945 S.B. NO. S.D. 2 H.D. 2

C.D. 1

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE DIGITAL CURRENCY LICENSURE.

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

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that digital currencies
 are assets that are primarily managed or stored electronically.
 Digital currencies refer to digital currency, cryptocurrency,
 e-money, network money, e-cash, and others, as defined by
 various governmental jurisdictions. Digital currency may be
 recorded on a decentralized ledger on the Internet or a
 centralized database or ledger system owned by a company.

Digital currencies do not have physical form like banknotes 8 9 or minted coins. Digital currencies are also usually not issued 10 by a governmental body and are generally not considered legal tender. Although digital currency has grown in popularity and 11 acceptance worldwide, there is little regulation of the industry 12 13 in the United States, with a few states treating digital currency activities as within the scope of money transmitter 14 15 laws.

16 The legislature further finds that the division of 17 financial institutions of the department of commerce and 18 consumer affairs and the Hawaii technology development 2023-2882 SB945 CD1 SMA-1.docx

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1 corporation are currently conducting a sandbox pilot program, called the digital currency innovation lab, to study digital 2 currency transactions. This study allows companies to conduct 3 digital currency transactions without obtaining a money 4 5 transmitter license while the division of financial institutions evaluates the need for more permanent and comprehensive 6 7 oversight. 8 The data gathered through the digital currency innovation lab confirmed that digital currency transactions are not best 9 10 regulated through existing money transmitter laws and that a new 11 regulatory framework is appropriate. 12 The purpose of this Act is to: 13 Establish a licensing program for special purpose (1) 14 digital currency companies that will replace the 15 digital currency innovation lab; and 16 (2) Allow, for six months, any company participating in the digital currency innovation lab on June 30, 2023, 17 to continue operations if a complete application for 18 licensure is submitted to the division of financial 19 20 institutions by March 1, 2024.

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1	SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2	adding a new chapter to title 22 to be appropriately designated
3	and to read as follows:
4	"CHAPTER
5	SPECIAL PURPOSE DIGITAL CURRENCY LICENSING ACT
6	PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS
7	<b>§ -1 Definitions.</b> As used in this chapter, unless the
8	context otherwise requires:
9	"Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial
10	institutions.
11	"Consumer" means a natural person who engages in a
12	transaction that is primarily for that natural person's
13	personal, family, or household purposes.
14	"Control" means ownership of, or the power to vote, twenty-
15	five per cent or more of the outstanding voting securities of a
16	licensee or control person. For purposes of determining the
17	percentage of a licensee controlled by any person, there shall
18	be aggregated with the control person's interest the interest of
19	any other person controlled by the person or by any spouse,
20	parent, or child of the person.

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1	"Control of digital currency", when used in reference to a
2	transaction or relationship involving digital currency, means
3	the power to execute unilaterally or prevent indefinitely a
4	digital currency transaction.
5	"Control person" means an individual who directly or
6	indirectly exercises control over a licensee or applicant.
7	"Department" means the department of commerce and consumer
8	affairs.
9	"Digital currency" means any type of digital representation
10	of value that is used as a medium of exchange or a form of
11	digitally stored value. "Digital currency" includes any type of
12	digital representation of value that:
13	(1) Has a centralized repository or administrator;
14	(2) Is decentralized and has no centralized repository or
15	administrator; or
16	(3) May be created or obtained by computing or
17	manufacturing effort.
18	"Digital currency" does not include any of the following:
19	(1) Digital representations of value that:
20	(A) Are used solely within online gaming platforms;

1		(B)	Have no market or application outside of those
2			gaming platforms; and
3		(C)	Cannot be converted into, or redeemed for, fiat
4			currency or digital currency;
5	(2)	Digi	tal representations of value that can be redeemed
6		for:	
7		(A)	Goods, services, discounts, or purchases as part
8			of a customer affinity or rewards program with
9			the issuer or other designated merchants; or
10		(B)	Digital representations of value in another
11			customer affinity or rewards program,
12		but	cannot be converted into or redeemed for fiat
13		curr	ency or digital currency; or
14	(3)	Digi	tal units used as part of prepaid cards.
15	"Digi	tal	currency administration" means issuing digital
16	currency w	ith	the authority to redeem the currency for money,
17	bank credi	t, o	r other digital currency.
18	"Digi	tal	currency business activity" means:
19	(1)	Exch	anging, transferring, or storing digital currency
20		or e	ngaging in digital currency administration,

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1		whether directly or through an agreement with a
2		digital currency control-services vendor;
3	(2)	Exchanging one or more digital representations of
4		value used within one or more online games, game
5		platforms, or family of games for money or bank credit
6		outside the online game, game platform, or family of
7		games offered by or on behalf of the same publisher
8		from which the original digital representation of
9		value was received;
10	(3)	Storing, holding, or maintaining custody or control of
11		digital currency on behalf of others;
12	(4)	Buying and selling digital currency as a business;
13	(5)	Performing exchange services as a business; or
14	(6)	Controlling, administering, or issuing a digital
15		currency.
16	"Dig	ital currency control-services vendor" means a person
17	that has o	control of digital currency solely under an agreement
18	with a pe	rson that, on behalf of another person, assumes control
19	of digita	l currency.
20	"Div	ision" means the division of financial institutions of

21 the department.

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1 "Elder" means an individual who is sixty-two years of age 2 or older. "Exchange" means the conversion or change of: 3 4 (1)Fiat currency or other value into digital currency; 5 (2)Digital currency into fiat currency or other value; or 6 (3) One form of digital currency into another form of 7 digital currency. 8 "Licensee" means a person who is licensed or required to be 9 licensed under this chapter. 10 "NMLS" means the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and 11 Registry developed and maintained by the Conference of State 12 Bank Supervisors for the state licensing and registration of 13 state-licensed financial services providers. 14 "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship, 15 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited 16 liability partnership, or other association of individuals, 17 however organized. "Special purpose digital currency company" means a person 18

19 holding a special purpose digital currency license under this20 chapter.

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1	"Stored value" means monetary value that is evidenced by an
2	electronic record.
3	"Tangible net worth" means total assets, excluding
4	intangible assets, less total liabilities, in accordance with
5	United States generally accepted accounting principles.
6	"Transfer" means to assume control of digital currency from
7	or on behalf of a person and to:
8	(1) Credit the digital currency to the account of another
9	person;
10	(2) Move the digital currency from one account of a person
11	to another account of the same person; or
12	(3) Relinquish control of digital currency to another
13	person.
14	"United States dollar equivalent of digital currency" means
15	the equivalent value of a particular digital currency in United
16	States dollars shown on a digital currency exchange based in the
17	United States for a particular date or specified period.
18	<b>§ -2 Exclusions.</b> (a) This chapter shall not apply to:
19	(1) The exchange, transfer, or storage of digital currency
20	or to digital currency administration to the extent
21	regulated by the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (15

1		U.S.C. chapter 2B) or Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C.
2		chapter 1);
3	(2)	Activity by a person that:
4		(A) Contributes only connectivity software or
5		computing power to a:
6		(i) Decentralized digital currency; or
7		(ii) Protocol governing transfer of the digital
8		representation of value;
9		(B) Provides only data storage or security services
10		for a business engaged in digital currency
11		business activity and does not otherwise engage
12		in digital currency business activity on behalf
13		of another person; or
14		(C) Provides only to a person, that is otherwise
15		exempt from this chapter, digital currency as one
16		or more enterprise solutions used solely among
17		each other and has no agreement or relationship
18		with a person that is an end-user of digital
19		currency;
20	(3)	A person using digital currency, including creating,
21		investing, buying, selling, or obtaining digital

1		currency as payment for the purchase or sale of goods
2		or services, solely for academic purposes;
3	(4)	A person whose digital currency business activity with
4		or on behalf of persons is reasonably expected to be
5		valued, in the aggregate, on an annual basis at \$5,000
6		or less, measured by the United States dollar
7		equivalent of digital currency;
8	(5)	An attorney to the extent of providing escrow services
9		to a person;
10	(6)	A securities intermediary, as defined in
11		section 490:8-102, or commodity intermediary, as
12		defined in section 490:9-102;
13	(7)	A digital currency control-services vendor;
14	(8)	A person that:
15		(A) Does not receive compensation from a person for:
16		(i) Providing digital currency products or
17		services; or
18		(ii) Conducting digital currency business
19		activity; or
20		(B) Is engaged in testing products or services with
21		the person's own funds or digital currency;

