

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Office of Financial Regulation;
3 creating s. 494.00123, F.S.; providing definitions;
4 requiring loan originators, mortgage brokers, and
5 mortgage lenders to develop, implement, and maintain
6 comprehensive written information security programs
7 for the protection of information systems and
8 nonpublic personal information; providing requirements
9 for such programs; requiring loan originators,
10 mortgage brokers, and mortgage lenders to establish
11 written incident response plans for specified
12 purposes; providing requirements for such plans;
13 providing applicability; providing compliance
14 requirements under specified circumstances; requiring
15 loan originators, mortgage brokers, and mortgage
16 lenders to maintain copies of information security
17 programs for a specified timeframe and to make them
18 available to the Office of Financial Regulation under
19 certain circumstances; requiring loan originators,
20 mortgage brokers, and mortgage lenders and certain
21 entities to conduct investigations of cybersecurity
22 events under certain circumstances; providing
23 requirements for such investigations; providing
24 requirements for records and documentation
25 maintenance; providing requirements for notices of

26 security breaches; providing construction; providing
27 rulemaking authority; amending s. 494.00255, F.S.;
28 providing additional acts that constitute a ground for
29 specified disciplinary actions against loan
30 originators and mortgage brokers; amending s. 517.021,
31 F.S.; revising the definition of the term "investment
32 adviser" and defining the term "place of business";
33 amending s. 559.952, F.S.; revising definitions;
34 removing the definition of the term "innovative";
35 revising the list of general law provisions that are
36 waived upon approval of a Financial Technology Sandbox
37 application; revising conditions under which a waiver
38 of a requirement may be granted; providing that
39 provisions applicable to the Financial Technology
40 Sandbox innovative financial products and services
41 apply to Financial Technology Sandbox financial
42 products and services; revising the criteria for the
43 office to consider when deciding whether to approve or
44 deny an application for licensure; authorizing, rather
45 than requiring, the office to specify the maximum
46 number of consumers authorized to receive financial
47 products and services from a Financial Technology
48 Sandbox applicant; removing provisions that limit the
49 number of such customers; revising construction;
50 amending s. 560.114, F.S.; specifying the entities

51 that are subject to certain disciplinary actions and
52 penalties; revising the list of actions by money
53 services businesses which constitute grounds for
54 certain disciplinary actions and penalties; requiring,
55 rather than authorizing, the office to suspend
56 licenses of money services businesses under certain
57 circumstances; s. 560.1311, F.S.; providing
58 definitions; requiring money services businesses to
59 develop, implement, and maintain comprehensive written
60 information security programs for the protection of
61 information systems and nonpublic personal
62 information; providing requirements for such programs;
63 requiring money services businesses to establish
64 written incident response plans for specified
65 purposes; providing requirements for such plans;
66 providing applicability; providing compliance
67 requirements under specified circumstances; requiring
68 money services businesses to maintain copies of
69 information security programs for a specified
70 timeframe and to make them available to the office
71 under certain circumstances; requiring money services
72 businesses and certain entities to conduct
73 investigations of cybersecurity events under certain
74 circumstances; providing requirements for such
75 investigations; providing requirements for records and

76 documentation maintenance; providing requirements for
77 notices of security breaches; providing construction;
78 providing rulemaking authority; creating s. 655.0171,
79 F.S.; providing definitions; requiring financial
80 institutions to take measures to protect and secure
81 certain data that contain personal information;
82 providing requirements for notices of security
83 breaches to the office, the Department of Legal
84 Affairs, certain individuals, and certain credit
85 reporting agencies; amending s. 655.045, F.S.;
86 revising the timeline for the mailing of payment for
87 salary and travel expenses of certain field staff;
88 amending s. 657.005, F.S.; revising requirements for
89 permission to organize credit unions; amending s.
90 657.024, F.S.; authorizing meetings of credit union
91 members to be held virtually and without quorums under
92 certain circumstances; amending s. 657.042, F.S.;
93 removing provisions that impose limitations on
94 investments in real estate and equipment for credit
95 unions; amending s. 658.21, F.S.; revising
96 requirements and factors for approving applications
97 for organizing banks and trust companies; amending s.
98 658.33, F.S.; revising requirements for directors of
99 certain banks and trust companies; amending s.
100 662.141, F.S.; revising the timeline for the mailing

of payment for the salary and travel expenses of
certain field staff; amending s. 517.12, F.S.;
conforming a cross-reference; providing an effective
date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

**Section 1. Section 494.00123, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:**

494.00123 Information security programs; cybersecurity
event investigations.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Customer" means a person who seeks to obtain or who
obtains or has obtained a financial product or service from a
licensee.

(b) "Customer information" means any record containing
nonpublic personal information about a customer of a financial
transaction, whether on paper, electronic, or in other forms,
which is handled or maintained by or on behalf of the licensee
or its affiliates.

(c) "Cybersecurity event" means an event resulting in
unauthorized access to, or disruption or misuse of, an
information system, information stored on such information
system, or customer information held in physical form.

(d) "Financial product or service" means any product or

126 service offered by a licensee under this chapter.

127 (e) "Information security program" means the
128 administrative, technical, or physical safeguards used to
129 access, collect, distribute, process, protect, store, use,
130 transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information.

131 (f) "Information system" means a discrete set of
132 electronic information resources organized for the collection,
133 processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or
134 disposition of electronic information, as well as any
135 specialized system such as an industrial process control system,
136 telephone switching and private branch exchange system, or
137 environmental control system, which contain customer information
138 or which are connected to a system that contains customer
139 information.

140 (g) "Licensee" means a person licensed under this chapter.

141 (h)1. "Nonpublic personal information" means:

142 a. Personally identifiable financial information; and

143 b. Any list, description, or other grouping of customers
144 that is derived using any personally identifiable financial
145 information that is not publicly available, such as account
146 numbers, including any list of individuals' names and street
147 addresses that is derived, in whole or in part, using personally
148 identifiable financial information that is not publicly
149 available.

150 2. The term does not include:

151 a. Publicly available information, except as included on a
152 list, description, or other grouping of customers described in
153 sub-subparagraph 1.b.;

154 b. Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers,
155 or any publicly available information pertaining to such list,
156 description, or other grouping of consumers, which is derived
157 without using any personally identifiable financial information
158 that is not publicly available; or

159 c. Any list of individuals' names and addresses that
160 contains only publicly available information, is not derived, in
161 whole or in part, using personally identifiable financial
162 information that is not publicly available, and is not disclosed
163 in a manner that indicates that any of the individuals on the
164 list is a customer of a licensee.

165 3. As used in this paragraph, the term:

166 a.(I) "Personally identifiable financial information"
167 means any information that:

168 (A) A customer provides to a licensee to obtain a
169 financial product or service, such as information that a
170 customer provides to a licensee on an application to obtain a
171 loan or other financial product or service;

172 (B) A licensee receives about a consumer that is obtained
173 during or as a result of any transaction involving a financial
174 product or service between the licensee and the customer, such
175 as information collected through an information-collecting

176 device from a web server; or

177 (C) A licensee otherwise obtains about a customer in
178 connection with providing a financial product or service to the
179 customer, such as the fact that an individual is or has been one
180 of the licensee's customers or has obtained a financial product
181 or service from the licensee.

182 (II) The term "personally identifiable financial
183 information" does not include:

184 (A) A list of names and addresses of customers of an
185 entity that is not a financial institution; or

186 (B) Information that does not identify a customer, such as
187 blind data or aggregate information that does not contain
188 personal identifiers such as account numbers, names, or
189 addresses.

190 b.(I) "Publicly available information" means any
191 information that a licensee has a reasonable basis to believe is
192 lawfully made available to the general public from:

193 (A) Federal, state, or local government records, such as
194 government real estate records or security interest filings;

195 (B) Widely distributed media, such as information from a
196 telephone records repository or directory, a television or radio
197 program, a newspaper, a social media platform, or a website that
198 is available to the general public on an unrestricted basis. A
199 website is not restricted merely because an Internet service
200 provider or a site operator requires a fee or a password, so

201 long as access is available to the general public; or

202 (C) Disclosures to the general public which are required
203 to be made by federal, state, or local law.

204 (II) As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term
205 "reasonable basis to believe is lawfully made available to the
206 general public" relating to any information means that the
207 person has taken steps to determine:

208 (A) That the information is of the type that is available
209 to the general public, such as information included on the
210 public record in the jurisdiction where the mortgage would be
211 recorded; and

212 (B) Whether an individual can direct that the information
213 not be made available to the general public and, if so, the
214 customer to whom the information relates has not done so, such
215 as when a telephone number is listed in a telephone directory
216 and the customer has informed the licensee that the telephone
217 number is not unlisted.

