879	must be promptly returned.
880	(i) A statement that the security being offered is not

Page 31 of 71

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

2	283890
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881	registered under federal or state securities laws and that the
882	securities are subject to the limitation on resale contained in
883	Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 147 or Rule 147A.
884	(j) The names and addresses of all persons who will be
885	involved in the offer and sale of securities on behalf of the
886	issuer.
887	(k) The name of the bank or other depository institution
888	into which investor funds will be deposited.
889	(1) The following statement in boldface, conspicuous type:
890	
891	Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any
892	state securities commission has approved or
893	disapproved these securities or determined that this
894	disclosure statement is truthful or complete. Any
895	representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.
896	
897	(9) All funds received from investors must be deposited
898	into a bank or depository institution authorized to do business
899	in this state. The issuer may not withdraw any amount of the
900	offering proceeds unless the target offering amount has been
901	received.
902	(10) The issuer must file a notice of the offering with the
903	office, in writing or in electronic form, in a format prescribed
904	by commission rule, no less than 5 business days before the
905	offering commences, along with the disclosure statement
906	described in subsection (8). If there are any material changes
907	to the information previously submitted, the issuer, within 3
908	business days after such material change, must file an amended
909	notice.
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283890

910	(11) An individual, entity, or entity employee who acts as
911	an agent for the issuer in the offer or sale of securities and
912	is not registered as a dealer under this chapter may not do
913	either of the following:
914	(a) Receive compensation based upon the solicitation of
915	purchases, sales, or offers to purchase the securities.
916	(b) Take custody of investor funds or securities.
917	(12) Any sale made pursuant to the exemption created under
918	this section is voidable by the purchaser within 3 days after
919	the first tender of consideration is made by such purchaser to
920	the issuer by notifying the issuer that the purchaser expressly
921	voids the purchase. The purchaser's notice to the issuer must be
922	sent by e-mail to the issuer's e-mail address set forth in the
923	disclosure statement that is provided to a purchaser or the
924	purchaser's representative or by hand delivery, courier service,
925	or other method by which written proof of delivery to the issuer
926	of the purchaser's election to rescind the purchase is
927	evidenced.
928	Section 6. Section 517.0613, Florida Statutes, is created
929	to read:
930	517.0613 Failure to comply with a securities registration
931	exemption
932	(1) Failure to meet the requirements for any exemption from
933	securities registration does not preclude the issuer from
934	claiming the availability of any other applicable state or
935	federal exemption.
936	(2) The exemptions created under ss. 517.061, 517.0611, and
937	517.0612 are not available to an issuer for any transaction or
938	series of transactions that, although in technical compliance

Page 33 of 71

283890

939	with the applicable provisions, is part of a plan or scheme to
940	evade the registration provisions of s. 517.07, and registration
941	under s. 517.07 is required in connection with such
942	transactions.
943	Section 7. Section 517.0614, Florida Statutes, is created
944	to read:
945	517.0614 Integration of offerings
946	(1) If the safe harbors in subsection (2) do not apply, in
947	determining whether two or more offerings are to be treated as
948	one for the purpose of registration or qualifying for an
949	exemption from registration under this chapter, offers and sales
950	may not be integrated if, based on the particular facts and
951	circumstances, the issuer can establish either that each
952	offering complies with the registration requirements of this
953	chapter, or that an exemption from registration is available for
954	the particular offering, provided that any transaction or series
955	of transactions that, although in technical compliance with this
956	chapter, is part of a plan or scheme to evade the registration
957	requirements of this chapter will not have the effect of
958	avoiding integration. In making this determination:
959	(a) For an exempt offering prohibiting general
960	solicitation, the issuer must have a reasonable belief, based on
961	the facts and circumstances, with respect to each purchaser in
962	the exempt offering prohibiting general solicitation, that the
963	issuer or any person acting on the issuer's behalf:
964	1. Did not solicit such purchaser through the use of
965	general solicitation; or
966	2. Established a substantive relationship with such
967	purchaser before the commencement of the exempt offering

283890

968	prohibiting general solicitation, provided that a purchaser
969	previously solicited through the use of general solicitation is
970	not deemed to have been solicited through the use of general
971	solicitation in the current offering if, during the 45 calendar
972	days following such previous general solicitation:
973	a. No offer or sale of the same or similar class of
974	securities has been made by or on behalf of the issuer,
975	including to such purchaser; and
976	b. The issuer or any person acting on the issuer's behalf
977	has not solicited such purchaser through the use of general
978	solicitation for any other security.
979	(b) For two or more concurrent exempt offerings permitting
980	general solicitation, in addition to satisfying the requirements
981	of the particular exemption relied on, general solicitation
982	offering materials for one offering that includes information
983	about the material terms of a concurrent offering under another
984	exemption may constitute an offer of securities in such other
985	offering, and therefore the offer must comply with all the
986	requirements for, and restrictions on, offers under the
987	exemption being relied on for such other offering, including any
988	legend requirements and communications restrictions.
989	(2) The integration analysis required by subsection (1) is
990	not required if any of the following nonexclusive safe harbors
991	apply:
992	(a) An offering commenced more than 30 calendar days before
993	the commencement of any other offering, or more than 30 calendar
994	days after the termination or completion of any other offering,
995	may not be integrated with such other offering, provided that
996	for an exempt offering for which general solicitation is not
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Page 35 of 71

283890

997	permitted which follows by 30 calendar days or more an offering
998	that allows general solicitation, paragraph (1)(a) applies.
999	(b) Offers and sales made in compliance with any of the
1000	following provisions are not subject to integration with other
1001	offerings:
1002	1. Section 517.051 or s. 517.061, except s. 517.061(9),
1003	(10), or (11).
1004	2. Section 517.0611 or s. 517.0612.
1005	Section 8. Section 517.0615, Florida Statutes, is created
1006	to read:
1007	517.0615 Solicitations of interest
1008	(1) A communication may not be deemed to constitute general
1009	solicitation or general advertising if the communication is made
1010	in connection with a seminar or meeting in which more than one
1011	issuer participates and which is sponsored by a college, a
1012	university, or another institution of higher education; a state
1013	or local government or an instrumentality thereof; a nonprofit
1014	chamber of commerce or other nonprofit organization; or an angel
1015	investor group, incubator, or accelerator, if all of the
1016	following apply:
1017	(a) Advertising for the seminar or meeting does not
1018	reference a specific offering of securities by the issuer.
1019	(b) The sponsor of the seminar or meeting does not do any
1020	of the following:
1021	1. Make investment recommendations or provide investment
1022	advice to attendees of the seminar or meeting.
1023	2. Engage in any investment negotiations between the issuer
1024	and investors attending the seminar or meeting.
1025	3. Charge attendees of the seminar or meeting any fees,
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Page 36 of 71