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1	(9)	Non-custodial digital currency business activity by a
2		person using a digital currency:
3		(A) Acknowledged as legal tender by the United States
4		or a government recognized by the United States;
5		or
6		(B) That has been determined not to be a security by
7		a United States regulatory agency; or
8	(10)	Banks, bank holding companies, credit unions, savings
9		banks, financial services loan companies, and mutual
10		banks organized under the laws of the United States or
11		any state.
12	(b)	The commissioner may determine whether a person or
13	class of	persons is to be exempt from this chapter.
14	S	-3 Powers of commissioner. In addition to any other
15	powers pr	covided by law, the commissioner may:
16	(1)	Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 as the commissioner
17		deems necessary for the administration of this
18		chapter;
19	(2)	Issue declaratory rulings or informal nonbinding
20		interpretations;

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1	(3)	Investigate and conduct hearings regarding any
2		violation of this chapter or any rule or order of, or
3		agreement with, the commissioner;
4	(4)	Create fact-finding committees that may make
5		recommendations to the commissioner for the
6		commissioner's deliberations;
7	(5)	Require an applicant or any of its control persons,
8		executive officers, directors, general partners, and
9		managing members to disclose their relevant criminal
10		history and request a criminal history record check to
11		be conducted by or through NMLS or pursuant to chapter
12		846. The information shall be accompanied by the
13		appropriate payment of the applicable fee for each
14		criminal history record check;
15	(6)	Contract with or employ qualified persons, including
16		accountants, attorneys, investigators, examiners,
17		auditors, or other professionals who may be exempt
18		from chapter 76 and who shall assist the commissioner
19		in exercising the commissioner's powers and duties;
20	(7)	Process and investigate complaints; subpoena witnesses
21		and documents; administer oaths; receive affidavits

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1		and oral testimony, including telephonic
2		communications; and do anything necessary or
3		incidental to the exercise of the commissioner's power
4		and duties, including the authority to conduct
5		contested case proceedings under chapter 91;
6	(8)	Require a licensee to comply with:
7		(A) Any rule, guidance, guideline, statement,
8		supervisory policy, or any similar proclamation
9		issued or adopted by the Federal Deposit
10		Insurance Corporation; or
11		(B) Any policy position of the Conference of State
12		Bank Supervisors,
13		to the same extent and in the same manner as a bank
14		chartered by the State;
15	(9)	Enter into agreements or relationships with other
16		government officials or regulatory associations to
17		improve efficiencies and reduce regulatory burden by
18		sharing resources; standardized or uniform methods or
19		procedures; and documents, records, information, or
20		evidence obtained under this chapter;

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1	(10)	Use, hire, contract, or employ publicly or privately
2		available analytical systems, methods, or software to
3		investigate or examine a licensee or person subject to
4		this chapter;
5	(11)	Accept and rely on investigation or examination
6		reports made by other government officials, within or
7		outside the State;
8	(12)	Accept audit reports made by an independent certified
9		public accountant for the licensee or person subject
10		to this chapter during that part of the examination
11		covering the same general subject matter as the audit
12		and may incorporate the audit report in the report of
13		the examination, report of investigation, or other
14		writing of the commissioner; and
15	(13)	Enter into agreements with, hire, retain, or contract
16		with private and governmental entities to develop and
17		create educational programs relating to special
18		purpose digital currency.
19		PART II. LICENSURE
20	S	-11 License required. (a) A person shall not engage
21	in digita	l currency business activity, or hold itself out as

1 being able to engage in digital currency business activity, with 2 or on behalf of another person unless the person is: Licensed in the State under this chapter; or 3 (1) 4 (2) Excluded from licensing under section -2. 5 Any transaction made in violation of this section (b) 6 shall be void, and no person shall have the right to collect, 7 receive, or retain any principal, interest, fees, or other 8 charges in connection with the transaction. 9 S -12 Deposits to compliance resolution fund. All fees, 10 fines, penalties, and other charges collected pursuant to this 11 chapter or by rule shall be deposited with the director of 12 commerce and consumer affairs to the credit of the compliance 13 resolution fund established pursuant to section 26-9(o). Payments shall be made through NMLS, to the extent allowed by 14 15 NMLS. 16 -13 License; application; issuance. (a) The S 17 commissioner shall require all licensees to register with NMLS. 18 (b) Applicants for a license shall apply in a form as 19 prescribed by NMLS or by the commissioner. The application 20 shall contain, at a minimum, the following information: 21 The legal name, trade names, and business address of: (1)

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	(A) The applicant; and
	(B) Every member, officer, principal, or director
	thereof, if the applicant is a partnership,
	association, limited liability company, limited
	liability partnership, or corporation;
(2)	The applicant's principal place of business located in
	the United States;
(3)	The complete address of any other branch offices at
	which the applicant currently proposes to engage in
	digital currency business activity in the State; and
(4)	Other data, financial statements, and pertinent
	information as the commissioner may require with
	respect to the applicant or, if an applicant is not an
	individual, each of the applicant's control persons,
	executive officers, directors, general partners, and
	managing members.
(c)	To fulfill the purposes of this chapter, the
	(3)

18 commissioner may enter into agreements or contracts with NMLS or 19 other entities to use NMLS to collect and maintain records and 20 process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or 21 other persons subject to this chapter.

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1 (d) For the purpose and to the extent necessary to participate in NMLS, the commissioner may waive or modify, in 2 whole or in part, by rule or order, any or all of the 3 4 requirements of this chapter and establish new requirements as reasonably necessary to participate in NMLS. 5 In connection with an application for a license under 6 (e) this chapter, the applicant, at a minimum, shall furnish to NMLS 7 8 information or material concerning the applicant's identity, 9 including: 10 (1) Fingerprints of the applicant or, if an applicant is 11 not an individual, fingerprints of each of the 12 applicant's control persons, executive officers, 13 directors, general partners, and managing members for 14 submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation or 15 any governmental agency or entity authorized to 16 receive the fingerprints for a state, national, and 17 international criminal history background check, 18 accompanied by the applicable fee charged by the entities conducting the criminal history background 19 20 check; and

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1	(2)	Persc	nal history and experience of the applicant or,
2		if an	applicant is not an individual, the personal
3		histo	ry and experience of each of the applicant's
4		contr	ol persons, executive officers, directors,
5		gener	al partners, and managing members in a form
6		presc	ribed by NMLS, including the submission of
7		autho	prization for NMLS and the commissioner to obtain:
8		(A)	An independent credit report obtained from a
9			consumer reporting agency described in
10			section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act,
11			title 15 United States Code section 1681a(p); and
12		(B)	Information related to any administrative, civil,
13			or criminal findings by any governmental
14			jurisdiction;
15	provided	that t	the commissioner may use any information obtained
16	pursuant	to thi	s subsection or through NMLS to determine an
17	applicant	's den	nonstrated financial responsibility, character,
18	and gener	al fit	mess for licensure.

19 (f) The commissioner may use NMLS as an agent for
20 requesting information from and distributing information to the
21 United States Department of Justice or any governmental agency.

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1 The commissioner may use NMLS as an agent for (q) 2 requesting and distributing information to and from any source 3 directed by the commissioner. (h) An applicant for a license as a special purpose 4 5 digital currency company shall be registered with the business registration division of the department to do business in the 6 7 State before a license pursuant to this chapter is issued. 8 S -14 Issuance of license; grounds for denial. (a) The commissioner shall investigate every applicant to determine the 9 10 financial responsibility, character, and general fitness of the 11 applicant. The commissioner shall issue the applicant a license 12 to engage in digital currency business activity if the 13 commissioner determines that: 14 The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is (1)not an individual, each of the applicant's control 15 16 persons, executive officers, directors, general 17 partners, and managing members has never had a special 18 purpose digital currency license revoked in any 19 jurisdiction; provided that a subsequent formal 20 vacation of a revocation shall not be deemed a 21 revocation for purposes of this section;

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The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
not an individual, each of the applicant's control
persons, executive officers, directors, general
partners, and managing members has not been convicted
of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been granted
a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
law or the laws of any state to a felony in a
domestic, foreign, or military court:
(A) During the seven-year period preceding the date
of the application for licensing; or
(B) At any time preceding the date of application, if
the felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty,
breach of trust, or money laundering;
provided that any pardon of a conviction shall not be
deemed a conviction for the purposes of this section;
The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
not an individual, each of the applicant's control
persons, executive officers, directors, general
partners, and managing members has demonstrated
financial responsibility, character, and general
fitness to command the confidence of the community and



1		to warrant a determination that the applicant shall
2		operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently, pursuant to
3		this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, a
4		person is not financially responsible when the person
5		has shown a disregard in the management of the
6		person's financial condition. A determination that a
7		person has shown a disregard in the management of the
8		person's financial condition may be based upon:
9		(A) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments
10		solely as a result of medical expenses;
11		(B) Current outstanding tax liens or other government
12		liens and filings, subject to applicable
13		disclosure laws and administrative rules;
14		(C) Foreclosures within the preceding three years;
15		and
16		(D) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within
17		the preceding 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