218 (i) "Third-party service provider" means a person, other
219 than a licensee, which contracts with a licensee to maintain,
220 process, or store nonpublic personal information, or is
221 otherwise permitted access to nonpublic personal information
222 through its provision of services to a licensee.

223 (2) INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM.—

224 (a) Each licensee shall develop, implement, and maintain a
225 comprehensive written information security program that contains

226 administrative, technical, and physical safeguards for the
227 protection of the licensee's information system and nonpublic
228 personal information.

229 (b) Each licensee shall ensure that the information
230 security program meets all of the following criteria:

231 1. Be commensurate with the following measures:

232 a. Size and complexity of the licensee.

233 b. Nature and scope of the licensee's activities,
234 including the licensee's use of third-party service providers.
235 c. Sensitivity of nonpublic personal information that is
236 used by the licensee or that is in the licensee's possession,
237 custody, or control.

238 2. Be designed to do all of the following:

239 a. Protect the security and confidentiality of nonpublic
240 personal information and the security of the licensee's
241 information system.

242 b. Protect against threats or hazards to the security or
243 integrity of nonpublic personal information and the licensee's
244 information system.

245 c. Protect against unauthorized access to or the use of
246 nonpublic personal information and minimize the likelihood of
247 harm to any customer.

248 3. Define and periodically reevaluate the retention
249 schedule and the mechanism for the destruction of nonpublic
250 personal information if retention is no longer necessary for the

licensee's business operations or is no longer required by applicable law.

4. Regularly test and monitor systems and procedures for the detection of actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions into, the licensee's information system.

5. Be monitored, evaluated, and adjusted, as necessary, to meet all of the following requirements:

a. Determine whether the licensee's information security program is consistent with relevant changes in technology.

b. Confirm the licensee's information security program accounts for the sensitivity of nonpublic personal information.

c. Identify changes that may be necessary to the licensee's information system.

d. Eliminate any internal or external threats to nonpublic personal information.

e. Amend the licensee's information security program for any of the licensee's changing business arrangements, including, but not limited to, mergers and acquisitions, alliances and joint ventures, and outsourcing arrangements.

(c)1. As part of a licensee's information security program, the licensee shall establish a written incident response plan designed to promptly respond to, and recover from, a cybersecurity event that compromises:

a. The confidentiality, integrity, or availability of nonpublic personal information in the licensee's possession;

276 b. The licensee's information system; or
277 c. The continuing functionality of any aspect of the
278 licensee's operations.

279 2. The written incident response plan must address all of
280 the following:

281 a. The licensee's internal process for responding to a
282 cybersecurity event.

283 b. The goals of the licensee's incident response plan.

284 c. The assignment of clear roles, responsibilities, and
285 levels of decisionmaking authority for the licensee's personnel
286 that participate in the incident response plan.

287 d. External communications, internal communications, and
288 information sharing related to a cybersecurity event.

289 e. The identification of remediation requirements for
290 weaknesses identified in information systems and associated
291 controls.

292 f. The documentation and reporting regarding cybersecurity
293 events and related incident response activities.

294 g. The evaluation and revision of the incident response
295 plan, as appropriate, following a cybersecurity event.

296 h. The process by which notice must be given as required
297 under subsection (4) and s. 501.171(3) and (4).

298 (d)1. This section does not apply to a licensee that has
299 fewer than:

300 a. Twenty individuals on its workforce, including

employees and independent contractors; or

b. Five hundred customers during a calendar year.

2. A licensee that no longer qualifies for exemption under subparagraph 1. has 180 calendar days to comply with this section after the date of the disqualification.

(e) Each licensee shall maintain a copy of the information security program for a minimum of 5 years and shall make it available to the office upon request or as part of an examination.

(3) CYBERSECURITY EVENT INVESTIGATION.—

(a) If a licensee discovers that a cybersecurity event has occurred or that a cybersecurity event may have occurred, the licensee, or an outside vendor or third-party service provider that the licensee has designated to act on its behalf, shall conduct a prompt investigation of the cybersecurity event.

(b) During the investigation, the licensee, or the outside vendor or third-party service provider that the licensee has designated to act on its behalf, shall, at a minimum, determine as much of the following as possible:

1. Confirm that a cybersecurity event has occurred.

2. Identify the date that the cybersecurity event first occurred.

3. Assess the nature and scope of the cybersecurity event.

4. Identify all nonpublic personal information that may have been compromised by the cybersecurity event.

326 5. Perform or oversee reasonable measures to restore the
327 security of any compromised information system in order to
328 prevent further unauthorized acquisition, release, or use of
329 nonpublic personal information that is in the licensee's,
330 outside vendor's, or third-party service provider's possession,
331 custody, or control.

332 (c) If a licensee learns that a cybersecurity event has
333 occurred, or may have occurred, in an information system
334 maintained by a third-party service provider of the licensee,
335 the licensee shall complete an investigation in compliance with
336 this section or confirm and document that the third-party
337 service provider has completed an investigation in compliance
338 with this section.

339 (d) A licensee shall maintain all records and
340 documentation related to the licensee's investigation of a
341 cybersecurity event for a minimum of 5 years after the date of
342 the cybersecurity event and shall produce the records and
343 documentation to the office upon request.

344 (4) NOTICE TO OFFICE OF SECURITY BREACH.—

345 (a) Each licensee shall provide notice to the office of
346 any breach of security affecting 500 or more individuals in this
347 state at a time and in the manner prescribed by commission rule.

348 (b) Each licensee shall, upon the office's request,
349 provide a quarterly update of a cybersecurity event
350 investigation under subsection (3) until conclusion of the

351 investigation.

352 (5) CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to
353 relieve a covered entity from complying with s. 501.171. To the
354 extent a licensee is a covered entity, as defined in s.
355 501.171(1), the licensee remains subject to s. 501.171.

356 (6) RULES.—The commission may adopt rules to administer
357 this section, including rules that allow a licensee that is in
358 full compliance with the Federal Trade Commission's Standards
359 for Safeguarding Customer Information, 16 C.F.R. part 314, to be
360 deemed in compliance with subsection (2).

361 **Section 2. Paragraph (z) is added to subsection (1) of**
362 **section 494.00255, Florida Statutes, to read:**

363 494.00255 Administrative penalties and fines; license
364 violations.—

365 (1) Each of the following acts constitutes a ground for
366 which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may
367 be taken against a person licensed or required to be licensed
368 under part II or part III of this chapter:

369 (z) Failure to comply with the notification requirements
370 in s. 501.171(3) and (4).

371 **Section 3. Subsections (28) through (36) of section**
372 **517.021, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (29)**
373 **through (37), respectively, subsection (20) is amended, and a**
374 **new subsection (28) is added to that section, to read:**

375 517.021 Definitions.—When used in this chapter, unless the

context otherwise indicates, the following terms have the following respective meanings:

(20) (a) "Investment adviser" means a person, other than an associated person of an investment adviser or a federal covered adviser, that receives compensation, directly or indirectly, and engages for all or part of the person's time, directly or indirectly, or through publications or writings, in the business of advising others as to the value of securities or as to the advisability of investments in, purchasing of, or selling of securities.

(b) The term does not include any of the following:

1. A dealer or an associated person of a dealer whose performance of services in paragraph (a) is solely incidental to the conduct of the dealer's or associated person's business as a dealer and who does not receive special compensation for those services.

2. A licensed practicing attorney or certified public accountant whose performance of such services is solely incidental to the practice of the attorney's or accountant's profession.

3. A bank authorized to do business in this state.

4. A bank holding company as defined in the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, as amended, authorized to do business in this state.

5. A trust company having trust powers, as defined in s.

658.12, which it is authorized to exercise in this state, which trust company renders or performs investment advisory services in a fiduciary capacity incidental to the exercise of its trust powers.

6. A person that renders investment advice exclusively to insurance or investment companies.

7. A person:

a. Without a place of business in this state if the person has had ~~that~~, during the preceding 12 months, ~~has~~ fewer than six clients who are residents of this state.

b. With a place of business in this state if the person has had, during the preceding 12 months, fewer than six clients who are residents of this state and no clients who are not residents of this state.

As used in this subparagraph, the term "client" has the same meaning as provided in Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 222-2 ~~275.222-2~~, 17 C.F.R. s. 275.222-2, as amended.

