A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO CONSUMER PROTECTION.

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

1	PART I
2	SECTION 1. The legislature finds that deferred deposit
3	agreements, commonly referred to as payday loans, are small,
4	short term, unsecured loans that borrowers commit to repay from
5	their next paycheck or a regular income payment. According to
6	the Federal Reserve System's Report on the Economic Well-Being
7	of U.S. Households in 2017, forty per cent of Americans would
8	not be able to cover an unexpected expense of \$400 without
9	having to sell something or borrow money. Another study
10	conducted by The Pew Charitable Trusts found that the majority
11	of borrowers use deferred deposit agreements for recurring
12	expenses, rather than unexpected expenses or emergencies,
13	because they live paycheck to paycheck. Additional research
14	shows that approximately twelve million Americans utilize payday
15	loans annually. The Consumer Financial Protection Bureau has
16	reported that seventy per cent of those payday borrowers will
17	end up taking out a second payday loan, and some lenders allow

- 1 borrowers to roll the balance into a new larger loan with the
- 2 same predatory fee schedule.
- 3 The legislature further finds that there has been a shift
- 4 in the payday industry toward small dollar installment loans,
- 5 which are repayable over time and secured by access to the
- 6 borrower's checking account. According to the Pew Charitable
- 7 Trusts, national survey data indicates that seventy-nine per
- 8 cent of payday borrowers prefer small dollar loans that are due
- 9 in installments, which only take a small share of each paycheck.
- 10 However, in the absence of sensible regulatory safeguards, this
- 11 type of lending, as well as the traditional deferred deposit
- 12 lending market, can be harmful to consumers.
- 13 Unfortunately, due to the State's current deferred deposit
- 14 laws, the payday lending industry can engage in practices that
- 15 trap consumers in unsustainable cycles of debt. Payday lenders
- 16 structure loans with unrealistically short repayment terms,
- 17 unaffordable payments, and excessive fees, resulting in long-
- 18 term, high-cost debt and harm to the consumer. Lenders are also
- 19 granted access to the borrower's checking account to ensure that
- 20 the lender gets repaid, even if the borrower cannot cover rent,
- 21 utilities, and other basic living expenses. The Pew Charitable

- 1 Trusts has reported that the average Hawaii payday borrower
- 2 incurs \$529 in fees to borrow \$300 over five months. Research
- 3 also shows that this amount is nearly three times higher than
- 4 what the same lenders charge similarly situated consumers in
- 5 other states. Due to the high cost of living in the State,
- 6 these practices are likely to contribute to the current
- 7 homelessness crisis.
- 8 The legislature notes that there has been a growing trend
- 9 around the country to provide more consumer protections, which
- 10 benefit consumers and encourage responsible and transparent
- 11 lending, for deferred deposit transactions and small dollar
- 12 installment loans within the payday lending industry. Hawaii
- 13 has not yet joined in these reform efforts. In 2017, the
- 14 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau released new rules that,
- 15 among other things, target loans with a thirty-six per cent
- 16 yearly interest rate or higher and restrict payday lenders from
- 17 extracting money from the borrower's account, without explicit
- 18 consent, if they failed to repay twice in a row. However, the
- 19 current Presidential administration has indicated that it will
- 20 modify the rules before they go into effect, indefinitely
- 21 rolling back many of the intended consumer protections. It is

- 1 critical the State take action now to address these harmful
- 2 practices in light of this delay and the weakening of the
- 3 federal consumer protections for payday and similar loans.
- 4 The legislature acknowledges that there is a market for
- 5 small dollar installment loans. However, the legislature
- 6 concludes that if small dollar installment loans are going to be
- 7 offered to Hawaii consumers, there must be appropriate consumer
- 8 protections in place to ensure these loans contain reasonable
- 9 terms and fees, do not trap borrowers in a cycle of high-
- 10 interest debt, and do not further contribute to the homelessness
- 11 crisis.
- 12 Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to encourage
- 13 transparency, increase consumer protection in the payday lending
- 14 industry, and improve the well-being of Hawaii consumers by:
- 15 (1) Transitioning the payday lending industry from lump
- 16 sum deferred deposit transactions to installment-based
- 17 small dollar loan transactions;
- 18 (2) Specifying various consumer protection requirements
- for small dollar loans;
- 20 (3) Beginning January 1, 2020, requiring licensure for
- 21 small dollar lenders that offer small dollar loans to

1		consumers, subject to the supervision of the division
2		of financial institutions of the department of
3		commerce and consumer affairs to protect against
4		illegal offshore lending;
5	(4)	Specifying licensing requirements for small dollar
6		lenders;
7	(5)	Capping interest at thirty-six per cent per annum and
8		one simple maximum monthly maintenance fee tiered up
9		to \$25;
10	(6)	Limiting monthly payments to five per cent of the
11		borrower's gross monthly income or six per cent of the
12		borrower's verified net monthly income, whichever is
13		greater, shielding ninety-five per cent of a
14		borrower's income so that the borrower can more
15		realistically make rent payments, cover utility bills,
16		and buy groceries;
17	(7)	Amortizing loans in full and renewing the loan while
18		also permitting borrowers to choose to repay the loan
19		without penalty;

1	(8)	capping maximum allowable costs at lifty per cent of
2		the principal loan amount, preventing a loan from
3		being either too short or too long in duration;
4	(9)	Capping the maximum allowable loan size at \$1,000,
5		providing more flexibility for lenders and borrowers
6		than under the current law;
7	(10)	Requiring lenders to provide clear disclosures of the
8		loan terms and total charges;
9	(11)	Prohibiting a lender from making more than one loan at
10		a time to a consumer, preventing incentives for
11		lenders to "split" loans and charge higher fees; and
12	(12)	Authorizing the division of financial institutions to
13		establish and hire two full-time equivalent permanent
14		examiners to carry out the purposes of the small
15		dollar installment loan program, funded via an
16		increase to the ceiling of the compliance resolution
17		fund.
18	SECT	ION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
19	adding a	new chapter to title 25A to be appropriately designated
20	and to re	ad as follows:

1	"CHAPTER
2	SMALL DOLLAR INSTALLMENT LOANS
3	PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS
4	§ -1 Definitions. As used in this chapter, unless the
5	context otherwise requires:
6	"Annual percentage rate" means an annual percentage rate as
7	determined pursuant to section 107 of the Truth in Lending Act,
8	title 15 United States Code section 1606. For the purposes of
9	this definition, all fees and charges, including interest and
10	monthly maintenance fees authorized by this chapter, shall be
11	included in the calculation of the annual percentage rate.
12	"Arranger" means a provider of funds in the syndication of
13	a debt.
14	"Branch office" means any location in this State that is
15	identified by any means to the public or customers as a location
16	at which the licensee holds itself out as a small dollar lender.
17	"Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial
18	institutions.
19	"Consumer" means a natural person who is the buyer, lessee,
20	or debtor to whom credit is granted in a transaction that is

- 1 primarily for that natural person's personal, family, or
- 2 household purposes.
- 3 "Control", in the context of control of an applicant or
- 4 licensee, means ownership of, or the power to vote, twenty-five
- 5 per cent or more of the outstanding voting securities of a
- 6 licensee or control person. For the purposes of determining the
- 7 percentage of an applicant or a licensee controlled by any
- 8 person, there shall be aggregated with the control person's
- 9 interest the interest of any other person controlled by the
- 10 person, or by any spouse, parent, or child of the person.
- 11 "Control person" means any person in control of a licensee
- 12 or applicant.
- "Default" means a consumer's failure to repay a small
- 14 dollar loan in compliance with the terms contained in a small
- 15 dollar loan agreement.
- 16 "Department" means the department of commerce and consumer
- 17 affairs.
- 18 "Division" means the division of financial institutions of
- 19 the department of commerce and consumer affairs.
- 20 "Elder" means a person who is sixty-two years of age or
- 21 older.

- 1 "Finance charges" means the cost of credit or cost of
- 2 borrowing, including the interest, monthly maintenance fees, and
- 3 other fees authorized by this chapter.
- 4 "Financial institution" means any bank, savings bank,
- 5 savings and loan association, financial services loan company,
- 6 or credit union doing business in the State whose accounts are
- 7 insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the
- 8 National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, or other similar or
- 9 successor program of federal insurance.
- 10 "Instrument" means a personal check signed by the consumer
- 11 and made payable to a person subject to this chapter. The term
- 12 "instrument" does not include an electronic fund transfer or
- 13 other electronic debit or credit to the consumer's checking
- 14 account.
- "Licensee" means a person who is licensed or required to be
- 16 licensed under this chapter.
- "Loan amount" means the amount financed, as that term is
- 18 defined in Truth in Lending (Regulation Z), title 12 Code of
- 19 Federal Regulations, chapter X, part 1026, as amended, or
- 20 supplemented by this chapter.

- 1 "Maintenance fee" means a monthly fee paid to a licensee to
- 2 maintain a small dollar loan.
- 3 "NMLS" means the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System,
- 4 which is a licensing system developed and maintained by the
- 5 Conference of State Bank Supervisors for the state licensing and
- 6 registration of state-licensed loan originators and other
- 7 financial services providers, or any system provided by the
- 8 Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.
- 9 "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship,
- 10 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited
- 11 liability partnership, or other association of individuals,
- 12 however organized.
- "Place of business" means a location where small dollar
- 14 loans are offered or made and includes each website through
- 15 which a consumer may apply for a small dollar loan from a small
- 16 dollar lender.
- 17 "Precomputed interest" means an interest method that uses
- 18 the original payment schedule to calculate interest.
- 19 "Small dollar lender" or "lender" means any person who is
- 20 in the business of offering or making a consumer loan, who
- 21 arranges a consumer loan for a third party, or who acts as an

- 1 agent for a third party, regardless of whether the third party
- 2 is exempt from licensure under this chapter or whether approval,
- 3 acceptance, or ratification by the third party is necessary to
- 4 create a legal obligation for the third party, through any
- 5 method including mail, telephone, the Internet, or any
- 6 electronic means.
- 7 "Small dollar loan" means a loan made pursuant to this
- 8 chapter.
- 9 "Truth in Lending Act" means the federal Truth in Lending
- 10 Act, title 15 United States Code section 1601 et seq., as may be
- 11 amended, and regulations adopted thereunder, as may be amended.
- 12 "Verified gross income" means evidence from a borrower of
- 13 one or more paystubs or other written evidence of recurring
- 14 income before taxes.
- 15 "Verified net income" means evidence from a borrower of one
- 16 or more paystubs or other written evidence of recurring income
- 17 after taxes and deductions.
- 19 Each small dollar loan transaction and renewal shall meet the
- 20 following requirements:

1	(\(\(\) \)	Any cransaction and renewal shall be documented in a
2		written agreement pursuant to section -3;
3	(2)	The total amount of the small dollar loan shall not
4		exceed \$1,000 pursuant to section -5(a);
5	(3)	The total monthly payment on the loan shall not exceed
6		an amount that is five per cent of the borrower's
7		verified gross monthly income or six per cent of the
8		borrower's verified net monthly income, whichever is
9		greater;
10	(4)	The total amount of fees and charges a small dollar
11		lender may charge, collect, or receive in connection
12		with a small dollar loan shall not exceed fifty per
13		cent of the principal loan amount;
14	(5)	A monthly maintenance fee may be charged by the
15		lender, not to exceed the following:
16		(A) \$10 on a loan of an original principal loan
17		amount up to \$300.00;
18		(B) \$15 on a loan of an original principal loan
19		amount of at least \$300.01 and up to \$600.00; and
20		(C) \$25 on a loan of an original principal loan
21		amount of at least \$600.01 and up to \$1,000.00;

1		provided that the monthly maintenance ree sharr not be
2		added to the loan balance on which the interest is
3		charged; and provided further that a small dollar
4		lender shall not charge, collect, or receive a monthly
5		maintenance fee if the borrower is a person on active
6		duty in the armed forces of the United States or a
7		dependent of that person;
8	(6)	The written agreement required under section -3 may
9		require multiple installment payments;
10	(7)	All repayment schedule due dates shall be dates on
11		which a small dollar lender is open for business to
12		the public at the place of business where the small
13		dollar loan was made;
14	(8)	A small dollar lender shall accept prepayment in full
15		or in part from a consumer prior to the loan due date
16		and shall not charge the consumer a fee or penalty if
17		the consumer opts to prepay the loan;
18	(9)	The loan amount shall be fully amortized over the term
19		of the loan, and maintenance fees shall be applied in
20		arrears on a monthly basis;