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1		of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been granted
2		a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
3		law or the laws of any state to any misdemeanor
4		involving an act of fraud, dishonesty, breach of
5		trust, or money laundering;
6	(5)	The applicant has satisfied the licensing requirements
7		of this chapter; and
8	(6)	The applicant has provided the bond required by
9		section -17.
10	(b)	The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
11	not an in	dividual, each of the applicant's control persons,
12	executive	officers, directors, general partners, and managing
13	members s	hall submit authorization to the commissioner for the
14	commissio	ner to conduct background checks to determine or verify
15	the infor	mation in subsection (a) in each state in which the
16	person ha	s conducted digital currency business activity.
17	Authoriza	tion pursuant to this subsection shall include consent
18	to provid	e additional fingerprints, if necessary, to law
19	enforceme	nt or regulatory bodies in other states.
20	(c)	A license shall not be issued to an applicant:

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1	(1)	Whose license to conduct business under this chapter,
2		or any similar statute in any other jurisdiction, has
3		been suspended or revoked within five years of the
4		filing of the present application;
5	(2)	Whose license to conduct digital currency business
6		activity has been revoked by an administrative order
7		issued by the commissioner or the commissioner's
8		designee, or the licensing authority of another state
9		or jurisdiction, for the period specified in the
10		administrative order;
11	(3)	Who has advertised directly and purposefully to
12		consumers in the State or conducted transactions in
13		violation of this chapter; or
14	(4)	Who has failed to complete an application for
15		licensure.
16	(d)	A license issued in accordance with this chapter shall
17	remain in	force and effect until surrendered, suspended, or
18	revoked,	or until the license expires as a result of nonpayment
19	of the an	nual license renewal fee required by this chapter.
20	S	-15 Anti-money laundering program. (a) Each licensee
21	shall con	duct an initial risk assessment that shall consider

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1	legal, co	mpliance, financial, and reputational risks associated					
2	with the licensee's activities, services, customers,						
3	counterparties, and geographic location and establish, maintain,						
4	and enfor	ce an anti-money laundering program based on the risk					
5	assessmen	t. The licensee shall conduct additional assessments					
6	on an ann	ual basis, or more frequently as risks change, and					
7	shall mod	ify its anti-money laundering program as appropriate to					
8	reflect t	he changes.					
9	(b)	Each licensee, at a minimum, shall:					
10	(1)	Establish an effective anti-money laundering					
11		compliance program in accordance with the federal					
12		Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020;					
13	(2)	Establish an effective customer due diligence system					
14		and monitoring program;					
15	(3)	Screen against the Specially Designated Nationals and					
16		Blocked Persons List maintained by the Office of					
17		Foreign Assets Control and other government lists;					
18	(4)	Maintain records of cash purchases or cash					
19		transactions and report to the appropriate federal					
20		regulatory agency, as required by the federal					
21		Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020;					

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1 Establish an effective suspicious activity monitoring (5) 2 and reporting process; and 3 (6) Develop a risk-based anti-money laundering program. Each licensee shall have in place appropriate policies 4 (C) and procedures to block or reject specific or impermissible 5 transactions that violate federal or state laws, rules, or 6 7 regulations. 8 -16 Cybersecurity program. (a) Each licensee shall S 9 establish and maintain an effective cybersecurity program to 10 ensure the availability and functionality of the licensee's 11 electronic systems and to protect those systems and any 12 sensitive data stored on those systems from unauthorized access, 13 use, or tampering. The cybersecurity program shall be designed 14 to perform the following core cybersecurity functions: 15 (1) Identify internal and external cybersecurity risks by, 16 at a minimum, identifying the information stored on 17 the licensee's systems, the sensitivity of the

18 information, and how and by whom the information may 19 be accessed;

20 (2) Protect the licensee's electronic systems, and the
21 information stored on those systems, from unauthorized



1		access, use, or other malicious acts through the use
2		of defensive infrastructure and the implementation of
3		policies and procedures;
4	(3)	Detect systems intrusions, data breaches, unauthorized
5		access to systems or information, malware, and other
6		cybersecurity events;
7	(4)	Respond to detected cybersecurity events to mitigate
8		any negative effects; and
9	(5)	Recover from cybersecurity events and restore normal
10		operations and services.
11	(b)	Each licensee shall implement a written cybersecurity
12	policy se	tting forth the licensee's policies and procedures for
13	the prote	ection of its electronic systems and customer and
14	counterpa	rty data stored on those systems, which shall be
15	reviewed	and approved by the licensee's board of directors or
16	equivaler	t governing body at least annually. The cybersecurity
17	policy sh	all:
18	(1)	Establish effective policies, procedures, and controls
19		to effectuate subsection (a);
20	(2)	Designate a cybersecurity officer;

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1	(3)	Develop and implement employee training in accordance
2		with position responsibilities to keep abreast of the
3		changing cybersecurity risk and threats;
4	(4)	Establish a method of independent testing; and
5	(5)	Maintain records.
6	S	-17 Fees; bond. (a) A special purpose digital
7	currency	company shall pay the following fees to the division
8	through 1	NMLS to obtain and maintain a valid license under this
9	chapter:	
10	(1)	Initial nonrefundable application fee of \$9,000;
11	(2)	Nonrefundable renewal application fee of \$1,000; and
12	(3)	Fees collected by NMLS for the processing of the
13		application, including applicable fees charged by the
14		entities conducting:
15		(A) The criminal history background check of each of
16		the applicant's control persons, executive
17		officers, directors, general partners, and
18		managing members for submission to the Federal
19		Bureau of Investigation and any governmental
20		agency or entity authorized to receive the
21		fingerprints for a state, national, and

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1	international	criminal	history	background	check;
2	and				

3 (B) An independent credit report obtained from a
4 consumer reporting agency described in
5 section 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act,
6 title 15 United States Code section 1681a(p).

7 (b) Every licensee shall be assessed quarterly fees based 8 on the total value of transactions in the State, in United 9 States dollar equivalent of digital currency, as reported in the 10 quarterly reports. The quarterly fees shall be assessed the 11 quarter after the applicant is licensed in accordance with the 12 following:

- 13 (1) For licensees with a total value of transactions, in
  14 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency,
  15 not over \$10,000, the quarterly assessment shall be
  16 \$2,500;
- 17 (2) For licensees with a total value of transactions, in
  18 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency,
  19 over \$10,000 but not over \$15,000, the quarterly
  20 assessment shall be \$3,750;

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1	(3)	For licensees with a total value of transactions, in
2		United States dollar equivalent of digital currency,
3		over \$15,000 but not over \$25,000, the quarterly
4		assessment shall \$6,250;
5	(4)	For licensees with a total value of transactions, in
6		United States dollar equivalent of digital currency,
7		over \$25,000 but not over \$35,000, the quarterly
8		assessment shall be \$8,750; and
9	(5)	For licensees with a total value of transactions, in
10		United States dollar equivalent of digital currency,
11		over \$35,000, the quarterly assessment shall be
12		\$12,500.
13	(c)	The assessments shall be paid quarterly on
14	February	15, May 15, August 15, and November 15 of each year
15	based on	the licensee's quarterly reports as of the previous
16	December	31, March 31, June 30, and September 30, respectively.
17	(d)	The digital assets shall be based on the United States
18	dollar eq	uivalent of digital currency assets held on behalf of
19	customers	, calculated in United States dollars from the
20	company's	quarterly report based on the trading price of the

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asset on the licensee's platform as of 4:30 p.m. Hawaii Aleutian
 Standard Time.

3 (e) The applicant shall file and maintain a surety bond 4 that is approved by the commissioner and executed by the 5 applicant as obligor and by a surety company authorized to 6 operate as a surety in the State, whose liability as a surety does not exceed, in the aggregate, the penal sum of the bond. 7 8 The penal sum of the bond shall be a minimum of \$500,000, based 9 upon the annual United States dollar equivalent of digital 10 currency as reported in the annual renewal report.

(f) The bond required by subsection (e) shall run to the State of Hawaii as obligee for the use and benefit of the State and of any person or persons who may have a cause of action against the licensee as obligor under this chapter. The bond shall be conditioned upon the following:

16 (1) The licensee as obligor shall faithfully conform to
17 and abide by this chapter and all the rules adopted
18 under this chapter; and

19 (2) The bond shall pay to the State and any person or
20 persons having a cause of action against the licensee
21 as obligor all moneys that may become due and owing to

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1	the	State	and	those	persons	under	and	by	virtue	of
2	this	s chapt	cer.							

3 § -18 Renewal of license; annual report; quarterly 4 **reports.** (a) An annual report shall be filed in accordance 5 with NMLS policy. The annual report shall include the 6 licensee's most recent audited annual financial statement, 7 including balance sheets, a statement of income or loss, a 8 statement of changes in shareholders' equity, and a statement of 9 cash flows or, if a licensee is a wholly owned subsidiary of 10 another corporation, the consolidated audited annual financial 11 statement of the parent corporation in lieu of the licensee's 12 audited annual financial statement.