8. A federal covered adviser.

9. The United States, a state, or any political subdivision of a state, or any agency, authority, or instrumentality of any such entity; a business entity that is wholly owned directly or indirectly by such a governmental entity; or any officer, agent, or employee of any such governmental or business entity who is acting within the scope

of his or her official duties.

10. A family office as defined in Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 202(a)(11)(G)-1(b) and (d) under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, 17 C.F.R. s. 275. 202(a)(11)(G)-1(b) and (d), as amended, without giving regard to paragraph 1(a) or paragraph 1(c) of that rule.

(28) "Place of business" of an investment adviser means an office at which the investment adviser regularly provides investment advisory services, solicits, meets with, or otherwise communicates with clients; and any other location that is held out to the general public as a location at which the investment adviser provides investment advisory services, solicits, meets with, or otherwise communicates with clients.

Section 4. Section 559.952, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

559.952 Financial Technology Sandbox.—

(1) SHORT TITLE.—This section may be cited as the "Financial Technology Sandbox."

(2) CREATION OF THE FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY SANDBOX.—There is created the Financial Technology Sandbox within the Office of Financial Regulation to allow financial technology innovators to test new products and services in a supervised, flexible regulatory sandbox using ~~exceptions to specified general law and~~ waivers of specified provisions of general law and the corresponding rule requirements under defined conditions. The

creation of a supervised, flexible regulatory sandbox provides a welcoming business environment for technology innovators and may lead to significant business growth.

(3) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Business entity" means any corporation, limited liability company, or trust that may or may not be fictitiously named and that does business in this state ~~a domestic corporation or other organized domestic entity with a physical presence, other than that of a registered office or agent or virtual mailbox, in this state.~~

(b) "Commission" means the Financial Services Commission.

(c) "Consumer" means a person in this state, whether a natural person or a business organization, who purchases, uses, receives, or enters into an agreement to purchase, use, or receive a ~~an innovative~~ financial product or service made available through the Financial Technology Sandbox.

(d) "Control person" means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a trust, or other organization that possesses the power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a company, whether through ownership of securities, by contract, or through other means. A person is presumed to control a company if, with respect to a particular company, that person:

1. Is a director, a general partner, or an officer exercising executive responsibility or having similar status or

476 functions;

477 2. Directly or indirectly may vote 10 percent or more of a
478 class of a voting security or sell or direct the sale of 10
479 percent or more of a class of voting securities; or

480 3. In the case of a partnership, may receive upon
481 dissolution or has contributed 10 percent or more of the
482 capital.

483 (e) "Corresponding rule requirements" means the commission
484 rules, or portions thereof, which implement the general laws
485 enumerated in paragraph (4)(a).

486 (f) "Financial product or service" means a product or
487 service related to ~~a consumer finance loan, as defined in s.~~
488 ~~516.01, or credit, banking services, money transmission, or~~
489 ~~securities transactions a money transmitter or payment~~
490 ~~instrument seller, as those terms are defined in s. 560.103,~~
491 ~~including mediums of exchange that are in electronic or digital~~
492 ~~form,~~ which is subject to the general laws enumerated in
493 paragraph (4)(a) and corresponding rule requirements and which
494 is under the jurisdiction of the office.

495 (g) "Financial Technology Sandbox" means the program
496 created by this section which allows a licensee to make a ~~an~~
497 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service available to consumers
498 during a sandbox period through waivers of ~~exceptions to~~ general
499 laws and ~~waivers of~~ corresponding rule requirements.

500 ~~(h) "Innovative" means new or emerging technology, or new~~

501 ~~uses of existing technology, which provide a product, service,~~
502 ~~business model, or delivery mechanism to the public and which~~
503 ~~are not known to have a comparable offering in this state~~
504 ~~outside the Financial Technology Sandbox.~~

505 (h)(i) "Licensee" means a business entity that has been
506 approved by the office to participate in the Financial
507 Technology Sandbox.

508 (i)(j) "Office" means, unless the context clearly
509 indicates otherwise, the Office of Financial Regulation.

510 (j)(k) "Sandbox period" means the initial 24-month period
511 in which the office has authorized a licensee to make a ~~an~~
512 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service available to consumers,
513 and any extension granted pursuant to subsection (7).

514 (4) WAIVERS OF ~~EXCEPTIONS TO~~ GENERAL LAW AND CORRESPONDING
515 ~~WAIVERS OF~~ RULE REQUIREMENTS.—

516 (a) Notwithstanding any other law, upon approval of a
517 Financial Technology Sandbox application, the office may grant
518 an applicant during a sandbox period a waiver of a requirement,
519 or a portion thereof, imposed by a general law or rule in any
520 following chapter, or part thereof, if all of the conditions in
521 paragraph (b) are met ~~following provisions and corresponding~~
522 ~~rule requirements are not applicable to the licensee during the~~
523 ~~sandbox period:~~

524 1. Chapter 516, Consumer Finance.

525 2. Chapter 517, Securities Transactions.

526 3. Chapter 520, Retail Installment Sales.

527 4. Chapter 537, Title Loans.

528 5. Part I or part II of chapter 560, General Provisions of
529 Money Services Businesses or Payment Instruments and Funds
530 Transmission.

531 6. Chapter 655, Financial Institutions Generally.

532 7. Chapter 657, Credit Unions.

533 8. Chapter 658, Banks and Trust Companies.

534 9. Chapter 660, Trust Business.

535 10. Chapter 662, Family Trust Companies.

536 11. Chapter 663, International Banking.

537 ~~1. Section 516.03(1), except for the application fee, the~~
538 ~~investigation fee, the requirement to provide the social~~
539 ~~security numbers of control persons, evidence of liquid assets~~
540 ~~of at least \$25,000 or documents satisfying the requirements of~~
541 ~~s. 516.05(10), and the office's authority to investigate the~~
542 ~~applicant's background. The office may prorate the license~~
543 ~~renewal fee for an extension granted under subsection (7).~~

544 ~~2. Section 516.05(1) and (2), except that the office shall~~
545 ~~investigate the applicant's background.~~

546 ~~3. Section 560.109, only to the extent that the section~~
547 ~~requires the office to examine a licensee at least once every 5~~
548 ~~years.~~

549 ~~4. Section 560.118(2).~~

550 ~~5. Section 560.125(1), only to the extent that the~~

subsection would prohibit a licensee from engaging in the business of a money transmitter or payment instrument seller during the sandbox period.

6. Section 560.125(2), only to the extent that the subsection would prohibit a licensee from appointing an authorized vendor during the sandbox period. Any authorized vendor of such a licensee during the sandbox period remains liable to the holder or remitter.

7. Section 560.128.

8. Section 560.141, except for s. 560.141(1)(a)1., 3., 7., 10. and (b), (c), and (d).

9. Section 560.142(1) and (2), except that the office may prorate, but may not entirely eliminate, the license renewal fees in s. 560.143 for an extension granted under subsection (7).

10. Section 560.143(2), only to the extent necessary for proration of the renewal fee under subparagraph 9.

11. Section 560.204(1), only to the extent that the subsection would prohibit a licensee from engaging in, or advertising that it engages in, the activity of a payment instrument seller or money transmitter during the sandbox period.

12. Section 560.205(2).

13. Section 560.208(2).

14. Section 560.209, only to the extent that the office

576 ~~may modify, but may not entirely eliminate, the net worth,~~
577 ~~corporate surety bond, and collateral deposit amounts required~~
578 ~~under that section. The modified amounts must be in such lower~~
579 ~~amounts that the office determines to be commensurate with the~~
580 ~~factors under paragraph (5)(c) and the maximum number of~~
581 ~~consumers authorized to receive the financial product or service~~
582 ~~under this section.~~

583 (b) The office may grant an applicant during a sandbox
584 period a waiver of a requirement, or a portion thereof, imposed
585 by a general law or rule in any chapter enumerated in paragraph
586 (a) if all of the following conditions are met: ~~approve a~~
587 ~~Financial Technology Sandbox application if one or more of the~~
588 ~~general laws enumerated in paragraph (a) currently prevent the~~
589 ~~innovative financial product or service from being made~~
590 ~~available to consumers and if all other requirements of this~~
591 ~~section are met.~~

592 1. The general law or rule does not currently authorize
593 the financial product or service to be made available to
594 consumers.

595 2. The waiver is not broader than necessary to accomplish
596 the purposes and standards specified in this section, as
597 determined by the office.

598 3. Any provision relating to the liability of an
599 incorporator, director, or officer of the applicant is not
600 eligible for a waiver.

601 (c) A licensee may conduct business through electronic
602 means, including through the Internet or a software application.