283890

1026	other than reasonable administrative fees.
1027	4. Receive any compensation for making introductions
1028	between seminar or meeting attendees and issuers or for
1029	investment negotiations between such parties.
1030	5. Receive any compensation with respect to the seminar or
1031	meeting, which compensation would require registration or
1032	notice-filing under this chapter, the Securities Exchange Act of
1033	1934, 15 U.S.C. ss. 78a et seq., as amended, or the Investment
1034	Advisers Act of 1940, 15 U.S.C. s. 80b-1 et seq., as amended.
1035	The sponsorship or participation in the seminar or meeting does
1036	not by itself require registration or notice-filing under this
1037	chapter.
1038	(c) The type of information regarding an offering of
1039	securities by the issuer which is communicated or distributed by
1040	or on behalf of the issuer in connection with the seminar or
1041	meeting is limited to a notification that the issuer is in the
1042	process of offering or planning to offer securities, the type
1043	and amount of securities being offered, the intended use of
1044	proceeds of the offering, and the unsubscribed amount in an
1045	offering.
1046	(d) If the event allows attendees to participate virtually,
1047	rather than in person, online participation in the event is
1048	limited to:
1049	1. Individuals that are members of, or otherwise associated
1050	with, the sponsor organization;
1051	2. Individuals that the sponsor reasonably believes are
1052	accredited investors; or
1053	3. Individuals that have been invited to the event by the
1054	sponsor based on industry or investment-related experience

Page 37 of 71

283890

1055	reasonably selected by the sponsor in good faith and disclosed
1056	in the public communications about the event.
1057	(2) Before any offers or sales are made in connection with
1058	an offering, communications by an issuer or any person
1059	authorized to act on behalf of the issuer are not deemed to
1060	constitute general solicitation or general advertising if the
1061	communication is solely for the purpose of determining whether
1062	there is any interest in a contemplated securities offering.
1063	Requirements imposed under this chapter on written or oral
1064	statements made in the course of such communication may be
1065	enforced as provided in this chapter. The solicitation or
1066	acceptance of money or other consideration or of any commitment,
1067	binding or otherwise, from any person is prohibited.
1068	(a) The communication must state all of the following:
1069	1. Money or other consideration is not being solicited and,
1070	if sent in response, will not be accepted.
1071	2. Any offer to buy the securities will not be accepted,
1072	and no part of the purchase price will be accepted.
1073	3. A person's indication of interest does not involve
1074	obligation or commitment of any kind.
1075	(b) Any written communication under this subsection may
1076	include a means by which a person may indicate to the issuer
1077	that the person is interested in a potential offering. The
1078	issuer may require the name, address, telephone number, or e-
1079	mail address in any response form included in the written
1080	communication under this paragraph.
1081	(c) A communication in accordance with this subsection is
1082	not subject to s. 501.059, regarding telephone solicitations.
1083	Section 9. Section 517.0616, Florida Statutes, is created

Page 38 of 71

283890

1084	to read:
1085	517.0616 DisqualificationA registration exemption under
1086	s. 517.061(9), (10), and (11), s. 517.0611, or s. 517.0612 is
1087	not available to an issuer that would be disqualified under
1088	Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 506(d), 17 C.F.R. s.
1089	230.506(d), as amended, at the time the issuer makes an offer
1090	for the sale of a security.
1091	Section 10. Present subsections (4) through (8) of section
1092	517.081, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (6)
1093	through (10), respectively, new subsections (4) and (5) are
1094	added to that section, and subsection (2), paragraph (g) of
1095	subsection (3), and present subsection (7) of that section are
1096	amended, to read:
1097	517.081 Registration procedure
1098	(2) The office shall receive and act upon applications <u>for</u>
1099	the registration of to have securities registered, and the
1100	commission may prescribe forms on which it may require such
1101	applications to be submitted. Applications must shall be duly
1102	signed by the applicant, sworn to by any person having knowledge
1103	of the facts, and filed with the office. The commission may
1104	establish, by rule, procedures for depositing fees and filing
1105	documents by electronic means provided such procedures provide
1106	the office with the information and data required by this
1107	section. An application may be made either by the issuer of the
1108	securities for which registration is applied or by any
1109	registered dealer desiring to sell such securities the same
1110	within the state.
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1111 (3) The office may require the applicant to submit to the 1112 office the following information concerning the issuer and such



1113 other relevant information as the office may in its judgment 1114 deem necessary to enable it to ascertain whether such securities 1115 shall be registered pursuant to the provisions of this section:

(g)1. A specimen copy of the securities certificate, if applicable, and a copy of any circular, prospectus, advertisement, or other description of such securities.

2. The commission shall adopt a form for a simplified offering circular to register, under this section, securities that are sold in offerings in which the aggregate offering price in any consecutive 12-month period does not exceed the amount provided in s. 3(b) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. The following issuers shall not be eligible to submit a simplified offering circular adopted pursuant to this subparagraph:

a. An issuer seeking to register securities for resale by persons other than the issuer.

1129 b. An issuer that is subject to any of the 1130 disqualifications described in 17 C.F.R. s. 230.262, adopted 1131 pursuant to the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or that has 1132 been or is engaged or is about to engage in an activity that 1133 would be grounds for denial, revocation, or suspension under s. 1134 517.111. For purposes of this subparagraph, an issuer includes an issuer's director, officer, general partner, manager or 1135 1136 managing member, trustee, or equity owner who owns at least 10 1137 percent of the ownership interests of the issuer, promoter, or selling agent of the securities to be offered or any officer, 1138 11.39 director, partner, or manager or managing member of such selling 1140 agent.

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c. An issuer that is a development-stage company that

Page 40 of 71

283890

1142 either has no specific business plan or purpose or has indicated 1143 that its business plan is to merge with an unidentified company 1144 or companies.

d. An issuer of offerings in which the specific business or properties cannot be described.

e. Any issuer the office determines is ineligible because the form does not provide full and fair disclosure of material information for the type of offering to be registered by the issuer.

f. Any issuer that has failed to provide the office the reports required for a previous offering registered pursuant to this subparagraph.

As a condition precedent to qualifying for use of the simplified offering circular, an issuer shall agree to provide the office with an annual financial report containing a balance sheet as of the end of the issuer's fiscal year and a statement of income for such year, prepared in accordance with United States generally accepted accounting principles and accompanied by an independent accountant's report. If the issuer has more than 100 security holders at the end of a fiscal year, the financial statements must be audited. Annual financial reports must be filed with the office within 90 days after the close of the issuer's fiscal year for each of the first 5 years following the effective date of the registration.