13 (b) Quarterly reports shall be filed in a form prescribed14 by the commissioner, which shall include:

15 (1) A report detailing the special purpose digital

16 currency company's activities in the State since the 17 prior reporting period, including:

18 (A) The number of stored value accounts opened;

- 19 (B) The number of transactions processed;
- 20 (C) The total value of transactions in United States
  21 dollar equivalent of digital currency;

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1		(D) The number of system outages;
2		(E) A chart of accounts, including a description of
3		each account; and
4		(F) Any other information that the commissioner may
5		require related to performance metrics and the
6		efficacy of the special purpose digital currency
7		license program;
8	(2)	A report of any material changes to any of the
9		information submitted by the licensee on its original
10		application that have not previously been reported to
11		the commissioner on any other report required to be
12		filed under this chapter;
13	(3)	Disclosure of any pending or final suspension,
14		revocation, or other enforcement action by any state
15		or governmental authority; and
16	(4)	Any other information the commissioner may require.
17	(c)	A licensee may renew its license by:
18	(1)	Continuing to meet the licensing requirements of
19		sections -13, -14, -15, -16, and -17;
20	(2)	Filing a completed renewal application on a form
21		prescribed by NMLS or by the commissioner;

1 (3) Paying a renewal fee; and

2 Meeting all other requirements of this section. (4)3 At renewal, a licensee that has not filed an (d) 4 application deemed complete by the commissioner, an annual 5 report, or quarterly reports or paid the quarterly fees, and has 6 not been granted an extension of time by the commissioner, shall 7 have its license suspended on the renewal date. The licensee 8 shall have thirty days after its license is suspended to file 9 the annual report or quarterly reports, or pay the quarterly 10 fees, plus a late filing fee of \$250 for each day after 11 suspension that the commissioner does not receive the annual 12 report, quarterly reports, and the quarterly fees. The 13 commissioner, for good cause, may reduce or suspend the late 14 filing fee.

15 § -19 Principal place of business. (a) Every special 16 purpose digital currency company licensed under this chapter 17 shall have and maintain a principal place of business in the 18 United States, regardless of whether the special purpose digital 19 currency company maintains its principal office outside of the 20 United States.

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1 (b) The principal place of business of the special purpose 2 digital currency company shall be identified in NMLS. 3 S -20 Sale or transfer of license; change of control. 4 No special purpose digital currency company license shall (a) 5 be transferred, except 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 \$10,000. 11 (C) After review of an application requesting approval 12 under subsection (b), the commissioner may require the licensee 13 or 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. The information shall include, 20 for the five-year period prior to the date of the application 21 for change of control of the licensee, a history of material

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litigation and criminal convictions of each person who, upon
 approval of the application for change of control, will be a
 principal of the licensee. Authorization shall also be given to
 conduct criminal history record checks of those persons,
 accompanied by the appropriate payment of the applicable fee for
 each record check.

The commissioner shall approve an application 7 (d) 8 requesting a change of control under subsection (b) if, after 9 investigation, the commissioner determines that the person or 10 group of persons requesting approval has the competence, experience, character, and general fitness to control the 11 12 licensee or person in control of the licensee in a lawful and 13 proper manner, and that the interests of the public will not be 14 jeopardized by the change of control.

15 (e) A person:

16 (1) Who acts as a proxy for the sole purpose of voting at
17 a designated meeting of the security holders or
18 holders of voting interests of a licensee or person in
19 control of a licensee;

20 (2) Who acquires control of a licensee by devise or
21 descent;

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1	(3) Who acquires control as a personal representative,
2	custodian, guardian, conservator, trustee, or as an
3	officer appointed by a court of competent jurisdiction
4	or by operation of law; or
5	(4) Whom the commissioner, by rule or order, exempts in
6	the public interest,
7	shall be exempt from the requirements of subsection (b);
8	provided that the licensee shall notify the commissioner when
9	control is assumed by the person.
10	(f) Before filing an application requesting approval for a
11	change of control, a person may request, in writing, a
12	determination from the commissioner as to whether the person
13	would be considered a person in control of a licensee upon
14	consummation of a proposed transaction. If the commissioner
15	determines that the person would not be a person in control of a
16	licensee, the commissioner shall enter an order to that effect
17	and the proposed person and transaction shall not be subject to
18	subsections (b) through (d).
19	(g) Subsection (b) shall not apply to public offerings of
20	securities.

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1	<b>§ -21 Ownership and control of digital currency</b> . (a) A
2	licensee that has control of digital currency for one or more
3	persons shall maintain control of digital currency in each type
4	of digital currency sufficient to satisfy the aggregate
5	entitlements of the persons to the type of digital currency.
6	(b) If a licensee violates subsection (a), the property
7	interests of the persons in the digital currency shall be pro
8	rata property interests in the type of digital currency to which
9	the persons are entitled, without regard to the time the persons
10	became entitled to the digital currency or the licensee obtained
11	control of the digital currency.
12	(c) The digital currency referred to in this section
13	shall:
14	(1) Be held for the persons entitled to the digital
15	currency;
16	(2) Not be considered property of the licensee; and
17	(3) Not be subject to the claims of creditors of the
18	licensee.
19	(d) To the extent a licensee stores, holds, or maintains
20	custody or control of digital currency on behalf of another
21	person, the licensee shall hold digital currency of the same

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1 type and amount as that which is owed or obligated to that other 2 person.

Each licensee shall be prohibited from selling, 3 (e) transferring, assigning, lending, hypothecating, pledging, or 4 otherwise using or encumbering assets, including digital 5 currency, stored, held, or maintained by, or under the custody 6 or control of, the licensee on behalf of another person except 7 for the sale, transfer, or assignment of the assets at the 8 direction of that other person, unless clearly presented and 9 stated to the client that doing so is the intent of the product. 10 PART III. DISCLOSURES, ADVERTISING, AND RECORDKEEPING 11

12 -31 Required disclosures. (a) A licensee that S 13 engages in digital currency business activity shall provide to a person who uses the licensee's products or service the 14 15 disclosures required by subsection (b) and any additional 16 disclosure the commissioner determines reasonably necessary for 17 the protection of persons. The commissioner shall determine the 18 time and form required for disclosure. A disclosure required by 19 this section shall be made separately from any other information 20 provided by the licensee and made in a clear and conspicuous manner in a record the person may keep. A licensee may propose 21

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1	for the commis	sioner's approval alternate disclosures as more
2	appropriate fo	r its digital currency business activity.
3	(b) Befc	re establishing a relationship with a person, a
4	licensee shall	disclose the following, to the extent applicable
5	to the digital	currency business activity the licensee will
6	undertake with	the person:
7	(1) A sc	hedule of fees and charges the licensee may
8	asse	ss, how fees and charges will be calculated if
9	they	are not set in advance and disclosed, and the
10	timi	ng of the fees and charges;
11	(2) Whet	her the product or service provided by the
12	lice	nsee is covered by:
13	(A)	A form of insurance or is otherwise guaranteed
14		against loss by an agency of the United States,
15		including the Federal Deposit Insurance
16		Corporation and Securities Investor Protection
17		Corporation, up to the United States dollar
18		equivalent of digital currency purchased from the
19		licensee or for control of digital currency by
20		the licensee; or

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1		(B) Private insurance against theft or loss,
2		including cyber theft or theft by other means;
3	(3)	The irrevocability of a transfer or exchange;
4	(4)	The method by which the person can update the person's
5		contact information with the licensee;
6	(5)	That the date or time when the transfer or exchange is
7		made, and when the person's account is debited, may
8		differ from the date or time when the person initiates
9		the instruction to make the transfer or exchange;
10	(6)	The person's right to receive a receipt or other
11		evidence of the transfer or exchange;
12	(7)	The person's right to at least thirty days' notice of
13		a change in the licensee's fee schedule, other terms
14		and conditions of operating its digital currency
15		business activity with the person, and the policies
16		applicable to the person's account; and
17	(8)	That digital currency is not money.
18	(c)	At the end of a digital currency transaction with or
19	on behalf	of a person, a licensee shall provide the person a
20	confirmat	ion in a record that contains:

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1	(1)	The name and contact information of the licensee,
2		including information the person may need to ask a
3		question or file a complaint;
4	(2)	The type, value, date, precise time, and amount of the
5		transaction; and
6	(3)	The fee charged for the transaction, including any
7		charge for conversion of digital currency to money,
8		bank credit, or other digital currency.
9	S	-32 Tangible net worth requirement; records. (a) A
10	licensee	engaged in digital currency business activity shall
11	maintain	at all times a tangible net worth of no less than
12	\$500,000	or an amount determined by the commissioner necessary
13	to ensure	safe and sound operation.
14	(b)	Each licensee shall make, keep, preserve, and make
15	available	for inspection by the commissioner the books,
16	accounts,	and other records required in subsection (c). A
17	licensee	shall maintain records required by subsection (c) in a
18	form that	enables the commissioner to determine whether the
19	licensee	is in compliance with this chapter, any court order,
20	and the l	aws of the State.