603 (5) FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY SANDBOX APPLICATION; STANDARDS
604 FOR APPROVAL.—

605 (a) Before filing an application for licensure under this
606 section, a substantially affected person may seek a declaratory
607 statement pursuant to s. 120.565 regarding the applicability of
608 a statute, a rule, or an agency order to the petitioner's
609 particular set of circumstances or a variance or waiver of a
610 rule pursuant to s. 120.542.

611 (b) Before making a ~~an innovative~~ financial product or
612 service available to consumers in the Financial Technology
613 Sandbox, a business entity must file with the office an
614 application for licensure under the Financial Technology
615 Sandbox. The commission shall, by rule, prescribe the form and
616 manner of the application and how the office will evaluate and
617 apply each of the factors specified in paragraph (c).

618 1. The application must specify each general law
619 enumerated in paragraph (4)(a) which currently prevents the
620 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service from being made
621 available to consumers and the reasons why those provisions of
622 general law prevent the ~~innovative~~ financial product or service
623 from being made available to consumers.

624 2. The application must contain sufficient information for
625 the office to evaluate the factors specified in paragraph (c).

626 3. An application submitted on behalf of a business entity
627 must include evidence that the business entity has authorized
628 the person to submit the application on behalf of the business
629 entity intending to make a ~~an innovative~~ financial product or
630 service available to consumers.

631 4. The application must specify the maximum number of
632 consumers, which may not exceed the number of consumers
633 specified in paragraph (f), to whom the applicant proposes to
634 provide the ~~innovative~~ financial product or service.

635 5. The application must include a proposed draft of the
636 statement or statements meeting the requirements of paragraph
637 (6)(b) which the applicant proposes to provide to consumers.

638 (c) The office shall approve or deny in writing a
639 Financial Technology Sandbox application within 60 days after
640 receiving the completed application. The office and the
641 applicant may jointly agree to extend the time beyond 60 days.
642 Consistent with this section, the office may impose conditions
643 on any approval. In deciding whether to approve or deny an
644 application for licensure, the office must consider each of the
645 following:

646 1. The nature of the ~~innovative~~ financial product or
647 service proposed to be made available to consumers in the
648 Financial Technology Sandbox, including all relevant technical
649 details.

650 ~~2. The potential risk to consumers and the methods that~~

651 ~~will be used to protect consumers and resolve complaints during~~
652 ~~the sandbox period.~~

653 2.3. The business plan proposed by the applicant,
654 including company information, ~~market analysis, and financial~~
655 ~~projections or pro forma financial statements, and evidence of~~
656 ~~the financial viability of the applicant.~~

657 ~~4. Whether the applicant has the necessary personnel,~~
658 ~~adequate financial and technical expertise, and a sufficient~~
659 ~~plan to test, monitor, and assess the innovative financial~~
660 ~~product or service.~~

661 3.5. Whether any control person of the applicant,
662 regardless of adjudication, has pled no contest to, has been
663 convicted or found guilty of, or is currently under
664 investigation for fraud, a state or federal securities
665 violation, a property-based offense, or a crime involving moral
666 turpitude or dishonest dealing, in which case the application to
667 the Financial Technology Sandbox must be denied.

668 4.6. A copy of the disclosures that will be provided to
669 consumers under paragraph (6) (b).

670 5.7. The financial responsibility of the applicant and any
671 control person, including whether the applicant or any control
672 person has a history of unpaid liens, unpaid judgments, or other
673 general history of nonpayment of legal debts, including, but not
674 limited to, having been the subject of a petition for bankruptcy
675 under the United States Bankruptcy Code within the past 7

676 calendar years.

677 ~~6.8-~~ Any other factor that the office determines to be
678 relevant.

679 (d) The office may not approve an application if:

680 1. The applicant had a prior Financial Technology Sandbox
681 application that was approved and that related to a
682 substantially similar financial product or service;

683 2. Any control person of the applicant was substantially
684 involved in the development, operation, or management with
685 another Financial Technology Sandbox applicant whose application
686 was approved and whose application related to a substantially
687 similar financial product or service; or

688 3. The applicant or any control person has failed to
689 affirmatively demonstrate financial responsibility.

690 (e) Upon approval of an application, the office shall
691 notify the licensee of the specific ~~that the licensee is exempt~~
692 ~~from the~~ provisions of general law ~~enumerated in paragraph~~
693 ~~(4)(a)~~ and the corresponding rule requirements that are waived
694 during the sandbox period. The office shall post on its website
695 notice of the approval of the application, a summary of the
696 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service, and the contact
697 information of the licensee.

698 (f) The office, on a case-by-case basis, may ~~shall~~ specify
699 the maximum number of consumers authorized to receive a ~~an~~
700 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service, after consultation with

701 the Financial Technology Sandbox applicant. ~~The office may not~~
702 ~~authorize more than 15,000 consumers to receive the financial~~
703 ~~product or service until the licensee has filed the first report~~
704 ~~required under subsection (8). After the filing of that report,~~
705 ~~if the licensee demonstrates adequate financial capitalization,~~
706 ~~risk management processes, and management oversight, the office~~
707 ~~may authorize up to 25,000 consumers to receive the financial~~
708 ~~product or service.~~

709 (g) A licensee has a continuing obligation to promptly
710 inform the office of any material change to the information
711 provided under paragraph (b).

712 (h) The following information provided to and held by the
713 office in a Financial Technology Sandbox application under this
714 subsection is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s.
715 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution:

716 1. The reasons why a general law enumerated in paragraph
717 (4)(a) prevents the ~~innovative~~ financial product or service from
718 being made available to consumers.

719 2. The information provided for evaluation of the factors
720 specified in subparagraphs (c)1. and 2. ~~3.~~

721 ~~3. The information provided for evaluation of whether the~~
722 ~~applicant has a sufficient plan to test, monitor, and assess the~~
723 ~~innovative financial product or service, under subparagraph~~
724 ~~(c)4.~~

726 However, the confidential and exempt information may be released
727 to appropriate state and federal agencies for the purposes of
728 investigation. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to
729 prevent the office from disclosing a summary of the ~~innovative~~
730 financial product or service.

731 (6) OPERATION OF THE FINANCIAL TECHNOLOGY SANDBOX.—

732 (a) A licensee may make a ~~an innovative~~ financial product
733 or service available to consumers during the sandbox period.

734 (b)1. Before a consumer purchases, uses, receives, or
735 enters into an agreement to purchase, use, or receive a ~~an~~
736 ~~innovative~~ financial product or service through the Financial
737 Technology Sandbox, the licensee must provide a written
738 statement of all of the following to the consumer:

739 a. The name and contact information of the licensee.

740 b. That the financial product or service has been
741 authorized to be made available to consumers for a temporary
742 period by the office, under the laws of this state.

743 c. That the state does not endorse the financial product
744 or service.

745 d. That the financial product or service is undergoing
746 testing, may not function as intended, and may entail financial
747 risk.

748 e. That the licensee is not immune from civil liability
749 for any losses or damages caused by the financial product or
750 service.

f. The expected end date of the sandbox period.

g. The contact information for the office and notification that suspected legal violations, complaints, or other comments related to the financial product or service may be submitted to the office.

h. Any other statements or disclosures required by rule of the commission which are necessary to further the purposes of this section.

2. The written statement under subparagraph 1. must contain an acknowledgment from the consumer, which must be retained for the duration of the sandbox period by the licensee.

(c) The office may enter into an agreement with a state, federal, or foreign regulatory agency to allow licensees under the Financial Technology Sandbox to make their products or services available in other jurisdictions. The commission shall adopt rules to implement this paragraph.

(d) The office may examine the records of a licensee at any time, with or without prior notice.

(7) EXTENSION AND CONCLUSION OF SANDBOX PERIOD.—

(a) A licensee may apply for one extension of the initial 24-month sandbox period for 12 additional months for a purpose specified in subparagraph (b)1. or subparagraph (b)2. A complete application for an extension must be filed with the office at least 90 days before the conclusion of the initial sandbox period. The office shall approve or deny the application for

extension in writing at least 35 days before the conclusion of the initial sandbox period. In determining whether to approve or deny an application for extension of the sandbox period, the office must, at a minimum, consider the current status of the factors previously considered under paragraph (5)(c).

(b) An application for an extension under paragraph (a) must cite one of the following reasons as the basis for the application and must provide all relevant supporting information:

1. Amendments to general law or rules are necessary to offer the ~~innovative~~ financial product or service in this state permanently.

2. An application for a license that is required in order to offer the ~~innovative~~ financial product or service in this state permanently has been filed with the office and approval is pending.