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(4) The commission may, by rule:

(a) Establish criteria relating to the issuance of equity securities, debt securities, insurance company securities, real estate investment trusts, oil and gas investments, and other

Page 41 of 71

	283890
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1171 investments. In establishing these criteria, the commi	ssion may
1172 consider the rules and regulations of the Securities a	ind
1173 Exchange Commission and statements of policy by the No	orth
1174 American Securities Administrators Association, Inc.,	relating
1175 to the registration of securities offerings. The crite	eria must
1176 <u>include all of the following:</u>	
1177 <u>1. The promoter's equity investment ratio.</u>	
1178 <u>2. The financial condition of the issuer.</u>	
1179 <u>3. The voting rights of shareholders.</u>	
1180 4. The grant of options or warrants to underwrite	ers and
1181 <u>others.</u>	
1182 <u>5. Loans and other transactions with affiliates o</u>	of the
1183 <u>issuer.</u>	
1184 <u>6. The use, escrow, or refund of proceeds of the</u>	offering.
(b) Prescribe forms requiring applications for th	ie
1186 registration of securities to be submitted to the offi	.ce,
1187 including a simplified offering circular to register,	under this
1188 section, securities that are sold in offerings in which	h the
1189 aggregate offering price in any consecutive 12-month p	eriod does
1190 not exceed the amount provided in s. 3(b) of the Secur	ities Act
1191 of 1933, as amended.	
1192 (c) Establish procedures for depositing fees and	filing
1193 documents by electronic means, provided that such proc	edures
1194 provide the office with the information and data requi	red by
1195 this section.	
(d) Establish requirements and standards for the	filing,
1197 content, and circulation of a preliminary, final, or a	mended
1198 prospectus, advertisements, and other sales literature	e. In
1199 establishing such requirements and standards, the comm	<u>ission</u>

Page 42 of 71

283890

1200	shall consider the rules and regulations of the Securities and
1201	Exchange Commission relating to requirements for preliminary,
1202	final, or amended or supplemented prospectuses and the rules of
1203	the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority relating to
1204	advertisements and sales literature.
1205	(5) All of the following issuers are not eligible to submit
1206	a simplified offering circular:
1207	(a) An issuer that is subject to any of the
1208	disqualifications described in Securities and Exchange
1209	Commission Rule 262, 17 C.F.R. s. 230.262, as amended, or that
1210	has been or is engaged or is about to engage in an activity that
1211	would be grounds for denial, revocation, or suspension under s.
1212	517.111. For purposes of this paragraph, an issuer includes an
1213	issuer's director, officer, general partner, manager or managing
1214	member, trustee, or a person owning at least 10 percent of the
1215	ownership interests of the issuer; a promoter or selling agent
1216	of the securities to be offered; or any officer, director,
1217	partner, or manager or managing member of such selling agent.
1218	(b) An issuer that is a development-stage company that
1219	either has no specific business plan or purpose or has indicated
1220	that its business plan is to merge with an unidentified business
1221	entity or entities.
1222	(c) An issuer of offerings in which the specific business
1223	or properties cannot be described.
1224	(d) An issuer that the office determines is ineligible
1225	because the simplified circular does not provide full and fair
1226	disclosure of material information for the type of offering to
1227	be registered by the issuer.
1228	<u>(9)(a)</u> The office shall record the registration of a
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Page 43 of 71

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

283890

1229	security in the register of securities if, upon examination of
1230	an any application, it finds that all of the following
1231	requirements are met: the office
1232	1. The application is complete.
1233	2. The fee imposed in subsection (8) has been paid.
1234	3. The sale of the security would not be fraudulent and
1235	would not work or tend to work a fraud upon the purchaser.
1236	4. The terms of the sale of such securities would be fair,
1237	just, and equitable.
1238	5. The enterprise or business of the issuer is not based
1239	upon unsound business principles.
1240	(b) Upon registration, the security may be sold by the
1241	issuer or any registered dealer, subject, however, to the
1242	further order of the office shall find that the sale of the
1243	security referred to therein would not be fraudulent and would
1244	not work or tend to work a fraud upon the purchaser, that the
1245	terms of the sale of such securities would be fair, just, and
1246	equitable, and that the enterprise or business of the issuer is
1247	not based upon unsound business principles, it shall record the
1248	registration of such security in the register of securities; and
1249	thereupon such security so registered may be sold by any
1250	registered dealer, subject, however, to the further order of the
1251	office. In order to determine if an offering is fair, just, and
1252	equitable, the commission may by rule establish requirements and
1253	standards for the filing, content, and circulation of any
1254	preliminary, final, or amended prospectus and other sales
1255	literature and may by rule establish merit qualification
1256	criteria relating to the issuance of equity securities, debt
1257	securities, insurance company securities, real estate investment

Page 44 of 71

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

283890

1258 trusts, and other traditional and nontraditional investments, 1259 including, but not limited to, oil and gas investments. The 1260 criteria may include such elements as the promoter's equity 1261 investment ratio, the financial condition of the issuer, the 1262 voting rights of shareholders, the grant of options or warrants to underwriters and others, loans and other affiliated 1263 1264 transaction, the use or refund of proceeds of the offering, and 1265 such other relevant criteria as the office in its judgment may deem necessary to such determination. 1266 1267 Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 517.101, Florida 1268 Statutes, is amended to read: 1269 517.101 Consent to service.-1270 (2) Any such action must shall be brought either in the 1271 county of the plaintiff's residence or in the county in which 1272 the office has its official headquarters. The written consent 1273 must shall be authenticated by the seal of the said issuer, if 1274 it has a seal, and by the acknowledged signature of a director, 1275 manager, managing member, general partner, trustee, or officer 1276 of the issuer member of the copartnership or company, or by the 1277 acknowledged signature of any officer of the incorporated or 1278 unincorporated association, if it be an incorporated or 1279 unincorporated association, duly authorized by resolution of the 1280 board of directors, trustees, or managers of the corporation or 1281 association, and must shall in such case be accompanied by a 1282 duly certified copy of the resolution of the issuer's board of 1283 directors, trustees, managers, managing members, or general 1284 partners or managers of the corporation or association, 1285 authorizing the signer to execute the consent officers to 1286 execute the same. In case any process or pleadings mentioned in

Page 45 of 71

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1287 this chapter are served upon the office, <u>service must</u> it shall 1288 be by duplicate copies, one of which <u>must</u> shall be filed in the 1289 office and <u>the other</u> another immediately forwarded by the office 1290 by registered mail to the principal office of the issuer against 1291 which <u>the</u> said process or pleadings are directed.

Section 12. Section 517.131, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

517.131 Securities Guaranty Fund.-

(1) <u>As used in this section, the term "final judgment"</u> includes an arbitration award confirmed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

1298 (2) (a) The Chief Financial Officer shall establish a 1299 Securities Guaranty Fund to provide monetary relief to victims 1300 of securities violations under this chapter who are entitled to 1301 monetary damages or restitution and cannot recover the full 1302 amount of such monetary damages or restitution from the wrongdoer. An amount not exceeding 20 percent of all revenues 1303 1304 received as assessment fees pursuant to s. 517.12(9) and (10) 1305 for dealers and investment advisers or s. 517.1201 for federal 1306 covered advisers and an amount not exceeding 10 percent of all 1307 revenues received as assessment fees pursuant to s. 517.12(9) 1308 and (10) for associated persons must shall be part of the 1309 regular registration license fee and must shall be transferred 1310 to or deposited in the Securities Guaranty Fund.