1	(10)	A consumer's repayment obligations shall not be
2		secured by a lien on any real or personal property;
3	(11)	A small dollar lender shall not charge a consumer any
4		direct or indirect fees for a small dollar loan, other
5		than the fees permitted by this chapter; and
6	(12)	The written agreement required under section -3
7		shall not require a consumer to purchase add-on
8		products, such as credit insurance.
9	(b)	In a multiple installment small dollar loan, a lender
10	may contr	act for a twice-monthly or monthly payment of the loan
11	balance d	ue, including the applicable portion of the interest,
12	and earne	d monthly maintenance fee.
13	(c)	For each payment made by a consumer, a lender shall
14	give the	consumer a written receipt with the lender's name and
15	address,	payment date, amount paid, consumer's name, and
16	sufficien	t information to identify the account to which the
17	payment i	s applied.
18	(d)	Upon prepayment in full by the consumer the lender

- 20 (1) Any unearned portion of the interest charged; and
- 21 (2) Any unearned monthly maintenance fees.

shall refund:

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(4)

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1 (e) Upon request from a consumer or a consumer's agent, a 2 small dollar lender shall provide confirmation of the amount 3 required to discharge the small dollar loan obligation in full. 4 When responding to a request under this subsection, the small 5 dollar lender, at a minimum, shall include a statement of the 6 amount required to discharge the consumer's obligation fully as 7 of the date the notice is provided and for each of the next 8 three business days following that date. The small dollar 9 lender shall make the information required under this subsection **10** available verbally and in writing and shall provide it in an 11 expeditious manner, but no later than two business days after 12 receiving the request. 13 -3 Written agreement; requirements; disclosure. (a) 14 Each small dollar loan transaction and renewal shall be 15 documented by a written agreement signed by the small dollar **16** lender and consumer. The written agreement shall contain the **17** following information: 18 (1)The name and address of the consumer and the lender; 19 The transaction date: (2) 20 (3) The loan amount;

The annual percentage rate charged;

1	(5)	The authorized interest rate;
2	(6)	A statement of the total amount of finance charges
3		charged, expressed as a dollar amount and an annual
4		percentage rate;
5	(7)	The installment payment schedule setting out the
6		amount due on specific due dates;
7	(8)	The name, address, and telephone number of any agent
8		or arranger involved in the small dollar loan
9		transaction;
10	(9)	The right to rescind the small dollar loan before
11		5:00 p.m. on the next day of business at the location
12		where the loan was originated;
13	(10)	A notice to the consumer that a returned instrument
14		may result in a dishonored instrument charge, not to
15		exceed \$25; and
16	(11)	A description of the methods by which small dollar
17		loan payments may be made, which may include cash,
18		check, or any additional method of loan payment
19		authorized by this chapter or by rule adopted by the
20		commissioner pursuant to chapter 91.

1	(b) The written agreement shall also comply with the
2	disclosure requirements of the Truth in Lending Act and any
3	regulation adopted thereunder.
4	(c) The small dollar lender shall provide to the consumer
5	a printed written disclosure prior to signing the written
6	agreement that accurately discloses the types of information in
7	the chart below, presented in a format substantively similar to
8	the chart below, in at least twelve-point type:
9 10 11 12	"MULTIPLE INSTALLMENT PAYMENT
13	Amount Financed
14	Finance Charge
15 16 17	Amount you will receive Term (months)
18 19	Authorized Interest Rate
20 21	Monthly Maintenance Fee
22 23	Total of All Permitted Charges
24 25 26 27	Total You Will Pay for This Loan (Amount Financed, Interest, and Monthly Maintenance Fee)
28 29	ANNUAL PERCENTAGE RATE
30 31	Payment Schedule"

1 The consumer shall sign and date each of two copies of (d) 2 the written disclosure required pursuant to subsection (c), one 3 of which shall be given to the consumer and the other of which 4 shall be retained by the lender as part of its records of the 5 small dollar loan. For purposes of preparing the written 6 disclosure, the small dollar loan shall be structured on a 7 precomputed basis (total of payments) with the assumption that 8 all payments will be made as scheduled. 9 The written agreement may include a demand feature **10** that permits the lender or any other person, in the event the 11 consumer fails to meet the repayment terms for any outstanding **12** balance, to terminate the small dollar loan in advance of the 13 original maturity date, but no earlier than ten days after 14 repayment was due, and demand repayment of the entire 15 outstanding balance. If the written agreement includes a demand 16 feature and the demand feature is exercised, the lender shall be **17** entitled to collect only the outstanding balance and a prorated 18 portion of the unpaid interest and fees earned up to the date of 19 termination. For purposes of this subsection, the outstanding **20** balance and prorated portion of the unpaid interest and fees

- 1 shall be calculated as if the consumer had voluntarily prepaid
- 2 the loan in full on the date of termination.
- 3 § -4 Authorized interest rate. (a) Subject to section
- 4 -2(a)(4), a small dollar lender may contract for, and receive
- 5 interest at, a rate not exceeding thirty-six per cent per year
- 6 on that portion of the unpaid principal balance of the loan. A
- 7 small dollar lender may contract for and receive interest at the
- 8 single annual rate that would earn the same total interest at
- 9 maturity of the small dollar loan, when the loan is paid
- 10 according to its agreed terms, as would be earned by the
- 11 application of the graduated rates set forth in this section.
- 12 Loans shall be precomputed.
- (b) For the purposes of computing precomputed loans,
- 14 including but not limited to calculating interest, a month is
- 15 considered one-twelfth of a year and a day is considered one
- 16 three hundred sixty-fifth of a year when calculation is made for
- 17 a fraction of a month.
- 18 (c) Loans shall be repayable in substantially equal and
- 19 consecutive monthly installments of principal and interest
- 20 combined; provided that the first installment period may exceed
- 21 one month by not more than fifteen days and the first

- 1 installment payment amount may be larger than the remaining
- 2 payments by the amount of interest charged for the extra days;
- 3 and provided further that monthly installment payment dates may
- 4 be omitted to accommodate consumers with seasonal income.
- 5 (d) Payments may be applied to the combined total of
- 6 principal and precomputed interest until maturity of the loan.
- 7 (e) If a small dollar loan is prepaid in full or renewed
- 8 prior to the loan's maturity date, the lender shall refund to
- 9 the consumer a prorated portion of the interest and monthly
- 10 maintenance fees based on a ratio of the number of days the loan
- 11 was outstanding and the number of days for which the loan was
- 12 originally contracted. For the purposes of this section, the
- 13 monthly maintenance fee shall not be considered to be fully
- 14 earned at the beginning of a month.
- 15 (f) If the parties agree in writing, either in the written
- 16 agreement required under section -3 or in a subsequent
- 17 agreement, to a deferment of wholly unpaid installments, a
- 18 lender may grant one deferment; provided that:
- 19 (1) A deferment shall postpone the scheduled due date of
- the earliest unpaid installment and all subsequent

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1		installments as originally scheduled, or as previously
2		deferred, for a period equal to the deferment period;
3	(2)	The deferment period shall be that period during which
4		no installment is scheduled to be paid by reason of
5		the deferment; and
6	(3)	The lender shall not charge or collect a deferment
7		fee.
8	(g)	Other than the interest and charges permitted under
9	this sect	ion, no further or other amount shall be charged or
10	required	by the small dollar lender.
11	(h)	A lender shall not charge or receive loan origination
12	fees.	
13	(i)	A lender shall not collect a default charge on any
14	installme	nt not paid in full within ten days after its due date.
15	For this	purpose, all installments are considered paid in the
16	order in	which they become due.
17	\$	-5 Maximum loan amount; prohibition against multiple
18	loans. (a) A lender shall not lend an amount greater than
19	\$1,000 no	r shall the amount financed exceed \$1,000 by any one

lender at any time to a consumer.

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- (b) Except as otherwise provided in section -8, no
 small dollar lender shall make a small dollar loan to a consumer
- 3 if there exists an outstanding loan between that consumer and
- 4 any of the following:
- 5 (1) The small dollar lender;

a violation of this section.

- 6 (2) A person related to the small dollar lender by common7 ownership or control;
- 8 (3) A person in whom the small dollar lender has any9 financial interest of ten per cent or more; or
- 10 (4) Any employee or agent of the small dollar lender.
- 11 (c) If a consumer obtains a small dollar loan voluntarily
 12 and separately from the consumer's spouse and the consumer's
 13 action is documented in writing, signed by the consumer, and
 14 retained by the lender, the transaction shall not be considered
- 16 § -6 Right of rescission. (a) A consumer shall have
 17 the right to rescind a small dollar loan, on or before 5:00 p.m.
 18 on the next day of business at the location where the loan was
 19 originated, by returning the principal in cash, the original
 20 check or money order disbursed by the lender, or the other
 21 disbursement of loan proceeds from the lender to fund the loan.

- 1 The lender shall not charge the consumer for rescinding the
- 2 loan.
- 3 (b) At the time of rescission, the lender shall refund any
- 4 loan fees and interest received and shall return to the consumer
- 5 the originally signed written agreement, clearly marked across
- 6 the face:
- 7 "RESCINDED BY [lender's name; license number],
- **8** [date]"
- 9 and below which the lender's authorized representative shall
- 10 sign.
- 11 § -7 Notice to consumers; general requirements; right to
- 12 prepay; loan limits; right to rescind. A small dollar lender
- 13 shall provide the following notice on each written agreement for
- 14 a small dollar loan. The notice shall be in a prominent place
- 15 and in at least twelve-point type:
- 16 "THIS SMALL DOLLAR LOAN IS NOT INTENDED TO MEET
- 17 LONG-TERM FINANCIAL NEEDS.
- 18 THIS SMALL DOLLAR LOAN SHOULD BE USED ONLY TO
- 19 MEET SHORT-TERM CASH NEEDS.
- 20 YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO PREPAY THIS SMALL DOLLAR
- 21 LOAN IN FULL OR IN PART WITHOUT A PENALTY.