(c) At least 30 days before the conclusion of the initial 24-month sandbox period or the extension, whichever is later, a licensee shall provide written notification to consumers regarding the conclusion of the initial sandbox period or the extension and may not make the financial product or service available to any new consumers after the conclusion of the initial sandbox period or the extension, whichever is later, until legal authority outside of the Financial Technology Sandbox exists for the licensee to make the financial product or

801 service available to consumers. After the conclusion of the
802 sandbox period or the extension, whichever is later, the
803 business entity formerly licensed under the Financial Technology
804 Sandbox may:

805 1. Collect and receive money owed to the business entity
806 or pay money owed by the business entity, based on agreements
807 with consumers made before the conclusion of the sandbox period
808 or the extension.

809 2. Take necessary legal action.

810 3. Take other actions authorized by commission rule which
811 are not inconsistent with this section.

812 (8) REPORT.—A licensee shall submit a report to the office
813 twice a year as prescribed by commission rule. The report must,
814 at a minimum, include financial reports and the number of
815 consumers who have received the financial product or service.

816 (9) CONSTRUCTION.—A business entity whose Financial
817 Technology Sandbox application is approved under this section:

818 (a) Shall be deemed to possess an appropriate license
819 under any general law requiring state licensure or
820 authorization.

821 (b) Does not obtain a property right.

822 (c) Is not, nor is its financial product or service,
823 endorsed by this state, nor is this state subject to liability
824 for losses or damages caused by the financial product or
825 service.

~~(a) Is licensed under chapter 516, chapter 560, or both chapters 516 and 560, as applicable to the business entity's activities.~~

~~(b) Is subject to any provision of chapter 516 or chapter 560 not specifically excepted under paragraph (4) (a), as applicable to the business entity's activities, and must comply with such provisions.~~

~~(c) May not engage in activities authorized under part III of chapter 560, notwithstanding s. 560.204(2).~~

(10) VIOLATIONS AND PENALTIES.—

(a) A licensee who makes a ~~an innovative~~ financial product or service available to consumers in the Financial Technology Sandbox remains subject to:

1. Civil damages for acts and omissions arising from or related to any ~~innovative~~ financial product or services provided or made available by the licensee or relating to this section.

2. All criminal and consumer protection laws and any other statute not specifically excepted under paragraph (4) (a).

(b)1. The office may, by order, revoke or suspend a licensee's approval to participate in the Financial Technology Sandbox if:

a. The licensee has violated or refused to comply with this section, any statute not specifically excepted under paragraph (4) (a), a rule of the commission that has not been waived, an order of the office, or a condition placed by the

851 office on the approval of the licensee's Financial Technology
852 Sandbox application;

853 b. A fact or condition exists that, if it had existed or
854 become known at the time that the Financial Technology Sandbox
855 application was pending, would have warranted denial of the
856 application or the imposition of material conditions;

857 c. A material error, false statement, misrepresentation,
858 or material omission was made in the Financial Technology
859 Sandbox application; or

860 d. After consultation with the licensee, the office
861 determines that continued testing of the ~~innovative~~ financial
862 product or service would:

863 (I) Be likely to harm consumers; or

864 (II) No longer serve the purposes of this section because
865 of the financial or operational failure of the financial product
866 or service.

867 2. Written notice of a revocation or suspension order made
868 under subparagraph 1. must be served using any means authorized
869 by law. If the notice relates to a suspension, the notice must
870 include any condition or remedial action that the licensee must
871 complete before the office lifts the suspension.

872 (c) The office may refer any suspected violation of law to
873 an appropriate state or federal agency for investigation,
874 prosecution, civil penalties, and other appropriate enforcement
875 action.

(d) If service of process on a licensee is not feasible, service on the office is deemed service on the licensee.

(11) RULES AND ORDERS.—

(a) The commission shall adopt rules to administer this section before approving any application under this section.

(b) The office may issue all necessary orders to enforce this section and may enforce these orders in accordance with chapter 120 or in any court of competent jurisdiction. These orders include, but are not limited to, orders for payment of restitution for harm suffered by consumers as a result of a ~~an~~ ~~innovative~~ financial product or service.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 560.114, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

560.114 Disciplinary actions; penalties.—

(1) The following actions by a money services business, an authorized vendor, or a ~~affiliated~~ party that was affiliated at the time of commission of the actions constitute grounds for the issuance of a cease and desist order; the issuance of a removal order; the denial, suspension, or revocation of a license; or taking any other action within the authority of the office pursuant to this chapter:

(a) Failure to comply with any provision of this chapter or related rule or order, or any written agreement entered into with the office.

(b) Fraud, misrepresentation, deceit, or gross negligence

901 in any transaction by a money services business, regardless of
902 reliance thereon by, or damage to, a customer.

903 (c) Fraudulent misrepresentation, circumvention, or
904 concealment of any matter that must be stated or furnished to a
905 customer pursuant to this chapter, regardless of reliance
906 thereon by, or damage to, such customer.

907 (d) False, deceptive, or misleading advertising.

908 (e) Failure to maintain, preserve, keep available for
909 examination, and produce all books, accounts, files, or other
910 documents required by this chapter or related rules or orders,
911 by 31 C.F.R. ss. 1010.306, 1010.311, 1010.312, 1010.340,
912 1010.410, 1010.415, 1022.210, 1022.320, 1022.380, and 1022.410,
913 or by an agreement entered into with the office.

914 (f) Refusing to allow the examination or inspection of
915 books, accounts, files, or other documents by the office
916 pursuant to this chapter, or to comply with a subpoena issued by
917 the office.

918 (g) Failure to pay a judgment recovered in any court by a
919 claimant in an action arising out of a money transmission
920 transaction within 30 days after the judgment becomes final.

921 (h) Engaging in an act prohibited under s. 560.111 or s.
922 560.1115.

923 (i) Insolvency.

924 (j) Failure by a money services business to remove an
925 affiliated party after the office has issued and served upon the

926 money services business a final order setting forth a finding
927 that the affiliated party has violated a provision of this
928 chapter.

929 (k) Making a material misstatement, misrepresentation, or
930 omission in an application for licensure, any amendment to such
931 application, or application for the appointment of an authorized
932 vendor.

933 (l) Committing any act that results in a license or its
934 equivalent, to practice any profession or occupation being
935 denied, suspended, revoked, or otherwise acted against by a
936 licensing authority in any jurisdiction.

937 (m) Being the subject of final agency action or its
938 equivalent, issued by an appropriate regulator, for engaging in
939 unlicensed activity as a money services business or deferred
940 presentment provider in any jurisdiction.

941 (n) Committing any act resulting in a license or its
942 equivalent to practice any profession or occupation being
943 denied, suspended, revoked, or otherwise acted against by a
944 licensing authority in any jurisdiction for a violation of 18
945 U.S.C. s. 1956, 18 U.S.C. s. 1957, 18 U.S.C. s. 1960, 31 U.S.C.
946 s. 5324, or any other law or rule of another state or of the
947 United States relating to a money services business, deferred
948 presentment provider, or usury that may cause the denial,
949 suspension, or revocation of a money services business or
950 deferred presentment provider license or its equivalent in such

jurisdiction.

(o) Having been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any felony or crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of any state or the United States which involves fraud, moral turpitude, or dishonest dealing, regardless of adjudication.

(p) Having been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, a crime under 18 U.S.C. s. 1956 or 31 U.S.C. s. 5318, s. 5322, or s. 5324, regardless of adjudication.

(q) Having been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, misappropriation, conversion, or unlawful withholding of moneys belonging to others, regardless of adjudication.

(r) Having been convicted of, or entered a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, a violation of 31 C.F.R. chapter X, part 1022, regardless of adjudication.

(s)~~(r)~~ Failure to inform the office in writing within 30 days after having pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or being convicted of, any felony or crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of any state or the United States, or any crime involving fraud, moral turpitude, or dishonest dealing.

(t)~~(s)~~ Aiding, assisting, procuring, advising, or abetting any person in violating a provision of this chapter or any order or rule of the office or commission.

976 (u)~~(t)~~ Failure to pay any fee, charge, or cost imposed or
977 assessed under this chapter.

978 (v)~~(u)~~ Failing to pay a fine assessed by the office within
979 30 days after the due date as stated in a final order.

980 (w)~~(v)~~ Failure to pay any judgment entered by any court
981 within 30 days after the judgment becomes final.

982 (x)~~(w)~~ Engaging or advertising engagement in the business
983 of a money services business or deferred presentment provider
984 without a license, unless exempted from licensure.