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1	(c)	A licensee shall maintain, for all digital currency
2	business	activity with or on behalf of a person five years after
3	the date	of the activity, a record of:
4	(1)	Each transaction of the licensee with or on behalf of
5		the person or for the licensee's account in the State,
6		including:
7		(A) The identity of the person;
8		(B) The form of the transaction;
9		(C) The amount, date, and payment instructions given
10		by the person; and
11		(D) The account number, name, and address of the
12		person and, to the extent feasible, other parties
13		to the transaction;
14	(2)	The aggregate number of transactions and aggregate
15		value of transactions by the licensee with or on
16		behalf of the person and for the licensee's account in
17		this State, expressed in United States dollar
18		equivalent of digital currency for the previous twelve
19		calendar months;

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1	(3)	Each transaction in which the licensee exchanges one
2		form of digital currency for money or another form of
3		digital currency with or on behalf of the person;
4	(4)	A general ledger posted at least monthly that lists
5		all assets, liabilities, capital, income, ownership
6		equity, and expenses of the licensee;
7	(5)	Each business-call report the licensee is required to
8		create or provide to the division or NMLS;
9	(6)	Bank statements and bank reconciliation records for
10		the licensee and the name, account number, and United
11		States Postal Service address of each bank the
12		licensee uses in the conduct of its digital currency
13		business activity with or on behalf of the person;
14	(7)	Communications and documentation related to
15		investigations of customer complaints; and
16	(8)	A report of any digital currency business activity
17		transaction with or on behalf of a person that the
18		licensee was unable to complete.
19	§	-33 Advertising and marketing. (a) Each licensee
20	engaged i	n digital currency business activity shall not
21	advertise	its products, services, or activities in the State or

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to consumers in the State without including the name of the
 licensee and the legend that the licensee is "Licensed to engage
 in Digital Currency Business Activity by the State of Hawaii
 Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' Division of
 Financial Institutions".

(b) Each licensee shall maintain, for examination by the 6 commissioner, all advertising and marketing materials for a 7 period of at least five years from the date of their creation, 8 9 including but not limited to print media, internet media, 10 websites, radio and television advertising, road show materials, 11 presentations, and brochures. Each licensee shall maintain 12 website captures of material changes to internet advertising and 13 marketing, and audio and video transcripts of its advertising and marketing materials, as applicable. 14

15 (c) In all advertising and marketing materials, each
16 licensee shall comply with all disclosure requirements under
17 federal and state laws, rules, and regulations.

(d) In all advertising and marketing materials, each
licensee and any person or entity acting on its behalf, shall
not, directly or by implication, make any false, misleading, or
deceptive representations or omissions.

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1 -34 Confidentiality. (a) Except as otherwise S 2 provided in title 12 United States Code section 5111, the 3 requirements under any federal or state law regarding the privacy or confidentiality of any information or material 4 5 provided to NMLS, and any privilege arising under federal or 6 state law, including the rules of any federal or state court, 7 with respect to the information or material, shall continue to 8 apply to the information or material after the information or 9 material has been disclosed to NMLS. The information and 10 material may be shared with all federal and state regulatory 11 officials with oversight authority over transactions subject to 12 this chapter, without the loss of privilege or the loss of 13 confidentiality protections provided by federal or state law. 14 (b) For the purposes of this section, the commissioner may 15 enter into agreements or sharing arrangements with other governmental agencies, the Conference of State Bank Supervisors, 16 17 or other associations representing governmental agencies as 18 established by rule or order of the commissioner.

(c) Information or material that is subject to a privilege
or confidentiality under subsection (a) shall not be subject to:
(1) Disclosure under chapter 92F; or

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(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 that privilege, in whole or in part,
 in the discretion of the person.

8 (d) Notwithstanding chapter 92F, the examination process 9 and related information and documents, including the reports of 10 examination, shall be confidential and shall not be subject to 11 discovery or disclosure in civil or criminal lawsuits.

(e) In the event of a conflict between this section and any other section of law relating to the disclosure of privileged or confidential information or material, this section shall control.

16 (f) This section shall not apply to information or 17 material relating to the employment history of, and publicly 18 adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, any 19 persons that are included in NMLS for access by the public.

20

PART IV. ENFORCEMENT

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1	§	-41 Enforcement authority; violations; penalties. (a)
2	To ensure	the effective supervision and enforcement of this
3	chapter,	the commissioner may take any disciplinary action
4	specified	in subsection (b) against an applicant or licensee if
5	the commi	ssioner finds that:
6	(1)	The applicant or licensee has violated this chapter,
7		or any rule or order lawfully adopted or issued
8		pursuant to this chapter;
9	(2)	The applicant has failed to disclose facts or
10		conditions that would have clearly justified the
11		commissioner in denying an application for licensure,
12		had these facts or conditions been known to exist at
13		the time the application was made;
14	(3)	The applicant or licensee has failed to provide
15		information required by the commissioner within a
16		reasonable time, as specified by the commissioner;
17	(4)	The applicant or licensee has failed to provide or
18		maintain proof of financial responsibility;
19	(5)	The applicant or licensee is insolvent;
20	(6)	The applicant or licensee has made, in any document or
21		statement filed with the commissioner, a false

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1		representation of a material fact or has omitted to
2		state a material fact;
3	(7)	The applicant, licensee, or, if an applicant or
4		licensee is not an individual, any of the applicant's
5		or licensee's control persons, executive officers,
6		directors, general partners, or managing members have
7		been convicted of or entered a plea of guilty or nolo
8		contendere to a crime involving fraud or deceit, or to
9		any similar crime under the jurisdiction of any
10		federal court or court of another state;
11	(8)	The applicant or licensee has failed to make,
12		maintain, or produce records that comply with
13		section -42 or any rule adopted by the commissioner
14		pursuant to chapter 91;
15	(9)	The applicant or licensee has been the subject of any
16		disciplinary action by any federal or state agency
17		that resulted in revocation of a license;
18	(10)	A final judgment has been entered against the
19		applicant or licensee for violations of this chapter,
20		any federal or state law concerning a special purpose
21		digital currency license or money transmitter license,

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1		or any federal or state law prohibiting unfair or
2		deceptive acts or practices; or
3	(11)	The applicant or licensee has failed, in a timely
4		manner as specified by the commissioner, to take or
5		provide proof of the corrective action required by the
6		commissioner after an investigation or examination
7		pursuant to section -42.
8	(b)	After a finding of one or more of the conditions under
9	subsection	n (a), the commissioner may take any or all the
10	following	actions:
11	(1)	Deny an application for licensure, including an
12		application for a branch office license;
13	(2)	Suspend or revoke the license in accordance with
14		section -45;
15	(3)	Issue an order to the licensee to cease and desist in
16		accordance with section -46 from engaging in any
17		act specified under subsection (a);
18	(4)	Order the licensee to make refunds to consumers of
19		excess charges under this chapter; or
20	(5)	Impose penalties of up to \$10,000 for each violation
21		in accordance with section -48.

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The commissioner may issue a temporary cease and 1 (C) desist order if the commissioner makes a finding that the 2 licensee, applicant, or person is engaging, has engaged, or is 3 about to engage in an illegal, unauthorized, unsafe, or unsound 4 5 practice in violation of this chapter. Whenever the commissioner denies a license application or takes disciplinary 6 7 action pursuant to this subsection, the commissioner shall enter an order to that effect and notify the licensee, applicant, or 8 person of the denial or disciplinary action. The notification 9 10 required by this subsection shall be given by personal service 11 or by certified mail to the last known address of the licensee 12 or applicant as shown on the application or license, or as 13 subsequently furnished in writing to the commissioner.

(d) The revocation, suspension, expiration, or surrender of a license shall not affect the licensee's liability for acts previously committed or impair the commissioner's ability to issue a final agency order or take disciplinary action against the licensee.

19 (e) No revocation, suspension, consent order, or surrender20 of a license shall impair or affect the obligation of any

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preexisting lawful contract between the licensee and any
 consumer.

3 (f) The commissioner may reinstate a license, terminate a
4 suspension, or grant a new license to a person whose license has
5 been revoked or suspended if no fact or condition then exists
6 that would clearly justify the commissioner in revoking,
7 suspending, or refusing to grant a license.