1	RENEWING THIS SMALL DOLLAR LOAN RATHER THAN
2	PAYING THE DEBT IN FULL MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL FEES OR
3	CHARGES.
4	STATE LAW PROHIBITS THIS SMALL DOLLAR LOAN FROM
5	EXCEEDING ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,000) IN TOTAL DEBT.
6	EXCEEDING THIS AMOUNT MAY CREATE FINANCIAL HARDSHIPS
7	FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.
8	YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO RESCIND THIS TRANSACTION BY
9	5:00 P.M. [SPECIFY HERE THE CLOSE OF THE NEXT BUSINESS
10	DAY BY DAY OF WEEK AND DATE]."
11	<pre>\$ -8 Renewal; new loan requirements; consecutive loans;</pre>
12	payment plan. (a) A small dollar loan may be renewed only
13	once. After one renewal, the consumer shall pay the debt in
14	cash or its equivalent.
15	(b) Upon renewal of a small dollar loan, the lender may
16	renew up to \$1,000 of the remaining unpaid principal balance.
17	If the unpaid balance on renewal is more than \$1,000, the
18	consumer may be required to pay the remaining balance; provided
19	that the lender shall not finance any amount over \$1,000. The
20	total amount of fees and charges for the renewed loan shall meet
21	the requirements of section -2. If the small dollar loan is

- 1 renewed prior to the maturity date, the lender shall refund to
- 2 the consumer a prorated portion of the finance charge based upon
- 3 the ratio of time left before maturity to the loan term.
- 4 (c) Once the consumer has paid off the small dollar loan
- 5 transaction, the consumer may enter into a new small dollar loan
- 6 agreement with the lender; provided that the lender shall not
- 7 have more than one outstanding loan with a borrower at any one
- 8 time, pursuant to section -5.
- 9 § -9 Form of loan proceeds. A small dollar lender may
- 10 pay the proceeds from a small dollar loan to the consumer in the
- 11 form of a monetary instrument, money order, or cash. The lender
- 12 shall inform the consumer in writing that the lender shall cash
- 13 the monetary instrument or money order, upon request of the
- 14 consumer, at no cost to the consumer.
- 15 § -10 Endorsement of instrument. A small dollar lender
- 16 shall not negotiate or present an instrument for payment unless
- 17 the instrument is endorsed with the actual business name of the
- 18 lender.
- 19 § -11 Redemption of instrument. Prior to a small dollar
- 20 lender negotiating or presenting the instrument, a consumer
- 21 shall have the right to redeem any instrument held by the lender

- 1 as a result of a small dollar loan if the consumer pays the full
- 2 amount of the instrument to the lender.
- 3 § -12 Delinquent small dollar loans; restrictions on
- 4 collection by lender or third party. (a) A small dollar lender
- 5 shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws when
- 6 collecting a delinquent small dollar loan. A lender may take
- 7 civil action to collect principal, interest, fees, and costs
- 8 allowed under this chapter. A lender may not threaten criminal
- 9 prosecution as a method of collecting a delinquent small dollar
- 10 loan or threaten to take any legal action against the consumer
- 11 that is not otherwise permitted by law.
- 12 (b) Unless invited by the consumer, a lender shall not
- 13 visit a consumer's residence or place of employment for the
- 14 purpose of collecting a delinquent small dollar loan. A lender
- 15 shall not impersonate a law enforcement officer or make any
- 16 statements that might be construed as indicating an official
- 17 connection with any federal, state, or county law enforcement
- 18 agency or any other governmental agency while engaged in
- 19 collecting a small dollar loan.
- 20 (c) A lender shall not communicate with a consumer in a
- 21 manner intended to harass, intimidate, abuse, or embarrass a

- 1 consumer, including but not limited to communication at an
- 2 unreasonable hour, with unreasonable frequency, by threats of
- 3 force or violence, or by use of offensive language. A
- 4 communication shall be presumed to have been made for the
- 5 purposes of harassment if it is initiated by the lender for the
- 6 purposes of collection and the communication is made:
- 7 (1) With the consumer's spouse or the consumer's domestic 8 partner in any form, manner, or place, more than once;
- 9 (2) With a consumer at the consumer's place of employment10 more than once;
- 11 (3) With the consumer, the consumer's spouse, or the

 12 consumer's domestic partner at the consumer's place of

 13 residence between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and

 14 8:00 a.m.; or
- 15 (4) To a party other than the consumer, the consumer's

 16 attorney, the lender's attorney, or a consumer credit

 17 reporting agency if otherwise permitted by law, except

 18 for the purposes of acquiring location or contact

 19 information about the consumer.
- 20 (d) A lender shall maintain an accurate and complete21 communication log of all telephone and written communications

- 1 with a consumer initiated by the lender regarding any collection
- 2 efforts, including date, time, and the nature of each
- 3 communication.
- 4 (e) For purposes of collecting a dishonored check, this
- 5 section shall apply to any employee, agent, or third party
- 6 assignee of a lender.
- 7 (f) For the purposes of this section, "communication"
- 8 includes any contact with a consumer, initiated by a lender, in
- 9 person, by telephone, or in writing, including via electronic
- 10 mail, text message, or other electronic writing; provided that:
- 11 (1) The term "communication" shall include the time the
- 12 lender initiates contact with a consumer, regardless
- of whether the communication is received or accessed
- 14 by the consumer; and
- 15 (2) The term "communication" shall not include:
- 16 (A) Verbal communication with the consumer while the
- consumer is physically present in the lender's
- 18 place of business;
- 19 (B) An unanswered telephone call in which no message,
- 20 other than a caller identification, is left,

1	unless the telephone call is in violation of
2	subsection (c)(3); or
3	(C) An initial letter to the consumer that includes
4	disclosures under the federal Fair Debt
5	Collection Practices Act.
6	§ -13 Authorized dishonored instrument charge. (a)
7	Regardless of the number of instruments that are returned
8	unpaid, a small dollar lender may contract for and collect one
9	returned instrument charge for each small dollar loan, not to
10	exceed \$25. The lender shall not collect any other fees as a
11	result of the dishonored presentment.
12	(b) If the loan proceeds instrument from the small dollar
13	lender is dishonored by the financial institution, the small
14	dollar lender shall cover any fees and charges incurred by the
15	consumer as a direct result of the dishonored loan proceeds
16	instrument.
17	§ -14 Posting of license and fees and charges. Any
18	small dollar lender offering a small dollar loan shall
19	conspicuously and continuously post at any place of business
20	where small dollar loans are made, the license required pursuant

- 1 to this chapter and a notice of the fees and charges imposed for
- 2 small dollar loans.
- 3 § -15 Internet lending. (a) A small dollar lender may
- 4 advertise and accept applications for small dollar loans by any
- 5 lawful medium, including but not limited to the Internet,
- 6 subject to subsection (b).
- 7 (b) Small dollar lenders shall be prohibited from
- 8 advertising or making small dollar loans via the Internet
- 9 without first having obtained a license pursuant to part II of
- 10 this chapter.
- 11 (c) The unique identifier of any small dollar lender
- 12 originating a small dollar loan, except a person who is exempt
- 13 from licensure under this chapter, shall be clearly shown on all
- 14 solicitations, including websites, and all other documents, as
- 15 established by rule or order of the commissioner.
- 16 § -16 Notice on assignment or sale of contract. (a) No
- 17 licensee may pledge, negotiate, sell, or assign a small dollar
- 18 loan, except to another licensee or to a bank, savings bank,
- 19 trust company, savings and loan or building and loan
- 20 association, or credit union organized under the laws of Hawaii
- 21 or the laws of the United States.

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1	(b) Prior to sale or assignment of a small dollar loan
2	contract held by the small dollar lender as a result of a small
3	dollar loan, the lender shall place a notice on the small dollar
4	loan contract in at least twelve-point type that reads:
5	"SMALL DOLLAR LOAN
6	No licensee may pledge, negotiate, sell, or
7	assign a small dollar loan, except to another licensee
8	or to a bank, savings bank, trust company, savings and
9	loan or building and loan association, or credit union
10	organized under the laws of Hawaii or the laws of the
11	United States."
12	§ -17 Maintenance of books and records. (a) Every
13	small dollar lender shall keep in a safe and secure place those
14	books and records that directly relate to any small dollar loan
15	made within this State, and other books and records as may be
16	necessary for the commissioner to ensure full compliance with
17	the laws of this State.
18	(b) All books and records may be maintained as originals
19	or photocopies, on microfilm or microfiche, on computer disks or
20	tapes, or similar forms; provided that the books and records are

readily accessible and may be easily examined.

- 1 (c) All records, statements, and reports required or
- 2 authorized by this chapter shall be made in writing in the
- 3 English language.
- 4 (d) Every lender shall preserve all of its records for a
- 5 minimum of six years or for a greater or lesser period as the
- 6 commissioner may prescribe by rule adopted pursuant to chapter
- **7** 91.
- 8 PART II. LICENSING
- 9 S -31 License required. No person, unless exempt under
- 10 this chapter, shall act as a small dollar lender in this State
- 11 unless licensed to do so by the commissioner.
- 12 § -32 Exemptions. This chapter shall not apply to the
- 13 following:
- 14 (1) A financial institution;
- 15 (2) A nondepository financial service loan company;
- 16 (3) An "open end credit plan", as defined in the Truth in
- 17 Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. section 1602(j); or
- 18 (4) A tax refund anticipation loan.
- 19 § -33 License; application; issuance. (a) The
- 20 commissioner shall require all licensees to register with NMLS.

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1	(b)	Applicants for a license shall apply in a form as
2	prescribe	d by NMLS or by the commissioner. The application
3	shall con	tain, at a minimum, the following information:
4	(1)	The legal name, trade names, and business address of
5		the applicant and, if the applicant is a partnership,
6		association, limited liability company, limited
7		liability partnership, or corporation, of every
8		member, officer, principal, or director thereof;
9	(2)	The principal place of business;
10	(3)	The complete address of any other branch offices at
11		which the applicant currently proposes to engage in
12		making small dollar loans; and
13	(4)	Other data, financial statements, and pertinent
14		information as the commissioner may require with
15		respect to the applicant or, if an applicant is not an
16		individual, each of the applicant's control persons,
17		executive officers, directors, general partners, and
18		managing members.
19	(c)	To fulfill the purposes of this chapter, the
20	commissio	ner may enter into agreements or contracts with NMLS or

other entities to use NMLS to collect and maintain records and

- 1 process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or
- 2 other persons subject to this chapter.
- 3 (d) For the purpose and to the extent necessary to
- 4 participate in NMLS, the commissioner may waive or modify, in
- 5 whole or in part, by rule or order, any or all of the
- 6 requirements of this chapter and establish new requirements as
- 7 reasonably necessary to participate in NMLS.
- **8** (e) In connection with an application for a license under
- 9 this chapter, the applicant, at a minimum, shall furnish to NMLS
- 10 information or material concerning the applicant's identity,
- 11 including:
- 12 (1) Fingerprints of the applicant or, if an applicant is
- not an individual, each of the applicant's control
- 14 persons, executive officers, directors, general
- partners, and managing members for submission to the
- 16 Federal Bureau of Investigation and any governmental
- agency or entity authorized to receive the
- fingerprints for a state, national, and international
- 19 criminal history background check, accompanied by the
- applicable fee charged by the entities conducting the
- 21 criminal history background check; and

1	(2)	reisonal miscory and experience of the applicant of,
2		if an applicant is not an individual, each of the
3		applicant's control persons, executive officers,
4		directors, general partners, and managing members in a
5		form prescribed by NMLS, including the submission of
6		authorization for NMLS and the commissioner to obtain
7		(A) An independent credit report obtained from a
8		consumer reporting agency described in section
9		603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, title 15
10		United States Code section 1681a(p); and
11		(B) Information related to any administrative, civil,
12		or criminal findings by any governmental
13		jurisdiction;
14	provided t	that the commissioner may use any information obtained
15	pursuant t	to this subsection or through NMLS to determine an
16	applicant	s demonstrated financial responsibility, character,
17	and genera	al fitness for licensure.
18	(f)	The commissioner may use NMLS as an agent for
19	requesting	g information from and distributing information to the
20	Department	of Justice or any governmental agency.