985 (y)~~(x)~~ Payment to the office for a license or other fee,
986 charge, cost, or fine with a check or electronic transmission of
987 funds that is dishonored by the applicant's or licensee's
988 financial institution.

989 (z)~~(y)~~ Violations of 31 C.F.R. ss. 1010.306, 1010.311,
990 1010.312, 1010.340, 1010.410, 1010.415, 1022.210, 1022.320,
991 1022.380, and 1022.410, and United States Treasury Interpretive
992 Release 2004-1.

993 (aa)~~(z)~~ Any practice or conduct that creates the
994 likelihood of a material loss, insolvency, or dissipation of
995 assets of a money services business or otherwise materially
996 prejudices the interests of its customers.

997 (bb)~~(aa)~~ Failure of a check casher to maintain a federally
998 insured depository account as required by s. 560.309.

999 (cc)~~(bb)~~ Failure of a check casher to deposit into its own
1000 federally insured depository account any payment instrument

1001 cashed as required by s. 560.309.

1002 ~~(dd)(ee)~~ Violating any provision of the Military Lending
1003 Act, 10 U.S.C. s. 987, or the regulations adopted under that act
1004 in 32 C.F.R. part 232, in connection with a deferred presentment
1005 transaction conducted under part IV of this chapter.

1006 (ee) Failure to comply with the notification requirements
1007 in s. 501.171(3) and (4).

1008 (2) ~~Pursuant to s. 120.60(6),~~ The office shall issue an
1009 emergency order suspending ~~may summarily suspend~~ the license of
1010 a money services business if the office finds that a licensee
1011 poses an immediate, serious danger to the public health, safety,
1012 and welfare. ~~A proceeding in which the office seeks the issuance~~
1013 ~~of a final order for the summary suspension of a licensee shall~~
1014 ~~be conducted by the commissioner of the office, or his or her~~
1015 ~~designee, who shall issue such order.~~ The following acts are
1016 deemed by the Legislature to constitute an immediate and serious
1017 danger to the public health, safety, and welfare, and the office
1018 shall ~~may~~ immediately suspend the license of a money services
1019 business without making any further findings of immediate
1020 danger, necessity, and procedural fairness if:

1021 (a) The money services business fails to provide to the
1022 office, upon written request, any of the records required by s.
1023 560.123, s. 560.1235, s. 560.211, or s. 560.310 or any rule
1024 adopted under those sections. The suspension may be rescinded if
1025 the licensee submits the requested records to the office.

(b) The money services business fails to maintain a federally insured depository account as required by s. 560.208(4) or s. 560.309.

(c) A natural person required to be listed on the license application for a money services business pursuant to s. 560.141(1)(a)3. is criminally charged with, or arrested for, a crime described in paragraph (1)(o), paragraph (1)(p), or paragraph (1)(q).

Section 6. Section 560.1311, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

560.1311 Information security programs; cybersecurity event investigations.—

(1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Customer" means a person who seeks to obtain or who obtains or has obtained a financial product or service from a licensee.

(b) "Customer information" means any record containing nonpublic personal information about a customer of a financial transaction, whether on paper, electronic, or in other forms, which is handled or maintained by or on behalf of the licensee or its affiliates.

(c) "Cybersecurity event" means an event resulting in unauthorized access to, or disruption or misuse of, an information system, information stored on such information system, or customer information held in physical form.

1051 (d) "Financial product or service" means any product or
1052 service offered by a licensee under this chapter.

1053 (e) "Information security program" means the
1054 administrative, technical, or physical safeguards used to
1055 access, collect, distribute, process, protect, store, use,
1056 transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information.

1057 (f) "Information system" means a discrete set of
1058 electronic information resources organized for the collection,
1059 processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or
1060 disposition of electronic information, as well as any
1061 specialized system such as an industrial process control system,
1062 telephone switching and private branch exchange system, or
1063 environmental control system, which contain customer information
1064 or which are connected to a system that contains customer
1065 information.

1066 (g)1. "Nonpublic personal information" means:

1067 a. Personally identifiable financial information; and

1068 b. Any list, description, or other grouping of customers
1069 that is derived using any personally identifiable financial
1070 information that is not publicly available, such as account
1071 numbers, including any list of individuals' names and street
1072 addresses that is derived, in whole or in part, using personally
1073 identifiable financial information that is not publicly
1074 available.

1075 2. The term does not include:

1076 a. Publicly available information, except as included on a
1077 list, description, or other grouping of customers described in
1078 sub-subparagraph 1.b.;

1079 b. Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers,
1080 or any publicly available information pertaining to such list,
1081 description, or other grouping of consumers, which is derived
1082 without using any personally identifiable financial information
1083 that is not publicly available; or

1084 c. Any list of individuals' names and addresses that
1085 contains only publicly available information, is not derived, in
1086 whole or in part, using personally identifiable financial
1087 information that is not publicly available, and is not disclosed
1088 in a manner that indicates that any of the individuals on the
1089 list is a customer of a licensee.

1090 3. As used in this paragraph, the term:

1091 a.(I) "Personally identifiable financial information"
1092 means any information that:

1093 (A) A customer provides to a licensee to obtain a
1094 financial product or service, such as information that a
1095 customer provides to a licensee on an application to obtain a
1096 loan or other financial product or service;

1097 (B) A licensee receives about a consumer that is obtained
1098 during or as a result of any transaction involving a financial
1099 product or service between the licensee and the customer, such
1100 as information collected through an information-collecting

1101 device from a web server; or

1102 (C) A licensee otherwise obtains about a customer in
1103 connection with providing a financial product or service to the
1104 customer, such as the fact that an individual is or has been one
1105 of the licensee's customers or has obtained a financial product
1106 or service from the licensee.

1107 (II) The term "personally identifiable financial
1108 information" does not include:

1109 (A) A list of names and addresses of customers of an
1110 entity that is not a financial institution; or

1111 (B) Information that does not identify a customer, such as
1112 blind data or aggregate information that does not contain
1113 personal identifiers such as account numbers, names, or
1114 addresses.

1115 b.(I) "Publicly available information" means any
1116 information that a licensee has a reasonable basis to believe is
1117 lawfully made available to the general public from:

1118 (A) Federal, state, or local government records, such as
1119 government real estate records or security interest filings;

1120 (B) Widely distributed media, such as information from a
1121 telephone records repository or directory, a television or radio
1122 program, a newspaper, a social media platform, or a website that
1123 is available to the general public on an unrestricted basis. A
1124 website is not restricted merely because an Internet service
1125 provider or a site operator requires a fee or a password, so

1126 long as access is available to the general public; or

1127 (C) Disclosures to the general public which are required
1128 to be made by federal, state, or local law.

1129 (II) As used in this sub-subparagraph, the term
1130 "reasonable basis to believe is lawfully made available to the
1131 general public" relating to any information means that the
1132 person has taken steps to determine:

1133 (A) That the information is of the type that is available
1134 to the general public, such as information included on the
1135 public record in the jurisdiction where the mortgage would be
1136 recorded; and

1137 (B) Whether an individual can direct that the information
1138 not be made available to the general public and, if so, the
1139 customer to whom the information relates has not done so, such
1140 as when a telephone number is listed in a telephone directory
1141 and the customer has informed the licensee that the telephone
1142 number is not unlisted.

1143 (h) "Third-party service provider" means a person, other
1144 than a licensee, which contracts with a licensee to maintain,
1145 process, or store nonpublic personal information, or is
1146 otherwise permitted access to nonpublic personal information
1147 through its provision of services to a licensee.

1148 (2) INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM.—

1149 (a) Each licensee shall develop, implement, and maintain a
1150 comprehensive written information security program that contains

1151 administrative, technical, and physical safeguards for the
1152 protection of the licensee's information system and nonpublic
1153 personal information.

1154 (b) Each licensee shall ensure that the information
1155 security program meets all of the following criteria:

1156 1. Be commensurate with the following measures:

1157 a. Size and complexity of the licensee.

1158 b. Nature and scope of the licensee's activities,
1159 including the licensee's use of third-party service providers.

1160 c. Sensitivity of nonpublic personal information that is
1161 used by the licensee or that is in the licensee's possession,
1162 custody, or control.

1163 2. Be designed to do all of the following:

1164 a. Protect the security and confidentiality of nonpublic
1165 personal information and the security of the licensee's
1166 information system.

1167 b. Protect against threats or hazards to the security or
1168 integrity of nonpublic personal information and the licensee's
1169 information system.

1170 c. Protect against unauthorized access to or the use of
1171 nonpublic personal information and minimize the likelihood of
1172 harm to any customer.