8 (g) The commissioner may impose an administrative fine on 9 a licensee or person subject to this chapter if the commissioner 10 finds on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing 11 that the licensee or person subject to this chapter has violated 12 or failed to comply with any requirement of this chapter or any 13 rule adopted by the commissioner under this chapter or order 14 issued under the authority of this chapter.

(h) Each violation or failure to comply with any directive
or order of the commissioner shall be a separate and distinct
violation.

18 § -42 Investigation and examination authority. (a) In
19 addition to the authority granted under section -3, the
20 commissioner may conduct investigations and examinations in
21 accordance with this section. The commissioner may access,

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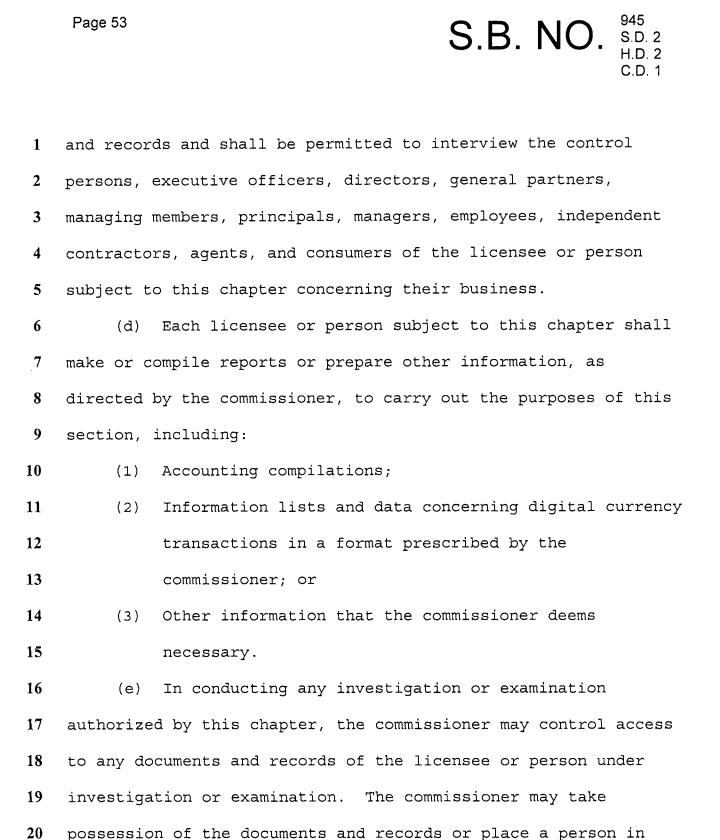
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receive, and use any books, accounts, records, files, documents,
 information, or evidence that the commissioner deems relevant to
 the investigation or examination, regardless of the location,
 possession, control, or custody of the documents, information,
 or evidence.

(b) For the purposes of investigating violations or 6 7 complaints arising under this chapter, or for the purposes of examination, the commissioner may review, investigate, or 8 9 examine any licensee or person subject to this chapter as often 10 as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The 11 commissioner may direct, subpoena, or order the attendance of, 12 and examine under oath, all persons whose testimony may be 13 required about digital currency transactions or the business or 14 subject matter of any investigation or examination and may 15 direct, subpoena, or order the person to produce books, 16 accounts, records, files, and any other documents the 17 commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry.

(c) Each licensee or person subject to this chapter shall
provide to the commissioner, upon request, the books and records
relating to the operations of the licensee or person subject to
this chapter. The commissioner shall have access to the books

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21 exclusive charge of the documents and records. During the

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period of control, no person shall remove or attempt to remove 1 any of the documents and records except pursuant to a court 2 order or with the consent of the commissioner. Unless the 3 4 commissioner has reasonable grounds to believe the documents or 5 records of the licensee or person under investigation or examination have been, or are at risk of being, altered or 6 7 destroyed for the purposes of concealing a violation of this 8 chapter, the licensee or owner of the documents and records shall have access to the documents or records as necessary to 9 10 conduct its ordinary business affairs.

(f) The authority of this section shall remain in effect, whether a licensee or person subject to this chapter acts or claims to act under any licensing or registration law of this State or claims to act without this authority.

(g) No licensee or person subject to investigation or examination under this section may knowingly withhold, abstract, remove, mutilate, destroy, or conceal any books, records, computer records, or other information.

(h) The commissioner may charge an investigation or
examination fee, payable to the commissioner, based upon the
cost per hour per examiner for all licensees and persons subject

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1 to this chapter investigated or examined by the commissioner or 2 the commissioner's staff. The hourly fee shall be \$60 or an 3 amount as the commissioner shall establish by rule pursuant to chapter 91. In addition to the investigation or examination 4 5 fee, the commissioner may charge any person who is investigated 6 or examined by the commissioner or the commissioner's staff 7 pursuant to this section additional fees for travel, per diem, 8 mileage, and other reasonable expenses incurred in connection 9 with the investigation or examination, payable to the 10 commissioner.

(i) Any person having reason to believe that this chapter or the rules adopted under this chapter have been violated, or that a license issued under this chapter should be suspended or revoked, may file a written complaint with the commissioner, setting forth the details of the alleged violation or grounds for suspension or revocation.

17 § -43 Prohibited practices. (a) It shall be a
18 violation of this chapter for a licensee, its control persons,
19 executive officers, directors, general partners, managing
20 members, employees, or independent contractors, or any other
21 person subject to this chapter to:

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1	(1)	Engage in any act that limits or restricts the
2		application of this chapter;
3	(2)	Use a customer's digital currency account number to
4		prepare, issue, or create a digital currency
5		transaction on behalf of the consumer without the
6		customer's authorization;
7	(3)	Charge, collect, or receive, directly or indirectly,
8		fees for negotiating digital currency transactions
9		except those explicitly authorized in this chapter;
10	(4)	Fail to make disclosures as required by this chapter
11		and any other applicable federal or state law,
12		including rules or regulations adopted pursuant to
13		federal or state law;
14	(5)	Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device, or
15		artifice to defraud or mislead any consumer or person;
16	(6)	Directly or indirectly engage in unfair or deceptive
17		acts, practices, or advertising in connection with a
18		digital currency business activity toward any person;
19	(7)	Directly or indirectly obtain digital currency by
20		fraud or misrepresentation;

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- 1 Conduct digital currency business activity with or on (8) 2 behalf of any person physically located in the State 3 through the use of the Internet, facsimile, telephone, 4 kiosk, or other means without first obtaining a 5 license under this chapter; (9) Make, in any manner, any false or deceptive statement 6 or representation, including with regard to the rates, 7 8 fees, or other financing terms or conditions for 9 digital currency business activity, or engage in bait 10 and switch advertising; 11 (10)Make any false statement or knowingly make any 12 omission of material fact in connection with any 13 reports filed with the division by a licensee or in 14 connection with any investigation conducted by the 15 division: 16 Conduct digital currency business activity from any (11)17 unlicensed location; 18 (12)Draft funds from any depository financial institution
- 19 without written approval of the consumer; provided 20 that nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the 21 conversion of a negotiable instrument into an

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	electronic form for processing through the Automated
	Clearing House or similar system;
(13)	Fail to comply with all applicable federal and state
	laws relating to the activities governed by this
	chapter; or
(14)	Fail to pay any fee, assessment, or moneys due to the
	department.
(b)	In addition to any other penalties provided for under
this chap	ter, any digital currency transaction in violation of
subsectio	n (a) shall be void and unenforceable.
S	-44 Voluntary surrender of license. (a) A licensee
may volun	tarily cease business and surrender its license by
giving wr	itten notice through NMLS to the commissioner of the
licensee'	s intent to surrender its license. Prior to the
	<pre>(14)   (b) this chap subsectio    \$ may volun giving wr</pre>

15 surrender date, the licensee shall have either completed all

16 pending digital currency transactions or assigned each pending 17 digital currency transaction to another licensee.