1	(g) The commissioner may use winds as an agent for
2	requesting and distributing information to and from any source
3	directed by the commissioner.
4	(h) An applicant for a license as a small dollar loan
5	lender shall be registered with the business registration
6	division of the department to do business in this State before a
7	license pursuant to this chapter shall be granted.
8	§ -34 Issuance of license; grounds for denial. (a) The
9	commissioner shall conduct an investigation of every applicant
10	to determine the financial responsibility, character, and
11	general fitness of the applicant. The commissioner shall issue
12	the applicant a license to engage in the business of making
13	small dollar loans if the commissioner determines that:
14	(1) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
15	not an individual, each of the applicant's control
16	persons, executive officers, directors, general
17	partners, and managing members, has never had a small
18	dollar lender license revoked in any jurisdiction;
19	provided that a subsequent formal vacation of a
20	revocation shall not be deemed a revocation;

1	(2)	The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
2		not an individual, each of the applicant's control
3		persons, executive officers, directors, general
4		partners, and managing members, has not been convicted
5		of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been granted
6		a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
7		law or under chapter 853 to a felony in a domestic,
8		foreign, or military court:
9		(A) During the seven-year period preceding the date
10		of the application for licensing and
11		registration; or
12		(B) At any time preceding the date of application, if
13		the felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty,
14		breach of trust, or money laundering;
15		provided that any pardon of a conviction shall not be
16		deemed a conviction for the purposes of this section;
17	(3)	The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
18		not an individual, each of the applicant's control
19		persons, executive officers, directors, general
20		partners, and managing members, has demonstrated
21		financial responsibility, character, and general

1		irchess to command the confidence of the community and
2		to warrant a determination that the applicant shall
3		operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently, pursuant to
4		this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, a
5		person is not financially responsible when the person
6		has shown a disregard in the management of the
7		person's financial condition. A determination that a
8		person has shown a disregard in the management of the
9		person's financial condition may be based upon:
10		(A) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments
11		solely as a result of medical expenses;
12		(B) Current outstanding tax liens or other government
13		liens and filings, subject to applicable
14		disclosure laws and administrative rules;
15		(C) Foreclosures within the past three years; and
16		(D) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within
17		the past three years;
18	(4)	The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
19		not an individual, each of the applicant's control
20		persons, executive officers, directors, general
21		partners, and managing members, has not been convicted

1		or, pred guilty or noto contendere to, or been granted
2		a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
3		law or chapter 853 to any misdemeanor involving an act
4		of fraud, dishonesty, breach of trust, or money
5		laundering;
6	(5)	The applicant has satisfied the licensing requirements
7		of this chapter; and
8	(6)	The applicant has the bond required by section -35.
9	(b)	The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
10	not an in	dividual, each of the applicant's control persons,
11	executive	officers, directors, general partners, and managing
12	members s	hall submit authorization to the commissioner for the
13	commissio	ner to conduct background checks to determine or verify
14	the infor	mation in subsection (a) in each state where the person
15	has condu	cted the lending of small dollar loans. Authorization
16	pursuant	to this subsection shall include consent to provide
17	additiona	l fingerprints, if necessary, to law enforcement or
18	regulator	y bodies in other states.
19	(c)	A license shall not be issued to an applicant:
20	(1)	Whose license to conduct business under this chapter,
21		or any similar statute in any other jurisdiction, has

1		been suspended or revoked within five years of the
2		filing of the present application;
3	(2)	Whose license to conduct business in the small dollar
4		loan or payday industry has been revoked by an
5		administrative order issued by the commissioner or the
6		commissioner's designee, or the licensing authority or
7		another state or jurisdiction, for the period
8		specified in the administrative order;
9	(3)	Who has advertised or made internet loans in violation
10		of this chapter; or
11	(4)	Who has failed to complete an application for
12		licensure.
13	(d)	A license issued in accordance with this chapter
14	remains i	n force and effect until surrendered, suspended, or
15	revoked,	or until the license expires as a result of nonpayment
16	of the an	nual license renewal fee as required by this chapter.
17	\$	-35 Fees; bond. (a) A small dollar lender shall pay
18	the follo	wing fees to the division to obtain and maintain a
19	valid lic	ense under this chapter:
20	(1)	Initial application fee of \$900;
21	(2)	Processing fee of \$35 for each control person:

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(3)	Annual	1100000	ronoral	foo	o f	\$600.
L (3)	Annua⊥	license	renewaı	Iee	ΟI	>000:

- (4) Applicable fee charged by the entities conducting the criminal history background check of each of the applicant's control persons, executive officers, directors, general partners, and managing members for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive the fingerprints for a state, national, and international criminal history background check; and
 - (5) Applicable fee charged by the entities conducting an independent credit report obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, title 15 United States Code section 1681a(p).
- (b) Each branch office shall pay the following fees to the division to obtain and maintain a valid license under this chapter:
- 18 (1) Nonrefundable initial application fee of \$600; and
- 19 (2) Annual license renewal fee of \$450.
- 20 (c) The applicant shall file and maintain a surety bond,
- 21 approved by the commissioner, executed by the applicant as

- 1 obligor and by a surety company authorized to operate as a
- 2 surety in this State, whose liability as a surety does not
- 3 exceed, in the aggregate, the penal sum of the bond. The penal
- 4 sum of the bond shall be a minimum of \$30,000 and a maximum of
- 5 \$250,000, based upon the annual dollar amount of loans
- 6 originated.
- 7 (d) The bond required by subsection (c) shall run to the
- 8 State of Hawaii as obligee for the use and benefit of the State
- 9 and of any person or persons who may have a cause of action
- 10 against the licensee as obligor under this chapter. The bond
- 11 shall be conditioned upon the following:
- 12 (1) The licensee as obligor shall faithfully conform to
- and abide by this chapter and all the rules adopted
- 14 under this chapter; and
- 15 (2) The bond shall pay to the State and any person or
- 16 persons having a cause of action against the licensee
- as obligor all moneys that may become due and owing to
- 18 the State and those persons under and by virtue of
- this chapter.

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1	(e) Each small dollar lender shall pay a nonrefundable fee
2	of \$ to the division for each office that is
3	relocated.
4	§ -36 Renewal of license; annual report. (a) On or
5	before December 31 of each year, each licensee shall pay a
6	renewal fee pursuant to section -35.
7	(b) The annual renewal fee shall be accompanied by a
8	report, in a form prescribed by the commissioner, which shall
9	include:
10	(1) A copy of the licensee's most recent audited annual
11	financial statement, including balance sheets,
12	statement of income or loss, statement of changes in
13	shareholders' equity, and statement of cash flows or,
14	if a licensee is a wholly owned subsidiary of another
15	corporation, the consolidated audited annual financial
16	statement of the parent corporation in lieu of the
17	licensee's audited annual financial statement;
18	(2) A report detailing the small dollar lender's
19	activities in this State, including:

(A) The number of small dollar loans made;

1		(B)	The number of small dollar loans the lender is
2			servicing;
3		(C)	The type and characteristics of loans serviced in
4			this State;
5		(D)	The number of small dollar serviced loans in
6			default; and
7		(E)	Any other information that the commissioner may
8			require;
9	(3)	Any	material changes to any of the information
10		subm	itted by the licensee on its original application
11		that	have not previously been reported to the
12		comm	issioner on any other report required to be filed
13		unde	r this chapter;
14	(4)	A li	st of the principal place of business and branch
15		loca	tions, if any, within this State where business
16		regu	lated by this chapter is being conducted by the
17		lice	nsee;
18	(5)	Disc	losure of any pending or final suspension,
19		revo	cation, or other enforcement action by any state
20		or g	overnmental authority; and
21	(6)	Any	other information the commissioner may require.

- 1 (c) A license may be renewed by continuing to meet the
- 2 licensing requirements of sections -33, -34, and -35,
- 3 filing a completed renewal statement on a form prescribed by
- 4 NMLS or by the commissioner, paying a renewal fee, and meeting
- 5 the requirements of this section.
- 6 (d) A licensee that has not filed an annual report that
- 7 has been deemed complete by the commissioner or paid its annual
- 8 renewal fee by the renewal filing deadline, and has not been
- 9 granted an extension of time to do so by the commissioner, shall
- 10 have its license suspended on the renewal date. The licensee
- 11 shall have thirty days after its license is suspended to file an
- 12 annual report and pay the annual renewal fee, plus a late filing
- 13 fee of \$250 for each business day after suspension that the
- 14 commissioner does not receive the annual report and the annual
- 15 renewal fee. The commissioner, for good cause, may grant an
- 16 extension of the renewal date or reduce or suspend the \$250 per
- 17 day late filing fee.
- 18 § -37 Enforcement authorities; violations; penalties.
- 19 (a) To ensure the effective supervision and enforcement of this
- 20 chapter, the commissioner, pursuant to chapter 91, may take any

1	disciplina	ary action as specified in subsection (b) against an
2	applicant	or licensee if the commissioner finds that:
3	(1)	The applicant or licensee has violated this chapter or
4		any rule or order lawfully made pursuant to this
5		chapter;
6	(2)	Facts or conditions exist that would clearly have
7		justified the commissioner in denying an application
8		for licensure, had these facts or conditions been
9		known to exist at the time the application was made;
10	(3)	The applicant or licensee has failed to provide
11		information required by the commissioner within a
12		reasonable time, as specified by the commissioner;
13	(4)	The applicant or licensee has failed to provide or
14		maintain proof of financial responsibility;
15	(5)	The applicant or licensee is insolvent;
16	(6)	The applicant or licensee has made, in any document or
17		statement filed with the commissioner, a false
18		representation of a material fact or has omitted to
19		state a material fact;
20	(7)	The applicant, licensee, or, if an applicant or
21		licensee is not an individual, each of the applicant's

1		of ficensee's concrot persons, executive officers,
2		directors, general partners, and managing members have
3		been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo
4		contendere to a crime involving fraud or deceit, or to
5		any similar crime under the jurisdiction of any
6		federal court or court of another state;
7	(8)	The applicant or licensee has failed to make,
8		maintain, or produce records that comply with section
9		-17 or any rule adopted by the commissioner
10		pursuant to chapter 91;
11	(9)	The applicant or licensee has been the subject of any
12		disciplinary action by any state or federal agency
13		that resulted in revocation of a license;
14	(10)	A final judgment has been entered against the
15		applicant or licensee for violations of this chapter,
16		any state or federal law concerning small dollar
17		loans, deferred deposit loans, check cashing, payday
18		loans, banking, mortgage loan originators, money
19		transmitters, or any state or federal law prohibiting
20		deceptive or unfair trade or business practices; or

1	(11)	The applicant or licensee has failed, in a timely
2		manner as specified by the commissioner, to take or
3		provide proof of the corrective action required by the
4		commissioner subsequent to an investigation or
5		examination pursuant to section -43.
6	(b)	After a finding of one or more of the conditions under
7	subsection	n (a), the commissioner may take any or all of the
8	following	actions:
9	(1)	Deny an application for licensure, including an
10		application for a branch office license;
11	(2)	Revoke the license;
12	(3)	Suspend the license for a period of time;
13	(4)	Issue an order to the licensee to cease and desist
14		from engaging in any act specified under subsection
15		(a);
16	(5)	Order the licensee to make refunds to consumers of
17		excess charges under this chapter;
18	(6)	Impose penalties of up to a \$1,000 for each violation;
19		or

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- (7) Bar a person from applying for or holding a license
 for a period of five years following revocation of the person's license.
- 4 The commissioner may issue a temporary cease and 5 desist order if the commissioner makes a finding that the 6 licensee, applicant, or person is engaging, has engaged, or is 7 about to engage in an illegal, unauthorized, unsafe, or unsound 8 practice in violation of this chapter. Whenever the 9 commissioner denies a license application or takes disciplinary **10** action pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner shall enter 11 an order to that effect and notify the licensee, applicant, or **12** person of the denial or disciplinary action. The notification 13 required by this subsection shall be given by personal service 14 or by mail to the last known address of the licensee or 15 applicant as shown on the application, license, or as
- 17 (d) The revocation, suspension, expiration, or surrender
 18 of a license shall not affect the licensee's liability for acts
 19 previously committed or impair the commissioner's ability to
 20 issue a final agency order or impose discipline against the
 21 licensee.

subsequently furnished in writing to the commissioner.