1173 3. Define and periodically reevaluate the retention
1174 schedule and the mechanism for the destruction of nonpublic
1175 personal information if retention is no longer necessary for the

1176 licensee's business operations or is no longer required by
1177 applicable law.

1178 4. Regularly test and monitor systems and procedures for
1179 the detection of actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions
1180 into, the licensee's information system.

1181 5. Be monitored, evaluated, and adjusted, as necessary, to
1182 meet all of the following requirements:

1183 a. Determine whether the licensee's information security
1184 program is consistent with relevant changes in technology.

1185 b. Confirm the licensee's information security program
1186 accounts for the sensitivity of nonpublic personal information.

1187 c. Identify changes that may be necessary to the
1188 licensee's information system.

1189 d. Eliminate any internal or external threats to nonpublic
1190 personal information.

1191 e. Amend the licensee's information security program for
1192 any of the licensee's changing business arrangements, including,
1193 but not limited to, mergers and acquisitions, alliances and
1194 joint ventures, and outsourcing arrangements.

1195 (c)1. As part of a licensee's information security
1196 program, the licensee shall establish a written incident
1197 response plan designed to promptly respond to, and recover from,
1198 a cybersecurity event that compromises:

1199 a. The confidentiality, integrity, or availability of
1200 nonpublic personal information in the licensee's possession;

1201 b. The licensee's information system; or
1202 c. The continuing functionality of any aspect of the
1203 licensee's operations.
1204 2. The written incident response plan must address all of
1205 the following:
1206 a. The licensee's internal process for responding to a
1207 cybersecurity event.
1208 b. The goals of the licensee's incident response plan.
1209 c. The assignment of clear roles, responsibilities, and
1210 levels of decisionmaking authority for the licensee's personnel
1211 that participate in the incident response plan.
1212 d. External communications, internal communications, and
1213 information sharing related to a cybersecurity event.
1214 e. The identification of remediation requirements for
1215 weaknesses identified in information systems and associated
1216 controls.
1217 f. The documentation and reporting regarding cybersecurity
1218 events and related incident response activities.
1219 g. The evaluation and revision of the incident response
1220 plan, as appropriate, following a cybersecurity event.
1221 h. The process by which notice must be given as required
1222 under subsection (4) and s. 501.171(3) and (4).
1223 (d)1. This section does not apply to a licensee that has
1224 fewer than:
1225 a. Twenty individuals on its workforce, including

employees and independent contractors; or

b. Five hundred customers during a calendar year.

2. A licensee that no longer qualifies for exemption under subparagraph 1. has 180 calendar days to comply with this section after the date of the disqualification.

(e) Each licensee shall maintain a copy of the information security program for a minimum of 5 years and shall make it available to the office upon request or as part of an examination.

(3) CYBERSECURITY EVENT INVESTIGATION.—

(a) If a licensee discovers that a cybersecurity event has occurred or that a cybersecurity event may have occurred, the licensee, or an outside vendor or third-party service provider that the licensee has designated to act on its behalf, shall conduct a prompt investigation of the cybersecurity event.

(b) During the investigation, the licensee, or the outside vendor or third-party service provider that the licensee has designated to act on its behalf, shall, at a minimum, determine as much of the following as possible:

1. Confirm that a cybersecurity event has occurred.

2. Identify the date that the cybersecurity event first occurred.

3. Assess the nature and scope of the cybersecurity event.

4. Identify all nonpublic personal information that may have been compromised by the cybersecurity event.

1251 5. Perform or oversee reasonable measures to restore the
1252 security of any compromised information system in order to
1253 prevent further unauthorized acquisition, release, or use of
1254 nonpublic personal information that is in the licensee's,
1255 outside vendor's, or third-party service provider's possession,
1256 custody, or control.

1257 (c) If a licensee learns that a cybersecurity event has
1258 occurred, or may have occurred, in an information system
1259 maintained by a third-party service provider of the licensee,
1260 the licensee shall complete an investigation in compliance with
1261 this section or confirm and document that the third-party
1262 service provider has completed an investigation in compliance
1263 with this section.

1264 (d) A licensee shall maintain all records and
1265 documentation related to the licensee's investigation of a
1266 cybersecurity event for a minimum of 5 years after the date of
1267 the cybersecurity event and shall produce the records and
1268 documentation to the office upon request.

1269 (4) NOTICE TO OFFICE OF SECURITY BREACH.—

1270 (a) Each licensee shall provide notice to the office of
1271 any breach of security affecting 500 or more individuals in this
1272 state at a time and in the manner prescribed by commission rule.

1273 (b) Each licensee shall, upon the office's request,
1274 provide a quarterly update of a cybersecurity event
1275 investigation under subsection (3) until conclusion of the

1276 investigation.

1277 (5) CONSTRUCTION.—This section may not be construed to
1278 relieve a covered entity from complying with s. 501.171. To the
1279 extent a licensee is a covered entity, as defined in s.
1280 501.171(1), the licensee remains subject to s. 501.171.

1281 (6) RULES.—The commission may adopt rules to administer
1282 this section, including rules that allow a licensee that is in
1283 full compliance with the Federal Trade Commission's Standards
1284 for Safeguarding Customer Information, 16 C.F.R. part 314, to be
1285 deemed in compliance with subsection (2).

1286 **Section 7. Section 655.0171, Florida Statutes, is created**
1287 **to read:**

1288 655.0171 Requirements for customer data security and for
1289 notices of security breaches.—

1290 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

1291 (a) "Breach of security" or "breach" means unauthorized
1292 access of data in electronic form containing personal
1293 information. Good faith access of personal information by an
1294 employee or agent of a financial institution does not constitute
1295 a breach of security, provided that the information is not used
1296 for a purpose unrelated to the business or subject to further
1297 unauthorized use. As used in this paragraph, the term "data in
1298 electronic form" means any data stored electronically or
1299 digitally on any computer system or other database and includes
1300 recordable tapes and other mass storage devices.

1301 (b) "Department" means the Department of Legal Affairs.

1302 (c)1. "Personal information" means:

1303 a. An individual's first name, or first initial, and last
1304 name, in combination with any of the following data elements for
1305 that individual:

1306 (I) A social security number;

1307 (II) A driver license or identification card number,
1308 passport number, military identification number, or other
1309 similar number issued on a government document used to verify
1310 identity;

1311 (III) A financial account number or credit or debit card
1312 number, in combination with any required security code, access
1313 code, or password that is necessary to permit access to the
1314 individual's financial account;

1315 (IV) The individual's biometric data as defined in s.
1316 501.702; or

1317 (V) Any information regarding the individual's
1318 geolocation; or

1319 b. A username or e-mail address, in combination with a
1320 password or security question and answer that would permit
1321 access to an online account.

1322 2. The term does not include information about an
1323 individual which has been made publicly available by a federal,
1324 state, or local governmental entity. The term also does not
1325 include information that is encrypted, secured, or modified by

1326 any other method or technology that removes elements that
1327 personally identify an individual or that otherwise renders the
1328 information unusable.

1329 (2) REQUIREMENTS FOR DATA SECURITY.—Each financial
1330 institution shall take reasonable measures to protect and secure
1331 data that are in electronic form and that contain personal
1332 information.

1333 (3) NOTICE TO OFFICE AND DEPARTMENT OF SECURITY BREACH.—

1334 (a)1. Each financial institution shall provide notice to
1335 the office of any breach of security affecting 500 or more
1336 individuals in this state. Such notice must be provided to the
1337 office as expeditiously as practicable, but no later than 30
1338 days after the determination of the breach or the determination
1339 of a reason to believe that a breach has occurred.

1340 2. The written notice to the office must include the items
1341 required under s. 501.171(3)(b).

1342 3. A financial institution must provide the following
1343 information to the office upon its request:

1344 a. A police report, incident report, or computer forensics
1345 report.

1346 b. A copy of the policies in place regarding breaches.

1347 4. Steps that have been taken to rectify the breach.

1348 5. A financial institution may provide the office with
1349 supplemental information regarding a breach at any time.

1350 (b) Each financial institution shall provide notice to the

department of any breach of security affecting 500 or more individuals in this state. Such notice must be provided to the department in accordance with s. 501.171.

(4) NOTICE TO INDIVIDUALS OF SECURITY BREACH.—Each financial institution shall give notice to each individual in this state whose personal information was, or the financial institution reasonably believes to have been, accessed as a result of the breach in accordance with s. 501.171(4). The notice must be provided no later than 30 days after the determination of the breach or the determination of a reason to believe that a breach has occurred. A financial institution may receive 15 additional days to provide notice to individuals of a security breach as required in this subsection if good cause for delay is provided in writing to the office within 30 days after determination of the breach or determination of the reason to believe that a breach has occurred.