(b) If the <u>balance in the Securities Guaranty</u> Fund at any
time exceeds \$1.5 million, transfer of assessment fees to <u>the</u>
this fund <u>must shall</u> be discontinued at the end of that
<u>registration license</u> year, and transfer of such assessment fees
may <u>shall</u> not resume <u>be resumed</u> unless the fund balance is

Page 46 of 71



1316	reduced below \$1 million by disbursement made in accordance with
1317	s. 517.141.
1318	(2) The Securities Guaranty Fund shall be disbursed as
1319	provided in s. 517.141 to a person who is adjudged by a court of
1320	competent jurisdiction to have suffered monetary damages as a
1321	result of any of the following acts committed by a dealer,
1322	investment adviser, or associated person who was licensed under
1323	this chapter at the time the act was committed:
1324	(a) A violation of s. 517.07.
1325	(b) A violation of s. 517.301.
1326	(3) <u>A</u> Any person is eligible <u>for payment</u> to seek recovery
1327	from the Securities Guaranty Fund if the person:
1328	(a)1. Holds an unsatisfied final judgment in which a
1329	wrongdoer was found to have violated s. 517.07 or s. 517.301;
1330	2. Has applied any amount recovered from the judgment
1331	debtor or any other source to the damages awarded by the court
1332	or arbitrator;
1333	3. Is a natural person who was a resident of this state, or
1334	is a business entity that was domiciled in this state, at the
1335	time of the violation of s. 517.07 or s. 517.301; and
1336	4. Is seeking recovery for an act that occurred on or after
1337	October 1, 2024; or
1338	(b) Is a receiver appointed pursuant to s. 517.191(2) by a
1339	court of competent jurisdiction for a wrongdoer ordered to pay
1340	restitution under s. 517.191(3) as a result of a violation of s.
1341	517.07 or s. 517.301 which has requested payment from the
1342	Securities Guaranty Fund on behalf of a person eligible for
1343	payment under paragraph (a)
1344	(a) Such person has received final judgment in a court of

Page 47 of 71

283890

1345 competent jurisdiction in any action wherein the cause of action 1346 was based on a violation of those sections referred to in 1347 subsection (2).

1348 (b) Such person has made all reasonable searches and 1349 inquiries to ascertain whether the judgment debtor possesses 1350 real or personal property or other assets subject to being sold or applied in satisfaction of the judgment, and by her or his 1351 1352 search the person has discovered no property or assets; or she 1353 or he has discovered property and assets and has taken all 1354 necessary action and proceedings for the application thereof to 1355 the judgment, but the amount thereby realized was insufficient 1356 to satisfy the judgment. To verify compliance with such 1357 condition, the office may require such person to have a writ of 1358 execution be issued upon such judgment, may require a showing 1359 that no personal or real property of the judgment debtor liable 1360 to be levied upon in complete satisfaction of the judgment can 1361 be found, or may require an affidavit from the claimant setting 1362 forth the reasonable searches and inquiries undertaken and the 1363 result of those searches and inquiries.

1364 (c) Such person has applied any amounts recovered from the 1365 judgment debtor, or from any other source, to the damages 1366 awarded by the court.

1367 (d) The act for which recovery is sought occurred on or 1368 after January 1, 1979.

1369 (e) The office waives compliance with the requirements of 1370 paragraph (a) or paragraph (b). The office may waive such 1371 compliance if the dealer, investment adviser, or associated 1372 person which is the subject of the claim filed with the office 1373 is the subject of any proceeding in which a receiver has been

Page 48 of 71

283890

1374	appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction. If the office
1375	waives such compliance, the office may, upon petition by the
1376	debtor or the court-appointed trustee, examiner, or receiver,
1377	distribute funds from the Securities Guaranty Fund up to the
1378	amount allowed under s. 517.141. Any waiver granted pursuant to
1379	this section shall be considered a judgment for purposes of
1380	complying with the requirements of this section and of s.
1381	517.141.
1382	(4) A person who has done any of the following is not
1383	eligible for payment from the Securities Guaranty Fund:
1384	(a) Participated or assisted in a violation of this
1385	chapter.
1386	(b) Attempted to commit or committed a violation of this
1387	chapter.
1388	(c) Profited from a violation of this chapter.
1389	(5) An eligible person, or a receiver on behalf of the
1390	eligible person, seeking payment from the Securities Guaranty
1391	Fund must file with the office a written application on a form
1392	that the commission may prescribe by rule. The commission may
1393	adopt by rule procedures for filing documents by electronic
1394	means, provided that such procedures provide the office with the
1395	information and data required by this section. The application
1396	must be filed with the office within 1 year after the date of
1397	the final judgment, the date on which a restitution order has
1398	been ripe for execution, or the date of any appellate decision
1399	thereon, and, at minimum, must contain all of the following
1400	information:
1401	(a) The eligible person's and, if applicable, the
1402	receiver's full name, address, and contact information.

Page 49 of 71

283890

1403	(b) The person ordered to pay restitution.
1404	(c) If the eligible person is a business entity, the
1405	eligible person's type and place of organization and, as
1406	applicable, a copy, as amended, of its articles of
1407	incorporation, articles of organization, trust agreement, or
1408	partnership agreement.
1409	(d) Any final judgment and a copy thereof.
1410	(e) Any restitution order pursuant to s. 517.191(3), and a
1411	copy thereof.
1412	(f) An affidavit from the eligible person stating either
1413	one of the following:
1414	1. That the eligible person has made all reasonable
1415	searches and inquiries to ascertain whether the judgment debtor
1416	possesses real or personal property or other assets subject to
1417	being sold or applied in satisfaction of the final judgment and,
1418	by the eligible person's search, that the eligible person has
1419	not discovered any property or assets.
1420	2. That the eligible person has taken necessary action on
1421	the property and assets of the wrongdoers but the final judgment
1422	remains unsatisfied.
1423	(g) If the application is filed by the receiver, an
1424	affidavit from the receiver stating the amount of restitution
1425	owed to the eligible person on whose behalf the claim is filed;
1426	the amount of any money, property, or assets paid to the
1427	eligible person on whose behalf the claim is filed by the person
1428	over whom the receiver is appointed; and the amount of any
1429	unsatisfied portion of any eligible person's order of
1430	restitution.
1431	(h) The eligible person's residence or domicile at the time
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COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

283890

1432	of the violation of s. 517.07 or s. 517.301 which resulted in
1433	the eligible person's monetary damages.
1434	(i) The amount of any unsatisfied portion of the eligible
1435	person's final judgment.
1436	(j) Whether an appeal or motion to vacate an arbitration
1437	award has been filed.
1438	(6) If the office finds that a person is eligible for
1439	payment from the Securities Guaranty Fund and if the person has
1440	complied with this section and the rules adopted under this
1441	section, the office must approve payment to such person from the
1442	fund. Within 90 days after the office's receipt of a complete
1443	application, each eligible person or receiver must be given
1444	written notice, personally or by mail, that the office intends
1445	to approve or deny, or has approved or denied, the application
1446	for payment from the Securities Guaranty Fund.
1447	(7) Upon receipt by the eligible person or receiver of
1448	notice of the office's decision that the eligible person's or
1449	receiver's application for payment from the Securities Guaranty
1450	Fund is approved, and before any disbursement, the eligible
1451	person shall assign to the office on a form prescribed by
1452	commission rule all right, title, and interest in the final
1453	judgment or order of restitution equal to the amount of such
1454	payment.
1455	(8) The office shall deem an application for payment from
1456	the Securities Guaranty Fund abandoned if the eligible person or
1457	receiver, or any person acting on behalf of the eligible person
1458	or receiver, fails to timely complete the application as
1459	prescribed by commission rule. The time period to complete an
1460	application must be tolled during the pendency of an appeal or
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Page 51 of 71