18 (b) Notice to the commissioner shall be provided at least
19 thirty days before the surrender of the license and shall
20 include:

21 (1) The date of surrender;

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- 1 (2) The name, address, telephone number, facsimile number, 2 and electronic mail address of a contact individual 3 with knowledge and authority sufficient to communicate 4 with the commissioner regarding all matters relating 5 to the licensee during the period that it was licensed 6 pursuant to this chapter;
- 7 (3) The reason or reasons for surrender;
- The total dollar amount of the licensee's outstanding 8 (4)9 digital currency transactions in the State and the 10 individual amounts of each outstanding digital 11 currency transactions and the name, address, and 12 contact telephone number of the licensee to whom each 13 outstanding digital currency transaction was assigned; 14 (5) A list of the licensee's authorized branch offices in 15 the State, if any, as of the date of surrender; 16 (6) Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of 17 its authorized branch offices in the State, if any, that the branch offices shall no longer conduct 18 19 digital currency business activity on the licensee's 20 behalf; and

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(7) Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of 1 its digital currency accounts, if any, that the 2 digital currency account is being transferred and the 3 name, address, telephone number, and any other contact 4 information of the licensee or entity described in 5 section -20 to whom the digital currency was 6 assigned. 7 Voluntary surrender of a license shall be effective 8 (C) 9 upon the date of surrender specified on the written notice to the commissioner as required by this section; provided that the 10 11 licensee has met all the requirements of voluntary surrender. Suspension or revocation of licenses. 12 S -45 The 13 commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner 14 finds that: 15 (1) Any fact or condition exists that, if it had existed 16 at the time at which the licensee applied for its 17 license, would have been grounds for denying the 18 licensee's application; (2) The licensee's tangible net worth becomes inadequate 19

and the licensee, after ten days' written notice from

20

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1		the commissioner, fails to take steps as the
2		commissioner deems necessary to remedy a deficiency;
3	(3)	The licensee knowingly violates any material provision
4		of this chapter or any rule adopted or order issued by
5		the commissioner under authority of this chapter;
6	(4)	The licensee is conducting its business in an unsafe
7		or unsound manner;
8	(5)	The licensee is insolvent;
9	(6)	The licensee has suspended payment of its obligations,
10		has made an assignment for the benefit of its
11		creditors, or has admitted, in writing, its inability
12		to pay its debts as they become due;
13	(7)	The licensee has filed for bankruptcy, reorganization,
14		arrangement, or other relief under any bankruptcy law;
15	(8)	The licensee refuses to permit the commissioner to
16		make any investigation or examination authorized by
17		this chapter; or
18	(9)	The competence, experience, character, or general
19		fitness of the licensee indicates that it is not in
20		the public interest to allow the licensee to have a
21		license.

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-46 Orders to cease and desist. (a) If the 1 S commissioner determines that a licensee's violation of this 2 chapter or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter 3 4 is: (1) Likely to cause immediate and irreparable harm to the 5 licensee, the licensee's customers, or the public as a 6 result of the violation; or 7 (2) Cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets 8 of the licensee, 9 10 the commissioner may issue an order requiring the licensee to cease and desist from the violation. The order shall become 11 12 effective upon service of the order upon the licensee. 13 (b) An order to cease and desist shall remain effective 14 and enforceable pending the completion of an administrative 15 proceeding pursuant to chapter 91. 16 (c) A licensee that is served with an order to cease and 17 desist may petition the circuit court for a judicial order 18 setting aside, limiting, or suspending the enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of the order pending the completion 19 20 of an administrative proceeding pursuant to sections -51 21 or -52.

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(d) The commissioner shall commence an administrative
 proceeding pursuant to chapter 91 within twenty days after
 issuing an order to cease and desist.

4 (e) The commissioner may apply to the circuit court for an5 appropriate order to protect the public interest.

-47 Consent orders. The commissioner may enter into a 6 S consent order at any time with a person to resolve a matter 7 8 arising under this chapter. A consent order shall be signed by the person to whom the order is issued or by the person's 9 10 authorized representative and shall indicate agreement with the terms contained in the order. A consent order may provide that 11 12 it does not constitute an admission by a person that this 13 chapter or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter 14 has been violated.

15 § -48 Civil penalties. (a) The commissioner may assess 16 a fine against a person who violates this chapter or a rule 17 adopted or an order issued under this chapter in an amount not 18 to exceed \$10,000 per violation, plus the State's costs and 19 expenses for the investigation and prosecution of the matter, 20 including reasonable attorneys' fees.

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(b) Any violation of this chapter that is directed toward,
 targets, or injures an elder may be subject to an additional
 civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation, in
 addition to any other fines or penalties assessed for the
 violation.

6 § -49 Criminal penalties. (a) A person who
7 intentionally makes a false statement, misrepresentation, or
8 false certification in a record filed or required to be
9 maintained under this chapter, who intentionally makes a false
10 entry, or who omits a material entry in a record shall be guilty
11 of a class C felony and shall be subject to a fine of not more
12 than \$10,000.

(b) An individual or person who knowingly engages in any activity for which a license is required under this chapter, without being licensed under this chapter, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000, imprisonment of not more than one year, or both. Each day a violation exists shall be deemed a separate offense.

19 § -50 Unlicensed persons. (a) If the commissioner has
20 reason to believe that a person has violated or is violating
21 section -11, the commissioner may issue an order to show

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cause why an order to cease and desist should not issue
 requiring that the person cease and desist from the violation of
 section -11.

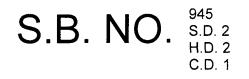
4 (b) If the commissioner has reason to believe that a
5 person has violated or is violating section -11, the
6 commissioner may petition the circuit court for the issuance of
7 a temporary restraining order if the public would be irreparably
8 harmed.

9 (c) An order to cease and desist shall become effective10 upon service of the order upon the person.

11 (d) An order to cease and desist shall remain effective 12 and enforceable pending the completion of an administrative 13 proceeding pursuant to section -46.

(e) A person who is served with an order to cease and
desist for violating section -11 may petition the circuit
court for a judicial order setting aside, limiting, or
suspending the enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of the
order to cease and desist pending the completion of an
administrative proceeding pursuant to section -46.

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(f) The commissioner shall commence an administrative
 proceeding within twenty days after issuing an order to cease
 and desist.

4 § -51 Administrative procedures. All administrative
5 proceedings under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance
6 with chapter 91.

7 § -52 Hearings. Except as otherwise provided in
8 sections -18(d) and -45, the commissioner shall not
9 suspend or revoke a license, issue an order to cease and desist,
10 or assess a civil penalty without notice and an opportunity to
11 be heard.

12 § -53 Division functions. (a) The division shall 13 exercise all administrative functions of the State in relation 14 to the regulation, supervision, and licensing of special purpose 15 digital currency companies.

16 (b) The division shall interpret and enforce this17 chapter."

18 SECTION 3. Section 489D-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is 19 amended by amending the definition of "monetary value" to read 20 as follows:

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1	" "Mo:	netary value" means a medium of exchange, whether or
2	not redee	mable in money[+], except as defined as digital
3	currency	under section -1."
4	SECT	ION 4. Section 846-2.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
5	amended b	y amending subsection (b) to read as follows:
6	"(b)	Criminal history record checks may be conducted by:
7	(1)	The department of health or its designee on operators
8		of adult foster homes for individuals with
9		developmental disabilities or developmental
10		disabilities domiciliary homes and their employees, as
11		provided by section 321-15.2;
12	(2)	The department of health or its designee on
13		prospective employees, persons seeking to serve as
14		providers, or subcontractors in positions that place
15		them in direct contact with clients when providing
16		non-witnessed direct mental health or health care
17		services as provided by section 321-171.5;
18	(3)	The department of health or its designee on all
19		applicants for licensure or certification for,
20		operators for, prospective employees, adult

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1		volunteers, and all adults, except adults in care, at
2		healthcare facilities as defined in section 321-15.2;
3	(4)	The department of education on employees, prospective
4		employees, and teacher trainees in any public school
5		in positions that necessitate close proximity to
6		children as provided by section 302A-601.5;
7	(5)	The counties on employees and prospective employees
8		who may be in positions that place them in close
9		proximity to children in recreation or child care
10		programs and services;
11	(6)	The county liquor commissions on applicants for liquor
12		licenses as provided by section 281-53.5;
13	(7)	The county liquor commissions on employees and
14		prospective employees involved in liquor
15		administration, law enforcement, and liquor control
16		investigations;
17	(8)	The department of human services on operators and
18		employees of child caring institutions, child placing
19		organizations, and foster boarding homes as provided
20		by section 346-17;

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1	(9)	The department of human services on prospective
2		adoptive parents as established under
3		section 346-19.7;
4	(10)	The department of human services or its designee on
5		applicants to operate child care facilities, household
6		members of the applicant, prospective employees of the
7		applicant, and new employees and household members of
8		the provider after registration or licensure as
9		provided by section 346-154, and persons subject to
10		section 346-152.5;
11	(11)	The department of human services on persons exempt
12		pursuant to section 346-152 to be eligible to provide
13		child care and receive child care subsidies as
14		provided by section 346-152.5;
15	(12)	The department of health on operators and employees of
16		home and community-based case management agencies and
17		operators and other adults, except for adults in care,
18		residing in community care foster family homes as
19		provided by section 321-15.2;