(5) NOTICE TO CREDIT REPORTING AGENCIES.—If a financial institution discovers circumstances requiring notice pursuant to this section of more than 1,000 individuals at a single time, the financial institution shall also notify, without unreasonable delay, all consumer reporting agencies that compile and maintain files on consumers on a nationwide basis, as defined in the Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. s. 1681a(p), of the timing, distribution, and content of the notices.

Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section

1376 **655.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1377 655.045 Examinations, reports, and internal audits;
1378 penalty.—

1379 (1) The office shall conduct an examination of the
1380 condition of each state financial institution at least every 18
1381 months. The office may conduct more frequent examinations based
1382 upon the risk profile of the financial institution, prior
1383 examination results, or significant changes in the institution
1384 or its operations. The office may use continuous, phase, or
1385 other flexible scheduling examination methods for very large or
1386 complex state financial institutions and financial institutions
1387 owned or controlled by a multi-financial institution holding
1388 company. The office shall consider examination guidelines from
1389 federal regulatory agencies in order to facilitate, coordinate,
1390 and standardize examination processes.

1391 (d) As used in this section, the term "costs" means the
1392 salary and travel expenses directly attributable to the field
1393 staff examining the state financial institution, subsidiary, or
1394 service corporation, and the travel expenses of any supervisory
1395 staff required as a result of examination findings. The mailing
1396 of any costs incurred under this subsection must be postmarked
1397 within 45 ~~30~~ days after the date of receipt of a notice stating
1398 that such costs are due. The office may levy a late payment of
1399 up to \$100 per day or part thereof that a payment is overdue,
1400 unless excused for good cause. However, for intentional late

1401 payment of costs, the office may levy an administrative fine of
1402 up to \$1,000 per day for each day the payment is overdue.

1403 **Section 9. Subsection (2) of section 657.005, Florida**
1404 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1405 657.005 Application for authority to organize a credit
1406 union; investigation.—

1407 (2) Any five or more individuals, a majority of whom are
1408 residents of this state and all of whom ~~who~~ represent a limited
1409 field of membership, may apply to the office for permission to
1410 organize a credit union. The fact that individuals within the
1411 proposed limited field of membership have credit union services
1412 available to them through another limited field of membership
1413 shall not preclude the granting of a certificate of
1414 authorization to engage in the business of a credit union.

1415 **Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 657.024, Florida**
1416 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1417 657.024 Membership meetings.—

1418 (1) The members shall receive timely notice of the annual
1419 meeting and any special meetings of the members, which shall be
1420 held at the time, place, and in the manner provided in the
1421 bylaws. The annual meeting and any special meetings of the
1422 members may be held virtually and without a quorum, subject to
1423 the bylaws.

1424 **Section 11. Subsections (6) and (7) of section 657.042,**
1425 **Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (5) and (6), and**

paragraph (b) of subsection (3) and present subsection (5) of that section are amended to read:

657.042 Investment powers and limitations.—A credit union may invest its funds subject to the following definitions, restrictions, and limitations:

(3) INVESTMENT SUBJECT TO LIMITATION OF TWO PERCENT OF CAPITAL OF THE CREDIT UNION.—

(b) Commercial paper and bonds of any corporation within the United States which have a fixed maturity, as provided in subsection (6) ~~(7)~~, except that the total investment in all such paper and bonds may not exceed 10 percent of the capital of the credit union.

~~(5) INVESTMENTS IN REAL ESTATE AND EQUIPMENT FOR THE CREDIT UNION.—~~

~~(a) Up to 5 percent of the capital of the credit union may be invested in real estate and improvements thereon, furniture, fixtures, and equipment utilized or to be utilized by the credit union for the transaction of business.~~

~~(b) The limitations provided by this subsection may be exceeded with the prior written approval of the office. The office shall grant such approval if it is satisfied that:~~

~~1. The proposed investment is necessary.~~

~~2. The amount thereof is commensurate with the size and needs of the credit union.~~

~~3. The investment will be beneficial to the members.~~

1451 ~~4. A reasonable plan is developed to reduce the investment~~
1452 ~~to statutory limits.~~

1453 **Section 12. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (4) of**
1454 **section 658.21, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1455 658.21 Approval of application; findings required.—The
1456 office shall approve the application if it finds that:

1457 (4)

1458 (b) At least two of the proposed directors who are not
1459 also proposed officers must have had within the 10 years before
1460 the date of the application at least 1 year of direct experience
1461 as an executive officer, regulator, or director of a financial
1462 institution as specified in the application ~~within the 5 years~~
1463 ~~before the date of the application. However, if the applicant~~
1464 ~~demonstrates that at least one of the proposed directors has~~
1465 ~~very substantial experience as an executive officer, director,~~
1466 ~~or regulator of a financial institution more than 5 years before~~
1467 ~~the date of the application, the office may modify the~~
1468 ~~requirement and allow the applicant to have only one director~~
1469 ~~who has direct financial institution experience within the last~~
1470 ~~5 years.~~

1471 (c) The proposed president or chief executive officer must
1472 have had at least 1 year of direct experience as an executive
1473 officer, director, or regulator of a financial institution
1474 within the last 10 ~~5~~ years. In making a decision, the office
1475 must also consider ~~may waive this requirement after considering:~~

1476 1. The adequacy of the overall experience and expertise of
1477 the proposed president or chief executive officer;

1478 2. The likelihood of successful operation of the proposed
1479 state bank or trust company pursuant to subsection (1);

1480 3. The adequacy of the proposed capitalization under
1481 subsection (2);

1482 4. The proposed capital structure under subsection (3);

1483 5. The experience of the other proposed officers and
1484 directors; and

1485 6. Any other relevant data or information.

1486 **Section 13. Subsection (2) of section 658.33, Florida**
1487 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1488 658.33 Directors, number, qualifications; officers.—

1489 (2) Not less than a majority of the directors must, during
1490 their whole term of service, be citizens of the United States,
1491 and at least a majority of the directors must have resided in
1492 this state for at least 1 year preceding their election and must
1493 be residents therein during their continuance in office. In the
1494 case of a bank or trust company with total assets of less than
1495 \$150 million, at least one, and in the case of a bank or trust
1496 company with total assets of \$150 million or more, two of the
1497 directors who are not also officers of the bank or trust company
1498 must have had at least 1 year of direct experience as an
1499 executive officer, regulator, or director of a financial
1500 institution within the last 10 ~~5~~ years.

Section 14. Subsection (4) of section 662.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

662.141 Examination, investigations, and fees.—The office may conduct an examination or investigation of a licensed family trust company at any time it deems necessary to determine whether the licensed family trust company or licensed family trust company-affiliated party thereof has violated or is about to violate any provision of this chapter, any applicable provision of the financial institutions codes, or any rule adopted by the commission pursuant to this chapter or the codes. The office may conduct an examination or investigation of a family trust company or foreign licensed family trust company at any time it deems necessary to determine whether the family trust company or foreign licensed family trust company has engaged in any act prohibited under s. 662.131 or s. 662.134 and, if a family trust company or a foreign licensed family trust company has engaged in such act, to determine whether any applicable provision of the financial institutions codes has been violated.

(4) For each examination of the books and records of a family trust company, licensed family trust company, or foreign licensed family trust company as authorized under this chapter, the trust company shall pay a fee for the costs of the examination by the office. As used in this section, the term "costs" means the salary and travel expenses of field staff

which are directly attributable to the examination of the trust company and the travel expenses of any supervisory and support staff required as a result of examination findings. The mailing of payment for costs incurred must be postmarked within 45 ~~30~~ days after the receipt of a notice stating that the costs are due. The office may levy a late payment of up to \$100 per day or part thereof that a payment is overdue unless waived for good cause. However, if the late payment of costs is intentional, the office may levy an administrative fine of up to \$1,000 per day for each day the payment is overdue.

Section 15. Subsection (21) of section 517.12, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

517.12 Registration of dealers, associated persons, intermediaries, and investment advisers.—

(21) The registration requirements of this section do not apply to any general lines insurance agent or life insurance agent licensed under chapter 626, with regard to the sale of a security as defined in s. 517.021(34)(g) ~~s. 517.021(33)(g)~~, if the individual is directly authorized by the issuer to offer or sell the security on behalf of the issuer and the issuer is a federally chartered savings bank subject to regulation by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Actions under this subsection constitute activity under the insurance agent's license for purposes of ss. 626.611 and 626.621.

Section 16. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.