1461	motion to vacate an arbitration award.
1462	(4) Any person who files an action that may result in the
1463	disbursement of funds from the Securities Guaranty Fund pursuant
1464	to the provisions of s. 517.141 shall give written notice by
1465	certified mail to the office as soon as practicable after such
1466	action has been filed. The failure to give such notice shall not
1467	bar a payment from the Securities Guaranty Fund if all of the
1468	conditions specified in subsection (3) are satisfied.
1469	(5) The commission may adopt rules pursuant to ss.
1470	120.536(1) and 120.54 specifying the procedures for complying
1471	with subsections (2), (3), and (4), including rules for the form
1472	of submission and guidelines for the sufficiency and content of
1473	submissions of notices and claims.
1474	Section 13. Section 517.141, Florida Statutes, is amended
1475	to read:
1476	517.141 Payment from the fund
1477	(1) As used in this section, the term:
1478	(a) "Claimant" means a person determined eligible for
1479	payment under s. 517.131 that is approved by the office for
1480	payment from the Securities Guaranty Fund.
1481	(b) "Final judgment" includes an arbitration award
1482	confirmed by a court of competent jurisdiction.
1483	(c) "Specified adult" has the same meaning as in s.
1484	<u>517.34(1).</u>
1485	(2) A claimant is entitled to disbursement from the
1486	Securities Guaranty Fund in the amount equal to the lesser of:
1487	(a) The unsatisfied portion of the claimant's final
1488	judgment or final order of restitution, but only to the extent
1489	that the final judgment or final order of restitution reflects

Page 52 of 71

283890

1490 actual or compensatory damages, excluding postjudgment interest, 1491 costs, and attorney fees; or 1492 (b)1. The sum of \$15,000; or 1493 2. If the claimant is a specified adult or if a specified 1494 adult is a beneficial owner or beneficiary of the claimant, the 1495 sum of \$25,000 Any person who meets all of the conditions prescribed in s. 517.131 may apply to the office for payment to 1496 1497 be made to such person from the Securities Guaranty Fund in the 1498 amount equal to the unsatisfied portion of such person's 1499 judgment or \$10,000, whichever is less, but only to the extent 1500 and amount reflected in the judgment as being actual or 1501 compensatory damages, excluding postjudgment interest, costs, 1502 and attorney's fees. 1503 (3) (2) Regardless of the number of claims or claimants 1504 involved, payments for claims are shall be limited in the 1505 aggregate to \$250,000 \$100,000 against any one dealer, 1506 investment adviser, or associated person. If the total claim 1507 filed by a receiver on behalf of multiple claimants exceeds claims exceed the aggregate limit of \$250,000 \$100,000, the 1508 1509 office must shall prorate the payment to each claimant based 1510 upon the ratio that each claimant's individual the person's 1511 claim bears to the total claim claims filed. 1512 (4) If at any time the balance in the Securities Guaranty 1513 Fund is insufficient to satisfy a valid claim or portion of a 1514 valid claim approved by the office, the office must satisfy the 1515 unpaid claim or portion of the valid claim as soon as a 1516 sufficient amount of money has been deposited into or 1517 transferred to the Securities Guaranty Fund. If more than one

1518 unsatisfied claim is outstanding, the claims must be paid in the

Page 53 of 71

283890

1519 sequence in which the claims were approved by final order of the 1520 office, which final order is not subject to an appeal or other 1521 pending proceeding. 1522 (5) All payments and disbursements made from the Securities 1523 Guaranty Fund must be made by the Chief Financial Officer, or 1524 his or her designee, upon authorization by the office. The 1525 office shall submit such authorization within 30 days after the 1526 approval of an eligible person for payment from the Securities 1527 Guaranty Fund 1528 (3) No payment shall be made on any claim against any one 1529 dealer, investment adviser, or associated person before the 1530 expiration of 2 years from the date any claimant is found by the 1531 office to be eligible for recovery pursuant to this section. If 1532 during this 2-year period more than one claim is filed against 1533 the same dealer, investment adviser, or associated person, or if 1534 the office receives notice pursuant to s. 517.131(4) that an 1535 action against the same dealer, investment adviser, or associated person is pending, all such claims and notices of 1536 1537 pending claims received during this period against the same 1538 dealer, investment adviser, or associated person may be handled 1539 by the office as provided in this section. Two years after the 1540 first claimant against that same dealer, investment adviser, or associated person applies for payment pursuant to this section: 1541 1542 (a) The office shall determine those persons eligible for 1543 payment or for potential payment in the event of a pending 1544 action. All such persons may be entitled to receive their pro 1545 rata shares of the fund as provided in this section. 1546 (b) Those persons who meet all the conditions prescribed in 1547 s. 517.131 and who have applied for payment pursuant to this

Page 54 of 71



1548 section will be entitled to receive their pro rata shares of the 1549 total disbursement.

(c) Those persons who have filed notice with the office of 1550 a pending claim pursuant to s. 517.131(4) but who are not yet 1551 1552 eligible for payment from the fund will be entitled to receive 1553 their pro rata shares of the total disbursement once they have 1554 complied with subsection (1). However, in the event that the 1555 amounts they are eligible to receive pursuant to subsection (1) 1556 are less than their pro rata shares as determined under this 1557 section, any excess shall be distributed pro rata to those 1558 persons entitled to disbursement under this subsection whose pro 1559 rata shares of the total disbursement were less than the amounts 1560 of their claims.

1561 (6) (4) Individual claims filed by persons owning the same 1562 joint account, or claims arising stemming from any other type of 1563 account maintained by a particular licensee on which more than 1564 one name appears, must shall be treated as the claims of one 1565 eligible claimant with respect to payment from the Securities 1566 Guaranty Fund. If a claimant who has obtained a final judgment 1567 or final order of restitution that which qualifies for 1568 disbursement under s. 517.131 has maintained more than one account with the dealer, investment adviser, or associated 1569 1570 person who is the subject of the claims, for purposes of 1571 disbursement of the Securities Guaranty Fund, all such accounts, 1572 whether joint or individual, must shall be considered as one 1573 account and shall entitle such claimant to only one distribution 1574 from the fund not to exceed the lesser of \$10,000 or the 1575 unsatisfied portion of such claimant's judgment as provided in 1576 subsection (1). To the extent that a claimant obtains more than

Page 55 of 71

283890

1577 one final judgment or final order of restitution against a 1578 person dealer, investment adviser, or one or more associated 1579 persons arising out of the same transactions, occurrences, or 1580 conduct or out of such the dealer's, investment adviser's, or 1581 associated person's handling of the claimant's account, the 1582 final such judgments or final orders of restitution must shall 1583 be consolidated for purposes of this section and shall entitle 1584 the claimant to only one disbursement from the fund not to exceed the lesser of \$10,000 or the unsatisfied portion of such 1585 1586 claimant's judgment as provided in subsection (1).