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1	(13)	The department of human services on staff members of
2		the Hawaii youth correctional facility as provided by
3		section 352-5.5;
4	(14)	The department of human services on employees,
5		prospective employees, and volunteers of contracted
6		providers and subcontractors in positions that place
7		them in close proximity to youth when providing
8		services on behalf of the office or the Hawaii youth
9		correctional facility as provided by section 352D-4.3;
10	(15)	The judiciary on employees and applicants at detention
11		and shelter facilities as provided by section 571-34;
12	(16)	The department of public safety on employees and
13		prospective employees who are directly involved with
14		the treatment and care of persons committed to a
15		correctional facility or who possess police powers
16		including the power of arrest as provided by
17		section 353C-5;
18	(17)	The board of private detectives and guards on
19		applicants for private detective or private guard
20		licensure as provided by section 463-9;

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

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1		subcontracted service providers and their employees,
2		and adult volunteers as provided by section 321-15.2;
3	(22)	The department of human services on purchase of
4		service contracted and subcontracted service providers
5		and their employees serving clients of the adult
6		protective and community services branch, as provided
7		by section 346-97;
8	(23)	The department of human services on foster grandparent
9		program, senior companion program, and respite
10		companion program participants as provided by
11		section 346-97;
12	(24)	The department of human services on contracted and
13		subcontracted service providers and their current and
14		prospective employees that provide home and
15		community-based services under section 1915(c) of the
16		Social Security Act, title 42 United States Code
17		section 1396n(c), or under any other applicable
18		section or sections of the Social Security Act for the
19		purposes of providing home and community-based
20		services, as provided by section 346-97;

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1	(25)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
2		proposed directors and executive officers of a bank,
3		savings bank, savings and loan association, trust
4		company, and depository financial services loan
5		company as provided by section 412:3-201;
6	(26)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
7		proposed directors and executive officers of a
8		nondepository financial services loan company as
9		provided by section 412:3-301;
10	(27)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on the
11		original chartering applicants and proposed executive
12		officers of a credit union as provided by
13		section 412:10-103;
14	(28)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
15		(A) Each principal of every non-corporate applicant
16		for a money transmitter license;
17		(B) Each person who upon approval of an application
18		by a corporate applicant for a money transmitter
19		license will be a principal of the licensee; and
20		(C) Each person who upon approval of an application
21		requesting approval of a proposed change in

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1		control of licensee will be a principal of the
2		licensee,
3		as provided by sections 489D-9 and 489D-15;
4	(29)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
5		applicants for licensure and persons licensed under
6		title 24;
7	(30)	The Hawaii health systems corporation on:
8		(A) Employees;
9		(B) Applicants seeking employment;
10		(C) Current or prospective members of the corporation
11		board or regional system board; or
12		(D) Current or prospective volunteers, providers, or
13		contractors,
14		in any of the corporation's health facilities as
15		provided by section 323F-5.5;
16	(31)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
17		(A) An applicant for a mortgage loan originator
18		license, or license renewal; and
19		(B) Each control person, executive officer, director,
20		general partner, and managing member of an

1		applicant for a mortgage loan originator company
2		license or license renewal,
3		as provided by chapter 454F;
4	(32)	The state public charter school commission or public
5		charter schools on employees, teacher trainees,
6		prospective employees, and prospective teacher
7		trainees in any public charter school for any position
8		that places them in close proximity to children, as
9		provided in section 302D-33;
10	(33)	The counties on prospective employees who work with
11		children, vulnerable adults, or senior citizens in
12		community-based programs;
13	(34)	The counties on prospective employees for fire
14		department positions that involve contact with
15		children or vulnerable adults;
16	(35)	The counties on prospective employees for emergency
17		medical services positions that involve contact with
18		children or vulnerable adults;
19	(36)	The counties on prospective employees for emergency
20		management positions and community volunteers whose
21		responsibilities involve planning and executing

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

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

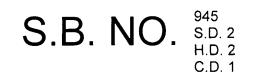
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1		and on individuals registering their firearms pursuant
2		to section 134-3;
3	(44)	The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
4		(A) Each of the controlling persons of the applicant
5		for licensure as an escrow depository, and each
6		of the officers, directors, and principals who
7		will be in charge of the escrow depository's
8		activities upon licensure; and
9		(B) Each of the controlling persons of an applicant
10		for proposed change in control of an escrow
11		depository licensee, and each of the officers,
12		directors, and principals who will be in charge
13		of the licensee's activities upon approval of the
14		application,
15		as provided by chapter 449;
16	(45)	The department of taxation on current or prospective
17		employees or contractors who have access to federal
18		tax information in order to comply with requirements
19		of federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided
20		by section 231-1.6;

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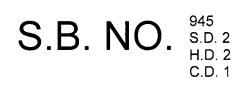
1 (46) The department of labor and industrial relations on 2 current or prospective employees or contractors who 3 have access to federal tax information in order to comply with requirements of federal law, regulation, 4 5 or procedure, as provided by section 383-110; 6 (47)The department of human services on current or 7 prospective employees or contractors who have access 8 to federal tax information in order to comply with 9 requirements of federal law, regulation, or procedure, 10 as provided by section 346-2.5; 11 (48)The child support enforcement agency on current or 12 prospective employees or contractors who have access 13 to federal tax information in order to comply with 14 federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided by 15 section 576D-11.5; 16 (49) The department of the attorney general on current or 17 prospective employees or employees or agents of 18 contractors who have access to federal tax information 19 to comply with requirements of federal law, 20 regulation, or procedure, as provided by 21 section 28-17;

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1	[+](50)[+]The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
2	each control person, executive officer, director,
3	general partner, and managing member of an installment
4	loan licensee, or an applicant for an installment loan
5	license, as provided in chapter 480J;
6	[+](51)[+]The University of Hawaii on current and prospective
7	employees and contractors whose duties include
8	ensuring the security of campus facilities and
9	persons; [and]
10	(52) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
11	each control person, executive officer, director,
12	general partner, and managing member of a special
13	purpose digital currency company licensee or an
14	applicant for a special purpose digital currency
15	license, as provided in chapter ; and
16	[ <del>[(52)]</del> ] <u>(53)</u> Any other organization, entity, or the State,
17	its branches, political subdivisions, or agencies as
18	may be authorized by state law."
19	SECTION 5. (a) Notwithstanding any law to the contrary,
20	the companies participating in the digital currency innovation
21	lab operated by the department of commerce and consumer affairs

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1 and Hawaii technology development corporation shall be allowed 2 to continue operations until their applications for licensure 3 are acted upon by the division of financial institutions of the 4 department of commerce and consumer affairs; provided that the 5 complete application is submitted to the division of financial 6 institutions of the department of commerce and consumer affairs 7 by March 1, 2024.

8 (b) A company authorized to participate in the digital 9 currency innovation lab as of June 30, 2023, and whose 10 application for licensure under section 2 of this Act has been 11 submitted to the division of financial institutions of the 12 department of commerce and consumer affairs on or before 13 March 1, 2024, shall be exempt from the requirements in 14 -11, Hawaii Revised Statutes, as established by this section 15 Act for a period of six months from the date the application is 16 deemed complete or until the commissioner of financial 17 institutions approves or denies the application, whichever 18 occurs first. The commissioner of financial institutions, for good cause, may reduce or extend the six-month period. 19 20 Submission of an application for licensure shall be evidenced 21 through the nationwide multi-state licensing and registry system

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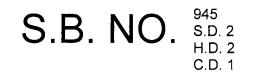
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developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank
 Supervisors for the state licensing and registration of state licensed financial services providers to the commissioner of
 financial institutions.

SECTION 6. The department of commerce and consumer affairs
may employ necessary personnel without regard to chapter 76,
Hawaii Revised Statutes, including three full-time equivalent
(3.0 FTE) positions for examiners, to assist with the
implementation and continuing function of this Act.

10 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the compliance 11 resolution fund established pursuant to section 26-9(0), Hawaii 12 Revised Statutes, the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may 13 be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so 14 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 to 15 establish and hire three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) 16 permanent examiners, without regard to chapter 76, Hawaii 17 Revised Statutes, to carry out the purposes of the special 18 purpose digital currency license program established by section 2 of this Act; provided that the positions may be added to the 19 20 position count for the division of financial institutions of the 21 department of commerce and consumer affairs.

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1	The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
2	of commerce and consumer affairs for the purposes of this Act.
3	SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
4	and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.
5	SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023;
6	provided that the special purpose digital currency licensing
7	requirements established by section 2 of this Act shall take
8	effect on January 1, 2024.



#### Report Title:

DCCA; Division of Financial Institutions; Special Purpose Digital Currency Companies; Licensure; Digital Currency Innovation Lab; Appropriation

#### Description:

Beginning 1/1/2024, establishes within the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs Division of Financial Institutions a program for the licensure, regulation, and oversight of special purpose digital currency companies. Extends operations of companies in the Digital Currency Innovation Lab under certain circumstances. Appropriates funds for three full-time equivalent (3.0 FTE) permanent examiners. (CD1)

The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.