- 1 (e) No revocation, suspension, or surrender of a license
- 2 shall impair or affect the obligation of any preexisting lawful
- 3 contract between the licensee and any consumer.
- 4 (f) The commissioner may reinstate a license, terminate a
- 5 suspension, or grant a new license to a person whose license has
- 6 been revoked or suspended if no fact or condition then exists
- 7 that clearly would justify the commissioner in revoking,
- 8 suspending, or refusing to grant a license.
- 9 (g) The commissioner may impose an administrative fine on
- 10 a licensee or person subject to this chapter if the commissioner
- 11 finds on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing
- 12 that the licensee or person subject to this chapter has violated
- 13 or failed to comply with any requirement of this chapter or any
- 14 rule prescribed by the commissioner under this chapter or order
- 15 issued under the authority of this chapter.
- 16 (h) Each violation or failure to comply with any directive
- 17 or order of the commissioner shall be a separate and distinct
- 18 violation.
- 19 (i) Any violation of this chapter that is directed toward,
- 20 targets, or injures an elder may be subject to an additional
- 21 civil penalty not to exceed \$10,000 for each violation in

- 1 addition to any other fines or penalties assessed for the
- 2 violation.
- 3 § -38 Voluntary surrender of license. (a) A licensee
- 4 may voluntarily cease business and surrender its license by
- 5 giving written notice to the commissioner of its intent to
- 6 surrender its license. Prior to the surrender date of a
- 7 license, the licensee shall have either completed all pending
- 8 small dollar loan transactions or assigned each pending small
- 9 dollar loan transaction to another licensee.
- 10 (b) Notice pursuant to this section shall be provided at
- 11 least thirty days before the surrender of the license and shall
- 12 include:
- 13 (1) The date of surrender;
- 14 (2) The name, address, telephone number, facsimile number,
- and electronic mail address of a contact individual
- 16 with knowledge and authority sufficient to communicate
- with the commissioner regarding all matters relating
- 18 to the licensee during the period that it was licensed
- 19 pursuant to this chapter;
- **20** (3) The reason or reasons for surrender;

1	(4)	Total dollar amount of the licensee's outstanding
2		small dollar loans sold in Hawaii and the individual
3		amounts of each outstanding small dollar loans, and
4		the name, address, and contact telephone number of the
5		licensee to which each outstanding small dollar loan
6		was assigned;
7	(5)	A list of the licensee's Hawaii authorized branch
8		offices, if any, as of the date of surrender;
9	(6)	Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of
10		its Hawaii authorized branch offices, if any, that the
11		branch offices may no longer make small dollar loans
12		on the licensee's behalf; and
13	(7)	Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of
14		its small dollar consumers, if any, that the small
15		dollar loan is being transferred and the name,
16		address, telephone number, and any other contact
17		information of the licensee to whom the small dollar
18		loan was assigned.
19	(c)	Voluntary surrender of a license shall be effective
20	upon the	date of surrender specified on the written notice to
21	the commi	ssioner as required by this section; provided that the

- 1 licensee has met all the requirements of voluntary surrender and
- 2 has returned the original license issued.
- 3 § -39 Sale or transfer of license; change of control.
- 4 (a) No small dollar loan license shall be transferred, except
- 5 as provided in this section.
- 6 (b) A person or group of persons requesting approval of a
- 7 proposed change of control of a licensee shall submit to the
- 8 commissioner an application requesting approval of a proposed
- 9 change of control of the licensee, accompanied by a
- 10 nonrefundable application fee of \$500.
- (c) After review of a request for approval under
- 12 subsection (b), the commissioner may require the licensee or
- 13 person or group of persons requesting approval of a proposed
- 14 change of control of the licensee, or both, to provide
- 15 additional information concerning the persons who shall assume
- 16 control of the licensee. The additional information shall be
- 17 limited to similar information required of the licensee or
- 18 persons in control of the licensee as part of its original
- 19 license or renewal application under sections -33 and -36.
- 20 The information shall include, for the five-year period prior to
- 21 the date of the application for change of control of the

- 1 licensee, a history of material litigation and criminal
- 2 convictions of each person who, upon approval of the application
- 3 for change of control, will be a principal of the licensee.
- 4 Authorization shall also be given to conduct criminal history
- 5 record checks of those persons, accompanied by the appropriate
- 6 payment of the applicable fee for each record check.
- 7 (d) The commissioner shall approve a request for change of
- 8 control under subsection (b) if, after investigation, the
- 9 commissioner determines that the person or group of persons
- 10 requesting approval has the competence, experience, character,
- 11 and general fitness to control the licensee or person in control
- 12 of the licensee in a lawful and proper manner, and that the
- 13 interests of the public will not be jeopardized by the change of
- 14 control.
- 15 (e) The following persons shall be exempt from the
- 16 requirements of subsection (b), but the licensee regardless
- 17 shall notify the commissioner when a change of control results
- 18 in the following:
- 19 (1) A person who acts as a proxy for the sole purpose of
- voting at a designated meeting of the security holders

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1	or	holders	of	voting	interests	of	а	licensee	or	person
2	in	control	of	a licer	nsee;					

- 3 (2) A person who acquires control of a licensee by devise 4 or descent;
- 5 (3) A person who acquires control as a personal
 6 representative, custodian, guardian, conservator,
 7 trustee, or as an officer appointed by a court of
 8 competent jurisdiction or by operation of law; or
 - (4) A person whom the commissioner, by rule or order, exempts in the public interest.
- 11 (f) Before filing a request for approval for a change of **12** control, a person may request, in writing, a determination from 13 the commissioner as to whether the person would be considered a 14 person in control of a licensee upon consummation of a proposed 15 transaction. If the commissioner determines that the person 16 would not be a person in control of a licensee, the commissioner **17** shall enter an order to that effect and the proposed person and 18 transaction shall not be subject to subsections (b) through (d).
- (g) Subsection (b) shall not apply to public offerings ofsecurities.

- 2 branch offices; relocation; closure. (a) Every small dollar
- 3 lender licensed under this chapter shall have and maintain a
- 4 principal place of business in the State, regardless of whether
- 5 the small dollar lender maintains its principal office outside
- 6 of the State.
- 7 (b) If a small dollar lender has more than one place of
- 8 business, each additional place of business in Hawaii shall be
- 9 licensed as a branch office with the commissioner. No business
- 10 shall be conducted at a branch office until the branch office
- 11 has been licensed by the commissioner.
- (c) A small dollar lender shall not maintain any branch
- 13 offices in the State in addition to its principal place of
- 14 business without the prior written approval of the commissioner.
- 15 An application to establish a branch office shall be submitted
- 16 through NMLS with a nonrefundable application fee as required by
- 17 section -35.
- 18 (d) A small dollar lender shall not relocate any office in
- 19 this State without the prior written approval of the
- 20 commissioner. An application to relocate an office shall be
- 21 submitted to the commissioner at least thirty days prior to

- 1 relocating and shall set forth the reasons for the relocation,
- 2 the street address of the proposed relocated office, and other
- 3 information that may be required by the commissioner. An
- 4 application to relocate an office pursuant to this subsection
- 5 shall be submitted with a nonrefundable fee as required by
- 6 section -35.
- 7 (e) A small dollar lender shall give the commissioner
- 8 notice of its intent to close a branch office at least thirty
- 9 days prior to the closing. The notice shall:
- 10 (1) State the intended date of closing; and
- 11 (2) Specify the reasons for the closing.
- 12 (f) The principal place of business and each branch office
- 13 of the small dollar lender shall be identified in NMLS to
- 14 consumers as a location at which the licensee holds itself out
- 15 as a small dollar lender.
- 16 (q) A license issued under this chapter shall be
- 17 prominently displayed in the principal place of business and
- 18 each branch office.
- 19 § -41 Payment of fees. All fees collected pursuant to
- 20 section -35, administrative fines, and other charges
- 21 collected pursuant to this chapter shall be deposited into the

- 1 compliance resolution fund established pursuant to section 26-
- 2 9(o) and shall be payable through NMLS, to the extent allowed by
- 3 NMLS. Fees not eligible for payment through NMLS shall be
- 4 deposited into a separate account within the compliance
- 5 resolution fund for use by the division.
- 6 § -42 Powers of commissioner. (a) The commissioner may
- 7 adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 as the commissioner deems
- 8 necessary for the administration of this chapter.
- 9 (b) In addition to any other powers provided by law, the
- 10 commissioner shall have the authority to:
- 11 (1) Issue declaratory rulings or informal nonbinding
- interpretations;
- 13 (2) Investigate and conduct hearings regarding any
- violation of this chapter or any rule or order of, or
- agreement with, the commissioner;
- 16 (3) Create fact-finding committees that may make
- 17 recommendations to the commissioner for the
- 18 commissioner's deliberations;
- 19 (4) Require an applicant or any of its control persons,
- 20 executive officers, directors, general partners, and
- 21 managing members to disclose their relevant criminal

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2		accordance with chapter 846;
3	(5)	Contract with or employ qualified persons, including
4		accountants, attorneys, investigators, examiners,
5		auditors, or other professionals who may be exempt
6		from chapter 76 and who shall assist the commissioner
7		in exercising the commissioner's powers and duties;
8	(6)	Process and investigate complaints, subpoena witnesses
9		and documents, administer oaths, and receive
10		affidavits and oral testimony, including telephonic
11		communications, and do any and all things necessary or
12		incidental to the exercise of the commissioner's power
13		and duties, including the authority to conduct
14		contested case proceedings under chapter 91;
15	(7)	Require a licensee to comply with any rule, guidance,
16		guideline, statement, supervisory policy or any
17		similar proclamation issued or adopted by the Federal

Deposit Insurance Corporation to the same extent and

in the same manner as a bank chartered by the State

or, in the alternative, any policy position of the

Conference of State Bank Supervisors;

history and request a criminal history record check in

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1	(0)	Enter into agreements or relationships with other
2		government officials or regulatory associations in
3		order to improve efficiencies and reduce regulatory
4		burden by sharing resources, standardized or uniform
5		methods or procedures, and documents, records,
6		information, or evidence obtained under this chapter;
7	(9)	Use, hire, contract, or employ public or privately
8		available analytical systems, methods, or software to
9		investigate or examine a licensee or person subject to
10		this chapter;
11	(10)	Accept and rely on investigation or examination
12		reports made by other government officials, within or
13		without this State; and
14	(11)	Accept audit reports made by an independent certified
15		public accountant for the licensee or person subject
16		to this chapter in the course of that part of the
17		examination covering the same general subject matter
18		as the audit and may incorporate the audit report in
19		the report of the examination, report of
20		investigation, or other writing of the commissioner.

1 -43 Investigation and examination authority. (a) Ιn 2 addition to the authority granted under section -42(b), the 3 commissioner shall have the authority to conduct investigations 4 and examinations in accordance with this section. The 5 commissioner may access, receive, and use any books, accounts, 6 records, files, documents, information, or evidence that the 7 commissioner deems relevant to the investigation or examination, 8 regardless of the location, possession, control, or custody of 9 the documents, information, or evidence. 10 (b) For the purposes of investigating violations or 11 complaints arising under this chapter, or for the purposes of **12** examination, the commissioner may review, investigate, or 13 examine any licensee or person subject to this chapter as often 14 as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The 15 commissioner may direct, subpoena, or order the attendance of, 16 and examine under oath, all persons whose testimony may be **17** required about loans or the business or subject matter of any examination or investigation and may direct, subpoena, or order 18 19 the person to produce books, accounts, records, files, and any **20** other documents the commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry.

1 (c)	Each	licensee	or	person	subject	t to	this	chapter	shall
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- 2 provide to the commissioner, upon request, the books and records
- 3 relating to the operations of the licensee or person subject to
- 4 this chapter. The commissioner shall have access to the books
- 5 and records and shall be permitted to interview the control
- 6 persons, executive officers, directors, general partners,
- 7 managing members, principals, managers, employees, independent
- 8 contractors, agents, and consumers of the licensee or person
- 9 subject to this chapter concerning their business.
- 10 (d) Each licensee or person subject to this chapter shall
- 11 make or compile reports or prepare other information, as
- 12 directed by the commissioner, to carry out the purposes of this
- 13 section, including:
- 14 (1) Accounting compilations;
- 15 (2) Information lists and data concerning loan
- 16 transactions in a format prescribed by the
- 17 commissioner; or
- 18 (3) Other information that the commissioner deems
- necessary.
- 20 (e) In conducting any investigation or examination
- 21 authorized by this chapter, the commissioner may control access

- 1 to any documents and records of the licensee or person under
- 2 investigation or examination. The commissioner may take
- 3 possession of the documents and records or place a person in
- 4 exclusive charge of the documents and records. During the
- 5 period of control, no person shall remove or attempt to remove
- 6 any of the documents and records except pursuant to a court
- 7 order or with the consent of the commissioner. Unless the
- 8 commissioner has reasonable grounds to believe the documents or
- 9 records of the licensee or person under investigation or
- 10 examination have been, or are at risk of being, altered or
- 11 destroyed for the purposes of concealing a violation of this
- 12 chapter, the licensee or owner of the documents and records
- 13 shall have access to the documents or records as necessary to
- 14 conduct its ordinary business affairs.
- 15 (f) The authority of this section shall remain in effect,
- 16 whether a licensee or person subject to this chapter acts or
- 17 claims to act under any licensing or registration law of this
- 18 State, or claims to act without such authority.
- 19 (g) No licensee or person subject to investigation or
- 20 examination under this section may knowingly withhold, abstract,

- 1 remove, mutilate, destroy, or secrete any books, records,
- 2 computer records, or other information.
- 3 (h) The commissioner may charge an investigation or
- 4 examination fee, payable to the commissioner, based upon the
- 5 cost per hour per examiner for all licensees and persons subject
- 6 to this chapter investigated or examined by the commissioner or
- 7 the commissioner's staff. The hourly fee shall be \$60 or an
- 8 amount as the commissioner shall establish by rule pursuant to
- 9 chapter 91. In addition to the investigation or examination
- 10 fee, the commissioner may charge any person who is examined or
- 11 investigated by the commissioner or the commissioner's staff
- 12 pursuant to this section additional amounts for travel, per
- 13 diem, mileage, and other reasonable expenses incurred in
- 14 connection with the investigation or examination, payable to the
- 15 commissioner.
- 16 (i) Any person having reason to believe that this chapter
- 17 or the rules adopted under this chapter have been violated, or
- 18 that a license issued under this chapter should be suspended or
- 19 revoked, may file a written complaint with the commissioner,
- 20 setting forth the details of the alleged violation or grounds
- 21 for suspension or revocation.