1587 (7) (5) If the final judgment or final order of restitution 1588 that gave rise to the claim is overturned in any appeal or in 1589 any collateral proceeding, the claimant must shall reimburse the 1590 Securities Guaranty Fund all amounts paid from the fund to the 1591 claimant on the claim. If the claimant satisfies the final 1592 judgment or final order of restitution specified in s. 1593 517.131(3)(a), the claimant must shall reimburse the Securities 1594 Guaranty Fund all amounts paid from the fund to the claimant on 1595 the claim. Such reimbursement must shall be paid to the 1596 Department of Financial Services office within 60 days after the 1597 final resolution of the appellate or collateral proceedings or 1598 the satisfaction of the final judgment or order of restitution, 1599 with the 60-day period commencing on the date the final order or 1600 decision is entered in such proceedings.

1601 <u>(8) (6)</u> If a claimant receives payments in excess of that 1602 which is permitted under this chapter, the claimant <u>must</u> shall 1603 reimburse the <u>Securities Guaranty</u> Fund such excess within 60 1604 days after the claimant receives such excess payment or after 1605 the payment is determined to be in excess of that permitted by

283890

1606 law, whichever is later.

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(9) A claimant who knowingly and willfully files or causes to be filed an application under s. 517.131 or documents supporting the application, any of which contain false, incomplete, or misleading information in any material aspect, forfeits all payments from the Securities Guaranty Fund and commits a violation of s. 517.301(1)(c).

(10) (7) The Department of Financial Services office may institute legal proceedings to enforce compliance with this section and with s. 517.131 to recover moneys owed to the <u>Securities Guaranty</u> Fund, and <u>is shall be</u> entitled to recover interest, costs, and <u>attorney</u> attorney's fees in any action brought pursuant to this section in which the <u>department</u> office prevails.

(8) If at any time the money in the Securities Guaranty Fund is insufficient to satisfy any valid claim or portion of a valid claim approved by the office, the office shall satisfy such unpaid claim or portion of such valid claim as soon as a sufficient amount of money has been deposited in or transferred to the fund. When there is more than one unsatisfied claim outstanding, such claims shall be paid in the order in which the claims were approved by final order of the office, which order is not subject to an appeal or other pending proceeding.

1629 (9) Upon receipt by the claimant of the payment from the 1630 Securities Guaranty Fund, the claimant shall assign any 1631 additional right, title, and interest in the judgment, to the 1632 extent of such payment, to the office. If the provisions of s. 1633 517.131(3)(e) apply, the claimant must assign to the office any 1634 right, title, and interest in the debt to the extent of any

Page 57 of 71

283890

1635	payment by the office from the Securities Guaranty Fund.
1636	(10) All payments and disbursements made from the
1637	Securities Guaranty Fund shall be made by the Chief Financial
1638	Officer upon authorization signed by the director of the office,
1639	or such agent as she or he may designate.
1640	Section 14. Section 517.191, Florida Statutes, is amended
1641	to read:
1642	517.191 Enforcement by the Office of Financial Regulation
1643	Injunction to restrain violations; civil penalties; enforcement
1644	by Attorney General
1645	(1) When it appears to the office, either upon complaint or
1646	otherwise, that a person has engaged or is about to engage in
1647	any act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter or
1648	a rule or order hereunder, the office may investigate; and
1649	whenever it shall believe from evidence satisfactory to it that
1650	any such person has engaged, is engaged, or is about to engage
1651	in any act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter
1652	or a rule or order hereunder, the office may, in addition to any
1653	other remedies, bring action in the name and on behalf of the
1654	state against such person and any other person concerned in or
1655	in any way participating in or about to participate in such
1656	practices or engaging therein or doing any act or acts in
1657	furtherance thereof or in violation of this chapter to enjoin
1658	such person or persons from continuing such fraudulent practices
1659	or engaging therein or doing any act or acts in furtherance
1660	thereof or in violation of this chapter. In any such court
1661	proceedings, the office may apply for, and on due showing be
1662	entitled to have issued, the court's subpoena requiring
1663	forthwith the appearance of any defendant and her or his



employees, associated persons, or agents and the production of documents, books, and records that may appear necessary for the hearing of such petition, to testify or give evidence concerning the acts or conduct or things complained of in such application for injunction. In such action, the equity courts shall have jurisdiction of the subject matter, and a judgment may be entered awarding such injunction as may be proper.

1671 (2) In addition to all other means provided by law for the 1672 enforcement of any temporary restraining order, temporary 1673 injunction, or permanent injunction issued in any such court 1674 proceedings, the court shall have the power and jurisdiction, 1675 upon application of the office, to impound and to appoint a 1676 receiver or administrator for the property, assets, and business 1677 of the defendant, including, but not limited to, the books, 1678 records, documents, and papers appertaining thereto. Such 1679 receiver or administrator, when appointed and qualified, shall 1680 have all powers and duties as to custody, collection, 1681 administration, winding up, and liquidation of such said 1682 property and business as may shall from time to time be 1683 conferred upon her or him by the court. In any such action, the 1684 court may issue orders and decrees staying all pending suits and 1685 enjoining any further suits affecting the receiver's or 1686 administrator's custody or possession of such the said property, 1687 assets, and business or, in its discretion, may with the consent 1688 of the presiding judge of the circuit require that all such 1689 suits be assigned to the circuit court judge appointing such the 1690 said receiver or administrator.

1691 (3) In addition to, or in lieu of, any other remedies1692 provided by this chapter, the office may apply to the court

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1693 hearing the this matter for an order directing the defendant to 1694 make restitution of those sums shown by the office to have been 1695 obtained in violation of any of the provisions of this chapter. 1696 The office has standing to request such restitution on behalf of 1697 victims in cases brought by the office under this chapter, regardless of the appointment of an administrator or receiver 1698 1699 under subsection (2) or an injunction under subsection (1). 1700 Further, such restitution must shall, at the option of the 1701 court, be payable to the administrator or receiver appointed 1702 pursuant to this section or directly to the persons whose assets 1703 were obtained in violation of this chapter.

(4) In addition to any other remedies provided by this chapter, the office may apply to the court hearing the matter for, and the court <u>has shall have</u> jurisdiction to impose, a civil penalty against any person found to have violated any provision of this chapter, any rule or order adopted by the commission or <u>the</u> office, or any written agreement entered into with the office in an amount not to exceed any of the following:

1711 (a) The greater of $$20,000 = \frac{10,000}{10,000}$ for a natural person or 1712 \$25,000 for a business entity any other person, or the gross 1713 amount of any pecuniary loss to investors or pecuniary gain to a 1714 natural person or business entity such defendant for each such 1715 violation, other than a violation of s. 517.301, plus the 1716 greater of \$50,000 for a natural person or \$250,000 for a 1717 business entity any other person, or the gross amount of any 1718 pecuniary loss to investors or pecuniary gain to a natural 1719 person or business entity such defendant for each violation of 1720 s. 517.301.