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2 provided in Public Law 110-289, section 1512, the requirements 3 under any federal or state law regarding the privacy or 4 confidentiality of any information or material provided to NMLS, 5 and any privilege arising under federal or state law, including 6 the rules of any federal or state court, with respect to the 7 information or material shall continue to apply to the 8 information or material after the information or material has 9 been disclosed to NMLS. The information and material may be **10** shared with all state and federal regulatory officials with 11 oversight authority over transactions subject to this chapter, 12 without the loss of privilege or the loss of confidentiality 13 protections provided by federal or state law. 14 For the purposes of this section, the commissioner is 15 authorized to enter into agreements or sharing arrangements with

-44 Confidentiality. (a) Except as otherwise

(c) Information or material that is subject to a privilegeor confidentiality under subsection (a) shall not be subject to:

Supervisors, or other associations representing governmental

agencies as established by rule or order of the commissioner.

other governmental agencies, the Conference of State Bank

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

- (2) Subpoena or discovery, or admission into evidence, in any private civil action or administrative process, unless any privilege is determined by NMLS to be applicable to the information or material; provided that the person to whom the information or material pertains waives, in whole or in part, in the discretion of the person, that privilege.
- 12 (d) Notwithstanding chapter 92F, the examination process
 13 and related information and documents, including the reports of
 14 examination, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to
 15 discovery or disclosure in civil or criminal lawsuits.
- 16 (e) In the event of a conflict between this section and
 17 any other section of law relating to the disclosure of
 18 privileged or confidential information or material, this section
 19 shall control.
- 20 (f) This section shall not apply to information or
 21 material relating to the employment history of, and publicly

- 1 adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against,
- 2 mortgage servicers that are included in NMLS for access by the
- 3 public.
- 4 § -45 Prohibited practices. (a) It shall be a
- 5 violation of this chapter for a licensee, its control persons,
- 6 executive officers, directors, general partners, managing
- 7 members, employees, or independent contractors, or any other
- 8 person subject to this chapter to:
- 9 (1) Engage in any act that limits or restricts the
- 10 application of this chapter, including making a small
- dollar loan disguised as a leaseback transaction or a
- 12 personal property, personal sales, or automobile title
- loan, or by disguising loan proceeds as cash rebates
- for the pretextual installment sale of goods and
- 15 services;
- 16 (2) Make a secured small dollar loan;
- 17 (3) Use a consumer's account number to prepare, issue, or
- 18 create a check on behalf of the consumer;
- 19 (4) Charge, collect, or receive, directly or indirectly,
- 20 credit insurance premiums, charges for negotiating
- forms of loan proceeds other than cash, charges for

1		brokering or obtaining loans, prepayment fees, or any
2		fees, interest, or charges in connection with a small
3		dollar loan except those explicitly authorized in this
4		chapter;
5	(5)	Fail to make disclosures as required by this chapter
6		and any other applicable state or federal law,
7		including rules or regulations adopted pursuant to
8		state or federal law;
9	(6)	Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device, or
10		artifice to defraud or mislead any consumer, any
11		lender, or any person;
12	(7)	Directly or indirectly engage in unfair or deceptive
13		acts, practices, or advertising in connection with a
14		small dollar loan toward any person;
15	(8)	Directly or indirectly obtain property by fraud or
16		misrepresentation;
17	(9)	Make a small dollar loan to any person physically
18		located in the State through the use of the Internet,
19		facsimile, telephone, kiosk, or other means without
20		first obtaining a license under this chapter;

1	(10)	make, in any manner, any raise or deceptive statement
2		or representation, including with regard to the rates,
3		fees, or other financing terms or conditions for a
4		small dollar loan, or engage in bait and switch
5		advertising;
6	(11)	Make any false statement or knowingly and wilfully
7		make any omission of material fact in connection with
8		any reports filed with the division by a licensee or
9		in connection with any investigation conducted by the
10		division;
11	(12)	Advertise any rate of interest without conspicuously
12		disclosing the annual percentage rate implied by that
13		rate of interest or otherwise fail to comply with any
14		requirement of the Truth in Lending Act, or any other
15		applicable state or federal laws or regulations;
16	(13)	Make small dollar loans from any unlicensed location;
17	(14)	Draft funds from any depository financial institution
18		without written approval of the consumer; provided
19		that nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the
20		conversion of a negotiable instrument into an

1		electronic form for processing through the Automated
2		Clearing House or similar system;
3	(15)	Attempt to collect from a consumer's account after two
4		consecutive attempts have failed, unless the licensee
5		obtains new written authorization from the consumer to
6		transfer or withdraw funds from the account;
7	(16)	Make a loan to a consumer that includes a demand
8		feature that was not clearly disclosed in the written
9		agreement pursuant to section -3 or collect or
10		demand repayment of any outstanding balance or unpaid
11		interest or fees except as provided in section -3;
12	(17)	Fail to comply with all applicable state and federal
13		laws relating to the activities governed by this
14		chapter; or
15	(18)	Fail to pay any fee, assessment, or moneys due to the
16		department.
17	(b)	In addition to any other penalties provided for under
18	this chap	ter, any small dollar loan transaction in violation of
19	subsectio	n (a) shall be void and unenforceable."
20	SECT	ION 3. Section 478-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
21	amended h	y amending subsection (d) to read as follows:

1	"(d) The rate limitations contained in subsections (a) and
2	(b) of this section and section 478-11.5 shall not apply to any
3	[credit]:
4	(1) Credit transaction authorized by, and entered into in
5	accordance with the provisions of, articles 9 and 10
6	of chapter 412 or chapter $476[-]$; or
7	(2) Small dollar loan transaction authorized by, and
8	entered into in accordance with, chapter ."
9	SECTION 4. Section 478-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
10	amended to read as follows:
11	"§478-5 Usury not recoverable. If a greater rate of
12	interest than that permitted by law is contracted for with
13	respect to any consumer credit transaction, any home business
14	loan or any credit card agreement, the contract shall not, by
15	reason thereof, be void. But if in any action on the contract
16	proof is made that a greater rate of interest than that
17	permitted by law has been directly or indirectly contracted for,
18	the creditor shall only recover the principal and the debtor
19	shall recover costs. If interest has been paid, judgment shall
20	be for the principal less the amount of interest paid. This
21	section shall not be held to apply[, to loans] to:

1	(1) Loans made by financial services loan companies and
2	credit unions at the rates authorized under and
3	pursuant to articles 9 and 10 of chapter $412[-]$; or
4	(2) Any small dollar loan regulated under chapter ."
5	SECTION 5. Section 478-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
6	amended to read as follows:
7	"§478-6 Usury; penalty. Any person who directly or
8	indirectly receives any interest or finance charge at a rate
9	greater than that permitted by law or who, by any method or
10	device whatsoever, receives or arranges for the receipt of
11	interest or finance charge at a greater rate than that permitted
12	by law on any credit transaction shall be guilty of usury and
13	shall be fined not more than \$250, unless a greater amount is
14	allowed by law, or imprisoned not more than one year, or both."
15	SECTION 6. Section 480F-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by deleting the definition of "deferred deposit".
17	[""Deferred deposit" means a transaction in which a check
18	casher refrains from depositing a personal check written by a
19	customer until a date after the transaction date, pursuant to a
20	written agreement."]

1	SECT	ION 7. Section 480F-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended t	o read as follows:
3	"[+]	§480F-3[]] Authorized fees. [Except as provided in
4	section 4	80F-4, no] No check casher shall charge fees in excess
5	of the fo	llowing amounts:
6	(1)	Five per cent of the face amount of the check or \$5,
7		whichever is greater;
8	(2)	Three per cent of the face amount of the check or \$5,
9		whichever is greater, if the check is the payment of
10		any kind of state public assistance or federal social
11		security benefit payable to the bearer of the check;
12	(3)	Ten per cent of the face amount of a personal check or
13		money order, or \$5, whichever is greater; or
14	(4)	No more than \$10 to set up an initial account and
15		issue an optional membership or identification card,
16		and no more than \$5 for a replacement optional
17		identification card.
18	The fees	allowed in this section shall not be assessed in any
19	transacti	on or agreement in which the check casher defers
20	deposit o	f the check."

- 1 SECTION 8. Section 480F-6, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 2 amended to read as follows:
- 3 "\$480F-6 Penalties. (a) Any person who violates this
- 4 chapter shall be deemed to have engaged in an unfair or
- 5 deceptive act or practice in the conduct of any trade or
- 6 commerce within the meaning of section 480-2(a). Aggrieved
- 7 consumers may seek those remedies set forth in section
- 8 480-13 (b).
- 9 (b) Any person who is not a consumer and is injured by a
- 10 wilful violation of this chapter may bring an action for the
- 11 recovery of damages, a proceeding to restrain and enjoin those
- 12 violations, or both. If judgment is for the plaintiff, the
- 13 plaintiff shall be awarded a sum not less than \$1,000 or
- 14 threefold damages, whichever sum is greater, and reasonable
- 15 attorneys' fees together with the costs of suit.
- 16 (c) A wilful violation of this chapter shall be punishable
- 17 by a fine of up to \$500 and up to thirty days imprisonment.
- 18 [(d) A customer who enters into a written deferred deposit
- 19 agreement and offers a personal check to a check casher pursuant
- 20 to that agreement shall not be subject to any criminal penalty
- 21 for failure to comply with the terms of that agreement unless

1	the check	-is dishonored because the customer closed the account
2	or stoppe	d payment on the check.]"
3	SECT	ION 9. Section 846-2.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
4	amended by	y amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
5	"(b)	Criminal history record checks may be conducted by:
6	(1)	The department of health or its designee on operators
7		of adult foster homes for individuals with
8		developmental disabilities or developmental
9		disabilities domiciliary homes and their employees, as
10		provided by section 321-15.2;
11	(2)	The department of health or its designee on
12		prospective employees, persons seeking to serve as
13		providers, or subcontractors in positions that place
14		them in direct contact with clients when providing
15		non-witnessed direct mental health or health care
16		services as provided by section 321-171.5;
17	(3)	The department of health or its designee on all
18		applicants for licensure or certification for,
19		operators for, prospective employees, adult
20		volunteers, and all adults, except adults in care, at
21		healthcare facilities as defined in section 321-15.2;

1	(4)	The department of education on employees, prospective
2		employees, and teacher trainees in any public school
3		in positions that necessitate close proximity to
4		children as provided by section 302A-601.5;
5	(5)	The counties on employees and prospective employees
6		who may be in positions that place them in close
7		proximity to children in recreation or child care
8		programs and services;
9	(6)	The county liquor commissions on applicants for liquor
10		licenses as provided by section 281-53.5;
11	(7)	The county liquor commissions on employees and
12		prospective employees involved in liquor
13		administration, law enforcement, and liquor control
14		investigations;
15	(8)	The department of human services on operators and
16		employees of child caring institutions, child placing
17		organizations, and foster boarding homes as provided
18		by section 346-17;
19	(9)	The department of human services on prospective
20		adoptive parents as established under section
21		346-19.7;