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(b) Twice the amount of the civil penalty that would

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1722 otherwise be imposed under this subsection if a specified adult, 1723 as defined in s. 517.34(1), is the victim of a violation of this 1724 chapter. 1725 1726 All civil penalties collected pursuant to this subsection must 1727 shall be deposited into the Anti-Fraud Trust Fund. The office 1728 may recover any costs and attorney fees related to its 1729 investigation or enforcement of this section. Notwithstanding

1730 any other law, such moneys recovered by the office must be 1731 deposited into the Anti-Fraud Trust Fund.

(5) For purposes of any action brought by the office under this section, a control person who controls any person found to have violated this chapter or any rule adopted thereunder is jointly and severally liable with, and to the same extent as, the controlled person in any action brought by the office under this section unless the control person can establish by a preponderance of the evidence that he or she acted in good faith and did not directly or indirectly induce the act that constitutes the violation or cause of action.

(6) For purposes of any action brought by the office under this section, a person who knowingly or recklessly provides substantial assistance to another person in violation of this chapter or any rule adopted thereunder is deemed to violate this chapter or the rule to the same extent as the person to whom such assistance is provided.

1747 (7) The office may issue and serve upon a person a cease
1748 and desist order if the office has reason to believe that the
1749 person violates, has violated, or is about to violate this
1750 chapter, any commission or office rule or order, or any written

Page 61 of 71

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283890

1751 agreement entered into with the office.

(8) If the office finds that any conduct described in subsection (7) presents an immediate danger to the public, requiring an immediate final order, the office may issue an emergency cease and desist order reciting with particularity the facts underlying such findings. The emergency cease and desist order is effective immediately upon service of a copy of the order on the respondent named in the order and remains effective for 90 days after issuance. If the office begins nonemergency cease and desist proceedings under subsection (7), the emergency 1761 cease and desist order remains effective until the conclusion of 1762 the proceedings under ss. 120.569 and 120.57.

(9) The office may impose and collect an administrative fine against any person found to have violated any provision of this chapter, any rule or order adopted by the commission or office, or any written agreement entered into with the office in an amount not to exceed the penalties provided in subsection (4). All fines collected under this subsection must be deposited into the Anti-Fraud Trust Fund.

(10) The office may bar, permanently or for a specific period of time, any person found to have violated this chapter, any rule or order adopted by the commission or office, or any written agreement entered into with the office from submitting an application or notification for a license or registration with the office.

1776 (11) In addition to all other means provided by law for 1777 enforcing any of the provisions of this chapter, when the Attorney General, upon complaint or otherwise, has reason to 1778 1779 believe that a person has engaged or is engaged in any act or



1780 practice constituting a violation of s. 517.275 or, s. 517.301, 1781 s. 517.311, or s. 517.312, or any rule or order issued under 1782 such sections, the Attorney General may investigate and bring an 1783 action to enforce these provisions as provided in ss. 517.171, 1784 517.201, and 517.2015 after receiving written approval from the 1785 office. Such an action may be brought against such person and any other person in any way participating in such act or 1786 1787 practice or engaging in such act or practice or doing any act in 1788 furtherance of such act or practice, to obtain injunctive 1789 relief, restitution, civil penalties, and any remedies provided 1790 for in this section. The Attorney General may recover any costs 1791 and attorney fees related to the Attorney General's 1792 investigation or enforcement of this section. Notwithstanding 1793 any other provision of law, moneys recovered by the Attorney 1794 General for costs, attorney fees, and civil penalties for a 1795 violation of s. 517.275 or, s. 517.301, s. 517.311, or 1796 517.312, or any rule or order issued pursuant to such sections, 1797 must shall be deposited in the Legal Affairs Revolving Trust 1798 Fund. The Legal Affairs Revolving Trust Fund may be used to 1799 investigate and enforce this section.

<u>(12) (6)</u> This section does not limit the authority of the office to bring an administrative action against any person that is the subject of a civil action brought pursuant to this section or limit the authority of the office to engage in investigations or enforcement actions with the Attorney General. However, a person may not be subject to both a civil penalty under subsection (4) and an administrative fine under <u>subsection</u> <u>(9)</u> s. 517.221(3) as the result of the same facts. (13) (7) Notwithstanding s. 95.11(4) (f), an enforcement

Page 63 of 71

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1809	action brought under this section based on a violation of any
1810	provision of this chapter or any rule or order issued under this
1811	chapter shall be brought within 6 years after the facts giving
1812	rise to the cause of action were discovered or should have been
1813	discovered with the exercise of due diligence, but not more than
1814	8 years after the date such violation occurred.
1815	(14) This chapter does not limit any statutory right of the
1816	state to punish a person for a violation of a law.
1817	(15) When not in conflict with the Constitution or laws of
1818	the United States, the courts of this state have the same
1819	jurisdiction over civil suits instituted in connection with the
1820	sale or offer of sale of securities under any laws of the United
1821	States as the courts of this state may have with regard to
1822	similar cases instituted under the laws of this state.
1823	Section 15. Section 517.211, Florida Statutes, is amended
1824	to read:
1825	517.211 Private remedies available in cases of unlawful
1826	sale
1827	(1) Every sale made in violation of either s. 517.07 or s.
1828	517.12(1), (3), (4), (8), (10), (12), (15), or (17) may be
1829	rescinded at the election of the purchaser; however, except a
1830	sale made in violation of the provisions of s. 517.1202(3)
1831	relating to a renewal of a branch office notification or shall
1832	not be subject to this section, and a sale made in violation of
1833	the provisions of s. 517.12(12) relating to filing a change of
1834	address amendment <u>is</u> shall not be subject to this section. Each
1835	person making the sale and every director, officer, partner, or
1836	agent of or for the seller, if the director, officer, partner,
1837	or agent has personally participated or aided in making the

Page 64 of 71



1838 sale, is jointly and severally liable to the purchaser in an action for rescission, if the purchaser still owns the security, 1839 1840 or for damages, if the purchaser has sold the security. No 1841 purchaser otherwise entitled will have the benefit of this subsection who has refused or failed, within 30 days after of 1842 receipt, to accept an offer made in writing by the seller, if 1843 the purchaser has not sold the security, to take back the 1844 1845 security in question and to refund the full amount paid by the 1846 purchaser or, if the purchaser has sold the security, to pay the 1847 purchaser an amount equal to the difference between the amount 1848 paid for the security and the amount received by the purchaser 1849 on the sale of the security, together, in either case, with 1850 interest on the full amount paid for the security by the 1851 purchaser at the legal rate, pursuant to s. 55.03, for the 1852 period from the date of payment by the purchaser to the date of 1853 repayment, less the amount of any income received by the 1854 purchaser on the security.

(2) Any person purchasing or selling a security in violation of s. 517.301, and every director, officer, partner, or agent of or for the purchaser or seller, if the director, officer, partner, or agent has personally participated or aided in making the sale or purchase, is jointly and severally liable to the person selling the security to or purchasing the security from such person in an action for rescission, if the plaintiff still owns the security, or for damages, if the plaintiff has 1863 sold the security.

1864 (3) For purposes of any action brought under this section, 1865 a control person who controls any person found to have violated 1866 any provision specified in subsection (1) is jointly and

Page 65 of 71

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283890

1867 severally liable with, and to the same extent as, such controlled person in any action brought under this section 1868 1869 unless the control person can establish by a preponderance of 1870 the evidence that he or she acted in good faith and did not 1871 directly or indirectly induce the act that constitutes the 1872 violation or cause of action. 1873 (4) In an action for rescission: 1874 (a) A purchaser may recover the consideration paid for the 1875 security or investment, plus interest thereon at the legal rate 1876 from the date of purchase, less the amount of any income 1877 received by the purchaser on the security or investment upon 1878 tender of the security or investment. 1879 (b) A seller may recover the security upon tender of the 1880 consideration paid for the security, plus interest at the legal 1881 rate from the date of purchase, less the amount of any income 1882 received by the defendant on the security. 1883 (5) (4) In an action for damages brought by a purchaser of a security or investment, the plaintiff must shall recover an 1884 1885 amount equal to the difference between:

(a) The consideration paid for the security or investment,plus interest thereon at the legal rate from the date ofpurchase; and

(b) The value of the security or investment at the time it was disposed of by the plaintiff, plus the amount of any income received on the security or investment by the plaintiff.

<u>(6)</u> (5) In an action for damages brought by a seller of a security, the plaintiff shall recover an amount equal to the difference between:

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(a) The value of the security at the time of the complaint,

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1896 plus the amount of any income received by the defendant on the 1897 security; and 1898 (b) The consideration received for the security, plus 1899 interest at the legal rate from the date of sale. (7) (6) In any action brought under this section, including 1900 1901 an appeal, the court shall award reasonable attorney attorneys' 1902 fees to the prevailing party unless the court finds that the 1903 award of such fees would be unjust. 1904 (8) This chapter does not limit any statutory or common-law 1905 right of a person to bring an action in a court for an act 1906 involved in the sale of securities or investments. 1907 (9) The same civil remedies provided by the laws of the 1908 United States for the purchasers or sellers of securities in 1909 interstate commerce also extend to purchasers or sellers of 1910 securities under this chapter. Section 16. Section 517.221, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 1911 1912 Section 17. Section 517.241, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 18. Section 517.301, Florida Statutes, is amended 1913 1914 to read: 1915 517.301 Fraudulent transactions; falsification or 1916 concealment of facts.-1917 (1) It is unlawful and a violation of the provisions of 1918 this chapter for a person: (a) In connection with the rendering of any investment 1919 advice or in connection with the offer, sale, or purchase of any 1920 1921 investment or security, including any security exempted under 1922 the provisions of s. 517.051 and including any security sold in a transaction exempted under the provisions of s. 517.061, s. 1923 517.0611, or s. 517.0612, directly or indirectly: 1924

Page 67 of 71

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283890

1925 1. To employ any device, scheme, or artifice to defraud; 1926 2. To obtain money or property by means of any untrue 1927 statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material 1928 fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in the 1929 light of the circumstances under which they were made, not 1930 misleading; or 1931 3. To engage in any transaction, practice, or course of 1932

business which operates or would operate as a fraud or deceit upon a person.

1934 (b) By use of any means, to publish, give publicity to, or 1935 circulate any notice, circular, advertisement, newspaper, 1936 article, letter, investment service, communication, or broadcast 1937 that, although which, though not purporting to offer a security 1938 for sale, describes such security for a consideration received or to be received directly or indirectly from an issuer, 1939 1940 underwriter, or dealer, or from an agent or employee of an issuer, underwriter, or dealer, without fully disclosing the 1941 1942 receipt, whether past or prospective, of such consideration and 1943 the amount of the consideration.

(c) In any matter within the jurisdiction of the office, to knowingly and willfully falsify, conceal, or cover up, by any trick, scheme, or device, a material fact, make any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or representation, or make or use any false writing or document, knowing the same to contain any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statement or entry.

1950 (2) For purposes of ss. 517.311 and 517.312 and this 1951 section, the term "investment" means any commitment of money or 1952 property principally induced by a representation that an 1953 economic benefit may be derived from such commitment, except

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Florida Senate - 2024 Bill No. SB 532

283890

1954 that the term does not include a commitment of money or property 1955 for: 1956 (a) The purchase of a business opportunity, business 1957 enterprise, or real property through a person licensed under 1958 chapter 475 or registered under former chapter 498; or 1959 (b) The purchase of tangible personal property through a 1960 person not engaged in telephone solicitation, electronic mail, text messages, social media, or other electronic means where 1961 said property is offered and sold in accordance with the 1962 1963 following conditions: 1964 1. there are no specific representations or guarantees made 1965 by the offeror or seller as to the economic benefit to be 1966 derived from the purchase. + 1967 2. The tangible property is delivered to the purchaser 1968 within 30 days after sale, except that such 30-day period may be 1969 extended by the office if market conditions so warrant; and 1970 3. The seller has offered the purchaser a full refund 1971 policy in writing, exercisable by the purchaser within 10 days 1972 of the date of delivery of such tangible personal property, except that the amount of such refund may not exceed the bid 1973 1974 price in effect at the time the property is returned to the seller. If the applicable sellers' market is closed at the time 1975 1976 the property is returned to the seller for a refund, the amount 1977 of such refund shall be based on the bid price for such property 1978 at the next opening of such market. 1979 (3) It is unlawful for a person in issuing or selling a security within this state, including a security exempted under 1980 1981 s. 517.051 and including a transaction exempted under s. 1982 517.061, s. 517.0611, or s. 517.0612, to misrepresent that such

Page 69 of 71

1/12/2024 10:05:34 AM

283890

1983	security or business entity has been guaranteed, sponsored,
1984	recommended, or approved by the state or an agency or officer of
1985	the state or by the United States or an agency or officer of the
1986	United States.
1987	(4) It is unlawful for a person registered or required to
1988	be registered, or subject to the notice requirements, under this
1989	chapter, including such persons and issuers who are subject to
1990	<u>s. 517.051, s. 517.061, s. 517.0611, s. 517.0612, or s. 517.081,</u>
1991	to misrepresent that such person has been sponsored,
1992	recommended, or approved, or that such person's abilities or
1993	qualifications have in any respect been approved, by the state
1994	or an agency or officer of the state or by the United States or
1995	an agency or officer of the United States.
1996	(5) It is unlawful and a violation of this chapter for a
1997	person in connection with the offer or sale of an investment to
1998	obtain money or property by means of:
1999	(a) A misrepresentation that the investment offered or sold
2000	is guaranteed, sponsored, recommended, or approved by the state
2001	or an agency or officer of the state or by the United States or
2002	an agency or officer of the United States; or
2003	(b) A misrepresentation that such person is sponsored,
2004	recommended, or approved, or that such person's abilities or
2005	qualifications have in any respect been approved, by the state
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2007	======================================
2008	And the title is amended as follows:
2009	Delete lines 139 - 140
2010	and insert:
2011	satisfaction of claims in the event of an insufficient

Page 70 of 71



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balance in the fund; requiring payments and