1	(10)	The department of human services or its designee on
2		applicants to operate child care facilities, household
3		members of the applicant, prospective employees of the
4		applicant, and new employees and household members of
5		the provider after registration or licensure as
6		provided by section 346-154, and persons subject to
7		section 346-152.5;
8	(11)	The department of human services on persons exempt
9		pursuant to section 346-152 to be eligible to provide
10		child care and receive child care subsidies as
11		provided by section 346-152.5;
12	(12)	The department of health on operators and employees of
13		home and community-based case management agencies and
14		operators and other adults, except for adults in care,
15		residing in community care foster family homes as
16		provided by section 321-15.2;
17	(13)	The department of human services on staff members of
18		the Hawaii youth correctional facility as provided by
19		section 352-5.5;
20	(14)	The department of human services on employees,
21		prospective employees, and volunteers of contracted

1		providers and subconcractors in positions that prace
2		them in close proximity to youth when providing
3		services on behalf of the office or the Hawaii youth
4		correctional facility as provided by section 352D-4.3;
5	(15)	The judiciary on employees and applicants at detention
6		and shelter facilities as provided by section 571-34;
7	(16)	The department of public safety on employees and
8		prospective employees who are directly involved with
9		the treatment and care of persons committed to a
10		correctional facility or who possess police powers
11		including the power of arrest as provided by section
12		353C-5;
13	(17)	The board of private detectives and guards on
14		applicants for private detective or private guard
15		licensure as provided by section 463-9;
16	(18)	Private schools and designated organizations on
17		employees and prospective employees who may be in
18		positions that necessitate close proximity to
19		children; provided that private schools and designated
20		organizations receive only indications of the states

1		from which the national criminal history record
2		information was provided pursuant to section 302C-1;
3	(19)	The public library system on employees and prospective
4		employees whose positions place them in close
5		proximity to children as provided by section
6		302A-601.5;
7	(20)	The State or any of its branches, political
8		subdivisions, or agencies on applicants and employees
9		holding a position that has the same type of contact
10		with children, vulnerable adults, or persons committed
11		to a correctional facility as other public employees
12		who hold positions that are authorized by law to
13		require criminal history record checks as a condition
14		of employment as provided by section 78-2.7;
15	(21)	The department of health on licensed adult day care
16		center operators, employees, new employees,
17		subcontracted service providers and their employees,
18		and adult volunteers as provided by section 321-15.2;
19	(22)	The department of human services on purchase of
20		service contracted and subcontracted service providers
21		and their employees serving clients of the adult

1		protective and community services branch, as provided
2		by section 346-97;
3	(23)	The department of human services on foster grandparent
4		program, senior companion program, and respite
5		companion program participants as provided by section
6		346-97;
7	(24)	The department of human services on contracted and
8		subcontracted service providers and their current and
9		prospective employees that provide home and community-
10		based services under section 1915(c) of the Social
11		Security Act, title 42 United States Code section
12		1396n(c), or under any other applicable section or
13		sections of the Social Security Act for the purposes
14		of providing home and community-based services, as
15		provided by section 346-97;
16	(25)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
17		proposed directors and executive officers of a bank,
18		savings bank, savings and loan association, trust
19		company, and depository financial services loan
20		company as provided by section 412:3-201;

1	(26)	The	department of commerce and consumer affairs on
2		prop	osed directors and executive officers of a
3		nond	epository financial services loan company as
4		prov	ided by section 412:3-301;
5	(27)	The	department of commerce and consumer affairs on the
6		orig	inal chartering applicants and proposed executive
7		offi	cers of a credit union as provided by section
8		412:	10-103;
9	(28)	The	department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
10		(A)	Each principal of every non-corporate applicant
11			for a money transmitter license;
12		(B)	Each person who upon approval of an application
13			by a corporate applicant for a money transmitter
14			license will be a principal of the licensee; and
15		(C)	Each person who upon approval of an application
16			requesting approval of a proposed change in
17			control of licensee will be a principal of the
18			licensee,
19		as p	rovided by sections 489D-9 and 489D-15;

1	(29)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
2		applicants for licensure and persons licensed under
3		title 24;
4	(30)	The Hawaii health systems corporation on:
5		(A) Employees;
6		(B) Applicants seeking employment;
7		(C) Current or prospective members of the corporation
8		board or regional system board; or
9		(D) Current or prospective volunteers, providers, or
10		contractors,
11		in any of the corporation's health facilities as
12		provided by section 323F-5.5;
13	(31)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
14		(A) An applicant for a mortgage loan originator
15		license, or license renewal; and
16		(B) Each control person, executive officer, director,
17		general partner, and managing member of an
18		applicant for a mortgage loan originator company
19		license or license renewal,
20		as provided by chapter 454F;

1	(32)	The state public charter school commission or public
2		charter schools on employees, teacher trainees,
3		prospective employees, and prospective teacher
4		trainees in any public charter school for any position
5		that places them in close proximity to children, as
6		provided in section 302D-33;
7	(33)	The counties on prospective employees who work with
8		children, vulnerable adults, or senior citizens in
9		community-based programs;
10	(34)	The counties on prospective employees for fire
11		department positions which involve contact with
12		children or vulnerable adults;
13	(35)	The counties on prospective employees for emergency
14		medical services positions which involve contact with
15		children or vulnerable adults;
16	(36)	The counties on prospective employees for emergency
17		management positions and community volunteers whose
18		responsibilities involve planning and executing
19		homeland security measures including viewing,
20		handling, and engaging in law enforcement or

1		classified meetings and assisting vulnerable citizens
2		during emergencies or crises;
3	(37)	The State and counties on employees, prospective
4		employees, volunteers, and contractors whose position
5		responsibilities require unescorted access to secured
6		areas and equipment related to a traffic management
7		center;
8	(38)	The State and counties on employees and prospective
9		employees whose positions involve the handling or use
10		of firearms for other than law enforcement purposes;
11	(39)	The State and counties on current and prospective
12		systems analysts and others involved in an agency's
13		information technology operation whose position
14		responsibilities provide them with access to
15		proprietary, confidential, or sensitive information;
16	(40)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
17		(A) Applicants for real estate appraiser licensure or
18		certification as provided by chapter 466K;
19		(B) Each person who owns more than ten per cent of an
20		appraisal management company who is applying for

1		registration as an appraisal management company,
2		as provided by section 466L-7; and
3		(C) Each of the controlling persons of an applicant
4		for registration as an appraisal management
5		company, as provided by section 466L-7;
6	(41)	The department of health or its designee on all
7		license applicants, licensees, employees, contractors,
8		and prospective employees of medical cannabis
9		dispensaries, and individuals permitted to enter and
10		remain in medical cannabis dispensary facilities as
11		provided under sections 329D-15(a)(4) and
12		329D-16(a)(3);
13	(42)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
14		applicants for nurse licensure or license renewal,
15		reactivation, or restoration as provided by sections
16		457-7, 457-8, 457-8.5, and 457-9;
17	(43)	The county police departments on applicants for
18		permits to acquire firearms pursuant to section 134-2
19		and on individuals registering their firearms pursuant
20		to section 134-3;
21	(44)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:

1		(A) Each of the controlling persons of the applicant
2		for licensure as an escrow depository, and each
3		of the officers, directors, and principals who
4		will be in charge of the escrow depository's
5		activities upon licensure; and
6		(B) Each of the controlling persons of an applicant
7		for proposed change in control of an escrow
8		depository licensee, and each of the officers,
9		directors, and principals who will be in charge
10		of the licensee's activities upon approval of
11		such application,
12		as provided by chapter 449;
13	(45)	The department of taxation on current or prospective
14		employees or contractors who have access to federal
15		tax information in order to comply with requirements
16		of federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided
17		by section 231-1.6;
18	(46)	The department of labor and industrial relations on
19		current or prospective employees or contractors who
20		have access to federal tax information in order to

1		comply with requirements of federal law, regulation,
2		or procedure, as provided by section 383-110;
3	(47)	The department of human services on current or
4		prospective employees or contractors who have access
5		to federal tax information in order to comply with
6		requirements of federal law, regulation, or procedure,
7		as provided by section 346-2.5;
8	(48)	The child support enforcement agency on current or
9		prospective employees, or contractors who have access
10		to federal tax information in order to comply with
11		federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided by
12		section 576D-11.5; [and]
13	(49)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
14		each control person, executive officer, director,
15		general partner, and managing member of a small dollar
16		loan licensee, or an applicant for a small dollar loan
17		license as provided by chapter ; and
18	[(49)]	(50) Any other organization, entity, or the State,
19		its branches, political subdivisions, or agencies as
20		may be authorized by state law."

1	SECTION 10. Section 480F-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	repealed.
3	[" §480F-4 Deferred deposits, when allowed. (a) No check
4	casher may defer the deposit of a check except as provided in
5	this section.
6	(b) Each deferred deposit shall be made pursuant to a
7	written agreement that has been signed by the customer and the
8	check casher or an authorized representative of the check
9	casher. The written agreement shall contain a statement of the
10	total amount of any fees charged for the deferred deposit,
11	expressed both in United States currency and as an annual
12	percentage rate. The written agreement shall authorize the
13	check casher to defer deposit of the personal check until a
14	specific date not later than thirty-two days from the date the
15	written agreement was signed. The written agreement shall not
16	permit the check casher to accept collateral.
17	(c) The face amount of the check shall not exceed \$600 and
18	the deposit of a personal check written by a customer pursuant
19	to a deferred deposit transaction may be deferred for no more
20	than thirty-two days. A check casher may charge a fee for
21	deferred deposit of a personal check in an amount not to exceed

1	fifteen per cent of the face amount of the check. Any fees
2	charged for deferred deposit of a personal check in compliance
3	with this section shall be exempt from chapter 478.
4	(d) A check casher shall not enter into an agreement for
5	deferred deposit with a customer during the period of time that
6	an earlier agreement for a deferred deposit for the same
7	customer is in effect. A deferred deposit transaction shall not
8	be repaid, refinanced, or consolidated by or with the proceeds
9	of another deferred deposit transaction.
10	(e) A check casher who enters into a deferred deposit
11	agreement and accepts a check passed on insufficient funds, or
12	any assignee of that check casher, shall not be entitled to
13	recover damages in any action brought pursuant to or governed by
14	chapter 490. Instead, the check casher may charge and recover a
15	fee for the return of a dishonored check in an amount not
16	greater than \$20.
17	(f) No amount in excess of the amounts authorized by this
18	section and no collateral products such as insurance shall be
19	directly or indirectly charged by a check casher pursuant or
20	incident to a deferred deposit agreement."]

1	SECTION II. There is appropriated out of the compliance
2	resolution fund the sum of \$ or so much thereof as may be
3	necessary for fiscal year 2019-2020 and the same sum or so much
4	thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2020-2021 to
5	establish and hire two full-time equivalent (2.0 FTE) permanent
6	examiners, without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii Revised
7	Statutes, to carry out the purposes of the small dollar
8	installment loan program established by section 2 of this Act;
9	provided that the positions may be added to the position count
10	for the division of financial institutions of the department of
11	commerce and consumer affairs.
12	The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
13	of commerce and consumer affairs for the purposes of this part.
14	PART II
15	SECTION 12. Chapter 480F, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16	amended by adding five new sections to be appropriately
17	designated and to read as follows:
18	"§480F- Registration required. (a) No check casher
19	shall conduct business in the State, including deferred deposit
20	transactions, without first registering with the department
21	under this chapter.

1	(b)	The director shall prescribe the form of the
2	applicati	on for registration. Each application shall be
3	accompani	ed by the appropriate fee as prescribed by the
4	director.	
5	(c)	Check casher registration shall be updated annually
6	and shall	include the following:
7	(1)	The address of the principal office of the check
8		<pre>casher;</pre>
9	(2)	The name and address of the check casher's agent for
10		service of process in the State; and
11	(3)	Payment of the appropriate registration fees, as
12		established by the director.
13	<u>§480</u>	F- Voluntary payment plans. (a) At the time of
14	originati	on of a third consecutive deferred deposit transaction
15	made to a	customer by a check casher, and at the time of
16	originati	on of any subsequent consecutive deferred deposit
17	transacti	ons, the check casher shall offer the customer in
18	writing t	he option to participate in a voluntary payment plan.
19	Should th	e customer be in financial hardship, a voluntary
20	payment p	lan may be requested by the customer and arranged by
21	the custo	mer and the check casher at any time.

1	(b) The voluntary payment plan shall be structured to pay
2	the existing debt, both the principal and the fee, in at least
3	six equal payments of no more than five per cent of the
4	customer's monthly pretax paycheck that coincide with the
5	customer's periodic pay dates or the date the customer is
6	scheduled to receive benefits, unless the customer requests
7	different payment due dates. The payments made pursuant to the
8	voluntary payment plan shall be applied directly to the existing
9	debt, and the lender shall not charge the customer any
10	additional fee other than an administration fee not to exceed
11	\$30 for participation in the voluntary payment plan. The
12	administration fee charged for a voluntary payment plan in
13	compliance with this section shall be exempt from chapter 478.
14	(c) The check casher shall provide a written copy of the
15	voluntary payment plan agreement to the customer. The check
16	casher shall be prohibited from engaging in collection
17	activities while the customer continues to make payments in
18	accordance with the payment plan. The check casher is
19	prohibited from making any additional deferred deposit
20	transactions to the customer prior to the completion of the
21	voluntary navment nlan

1	(d) The check casher may require the customer to provide a
2	post-dated check or electronic authorization for funds
3	transferred for each payment under the voluntary payment plan.
4	If any check or electronic authorization accepted by the check
5	casher as payment for a voluntary payment plan is dishonored,
6	the check casher shall not charge the customer a fee for the
7	dishonored instrument.
8	(e) If the customer fails to make payments in accordance
9	with a voluntary payment plan, the check casher is entitled to
10	take action as otherwise allowed under this chapter to collect
11	the remaining funds due and may charge the customer a one-time
12	default fee of \$30.
13	§480F- Single deferred deposit transaction limitation.
14	A check casher shall take reasonable measure to ensure that no
15	customer has more than one deferred deposit transaction
16	outstanding at a time from all sources. Check cashers shall
17	receive written confirmation from each customer that the
18	customer does not have any outstanding deferred deposit
19	transactions as of the date the customer enters into a deferred
20	deposit transaction with the check casher.

- 1 <u>\$480F-</u> <u>Records and reports.</u> <u>Every check casher shall</u>
- 2 keep records and make reports with respect to the operation of
- 3 business as provided in rules adopted by the director pursuant
- 4 to chapter 91.
- 5 §480F- Rules. The director shall adopt rules necessary
- 6 to implement this chapter pursuant to chapter 91."
- 7 SECTION 13. Section 480F-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 8 amended by adding three new definitions to be appropriately
- 9 inserted and to read as follows:
- 10 ""Department" means the department of commerce and consumer
- 11 affairs.
- 12 "Director" means the director of commerce and consumer
- 13 affairs.
- 14 "Financial hardship" means any hardship from loss of
- 15 income, reduced work hours, increased living costs, or other
- 16 hardships outside of the control of the customer at the
- 17 discretion of the check casher and evidenced with
- 18 documentation."
- 19 SECTION 14. Section 480F-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 20 amended to read as follows:

1	"[+]	§480F-2[] Posting and notice of fees charged. Any
2	person wh	o cashes one or more checks for a fee shall:
3	(1)	Post in a conspicuous place in every location at which
4		the person does business a notice that sets forth[:]
5		in thirty-eight point type:
6		(A) The fees charged for cashing a check, for selling
7		or issuing a money order, and for the initial
8		issuance of any membership or identification
9		cards; and
10		(B) That consumer complaints about the check cashing
11		business may be filed with the department [of
12		commerce and consumer affairs], and includes and
13		identifies the telephone number and address of
14		the consumer information service of the
15		department [of commerce and consumer affairs];
16	(2)	Provide written notice to each customer [of the fees
17		charged for cashing checks] in twelve-point type to
18		each customer that is separate from and in addition to
19		any posted notice[+], containing the following
20		<pre>information:</pre>
21		(A) The fees charged for cashing checks; and

1		<u>(B)</u>	That consumer complaints about the check cashing
2			business may be filed with the department, and
3			includes and identifies the telephone number and
4			address of the consumer information service of
5			the department;
6	(3)	Obta	in a written acknowledgment from the customer that
7		writ	ten notice [of the fees charged for cashing
8		chec	ks] as required by paragraph (2) was provided[+]
9		to t	he customer; and
10	(4)	Prov	ide each customer a receipt documenting any and
11		all	fees charged."
12	SECT	ION 1	5. Section 480F-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
13	amended t	o rea	d as follows:
14	"§48	0F-4	Deferred deposits, when allowed. (a) No check
15	casher ma	y def	er the deposit of a check except as provided in
16	this sect	ion.	
17	(b)	In a	ddition to the notice required by section 480F-2,
18	a check c	asher	that defers the deposit of any checks shall post
19	in a cons	picuo	us place in every location at which the check
20	casher do	es bu	siness a notice that sets forth in thirty-eight
21	point typ	e:	

1	(1)	The total amount of any fees charged for the deferred
2		deposit, expressed both in United States currency and
3		as an annual percentage rate;
4	(2)	That customers have a right to rescind a deferred
5		deposit transaction within twenty-four hours of the
6		transaction;
7	<u>(3)</u>	That deferred deposit transactions are not suitable
8		for long-term borrowing;
9	(4)	That a customer may have no more than one outstanding
10		deferred deposit transaction from all sources;
11	(5)	Information on available financial education services,
12		including contact information for an approved budget
13		and credit counselor or an approved housing counselor;
14		and
15	(6)	A copy of the registration to do business as a check
16		casher as required by this chapter.
17	[(b)] (c) Each deferred deposit shall be made pursuant to
18	a written	agreement that has been signed by the customer and the
19	check casl	her or an authorized representative of the check
20	casher.	The written agreement shall contain a statement of the
21	following	:

1	(1)	<u>The</u>	total amount of any fees charged for the deferred
2		depo	sit, expressed both in United States currency and
3		as a	n annual percentage rate[.]; and
4	(2)	Noti	ces stating that:
5		(A)	The customer has a right to rescind a deferred
6			deposit transaction within twenty-four hours of
7			the transaction;
8		(B)	The customer may have no more than one
9			outstanding deferred deposit transaction from all
10			sources;
11		<u>(C)</u>	Deferred deposit transactions are not suitable
12			for long-term borrowing;
13		(D)	The customer may enter into a voluntary payment
14			plan if the customer:
15			(i) Is experiencing financial hardship; or
16			(ii) Has entered into three or more consecutive
17			transactions with the same check casher; and
18		(E)	Information on available financial education
19			services, including contact information for an
20			approved budget and credit counselor or an
21			approved housing counselor.

- 1 The written agreement shall authorize the check casher to defer
- 2 deposit of the personal check until a specific date not later
- 3 than thirty-two days from the date the written agreement was
- 4 signed. The written agreement shall not permit the check casher
- 5 to accept collateral.
- 6 [$\frac{(c)}{(c)}$] (d) The face amount of the check shall not exceed
- 7 \$600 and the deposit of a personal check written by a customer
- 8 pursuant to a deferred deposit transaction may be deferred for
- 9 no more than thirty-two days. A check casher may charge a fee
- 10 for deferred deposit of a personal check in an amount not to
- 11 exceed fifteen per cent of the face amount of the check. Any
- 12 fees charged for deferred deposit of a personal check in
- 13 compliance with this section shall be exempt from chapter 478.
- 14 [\(\frac{(d)}{d}\)] (e) A check casher shall not enter into an agreement
- 15 for deferred deposit with a customer during the period of time
- 16 that an earlier agreement for a deferred deposit for the same
- 17 customer is in effect. A deferred deposit transaction shall not
- 18 be repaid, refinanced, or consolidated by or with the proceeds
- 19 of another deferred deposit transaction.
- 20 [(e)] (f) A check casher who enters into a deferred
- 21 deposit agreement and accepts a check passed on insufficient

- 1 funds, or any assignee of that check casher, shall not be
- 2 entitled to recover damages in any action brought pursuant to or
- 3 governed by chapter 490. No additional interest may be
- 4 collected except the ten per cent allowed by law on uncollected
- 5 judgments. Instead, the check casher may charge and recover a
- 6 fee for the return of a dishonored check in an amount not
- 7 greater than [\$20.] the fee incurred by the check casher from
- 8 its financial institution.
- 9 [(f)] (g) No amount in excess of the amounts authorized by
- 10 this section and no collateral products such as insurance shall
- 11 be directly or indirectly charged by a check casher pursuant or
- 12 incident to a deferred deposit agreement.
- (h) For the purposes of this section:
- 14 "Approved budget and credit counselor" and "approved
- 15 housing counselor" shall have the same meaning as those terms
- 16 are defined in section 667-1."
- 17 SECTION 16. Section 480F-5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 18 amended to read as follows:
- "[+] \$480F-5[+] Exemptions. This chapter shall not apply
- 20 to [÷

1	(1)	Any person who is principally engaged in the bona fide
2		retail sale of goods or services, and who, either as
3		incident to or independent of the retail sale or
4		service, from time to time cashes items for a fee or
5		other consideration, where not more than \$2, or two
6		per cent of the amount of the check, whichever is
7		greater, is charged for the service; or
8	(2)	Any] any person authorized to engage in business as a
9		bank, trust company, savings bank, savings and loan
10		association, financial services loan company, or
11		credit union under the laws of the United States, any
12		state or territory of the United States, or the
13		District of Columbia."
14	SECT	ION 17. (a) The state auditor shall conduct a sunrise
15	analysis	of the regulation of payday lenders and deferred
16	deposit agreements and its impact on consumer protection in the	
17	State.	
18	(b)	In conducting the analysis, the state auditor shall
19	examine the following:	
20	(1)	The increasing impact of out-of-state internet lenders
21		who operate in the State;

- 1 (2) Data regarding consumer complaints;
- 2 (3) The impact of chapter 480F, Hawaii Revised Statutes,
- 3 on consumers within the State over the past fifteen
- 4 years; and
- 5 (4) Any further measures necessary for increased consumer
- **6** protection in the State.
- 7 (c) The auditor shall submit a report of findings and
- 8 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the
- 9 legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of
- 10 the regular session of 2020.
- 11 PART III
- 12 SECTION 18. This Act does not affect rights and duties
- 13 that matured, penalties that were incurred, and proceedings that
- 14 were begun before its effective date.
- 15 SECTION 19. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
- 16 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
- 17 SECTION 20. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050;
- 18 provided that:
- 19 (1) The licensing requirements for small dollar lenders
- 20 established by section 2 of this Act shall take effect
- 21 on January 1, 2051; and

1 (2) Part II shall take effect on July 1, 3000.

Report Title:

Payday Lending; Small Dollar Loans; Small Dollar Lenders; Licensure; Requirements; Appropriation; Check Cashers; Registration; Voluntary Payment Plans; Notices

Description:

Transitions from lump sum deferred deposit transactions to installment-based small dollar loan transactions. various consumer protection requirements for small dollar loans. Beginning 1/1/2020, requires licensure for small dollar lenders that offer small dollar loans to consumers. Specifies licensing requirements for small dollar lenders. Authorizes the division of financial institutions to appoint 2.0 FTE examiner positions, funded via the compliance resolution fund, to carry out the purposes of the small dollar installment loan program. check cashers to be registered with DCCA and to offer a voluntary payment plan to customers under certain circumstances. Establishes the terms of voluntary payment plans. Clarifies that a customer may only have one outstanding deferred deposit transaction from any source. Amends notices to customers required of check cashers. Removes the exemption for persons engaged in the bona fide retail sale of goods or services. Requires the Auditor to conduct a sunrise analysis of the regulation of payday lenders and deferred deposit agreements in the State. (SB537 HD3)

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