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5	A BILL
6	TO BE ENTITLED
7	AN ACT
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9	Relating to the Alabama Business and Nonprofit Entities
10	Code; to amend Sections 10A-1-1.03, 10A-1-1.08, and
11	10A-1-3.32, as amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-1-5.31;
12	10A-2A-1.40, as amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-2A-1.48;
13	10A-2A-1.51 and 10A-2A-2.02, as amended by Act 2023-503;
14	10A-2A-6.21, 10A-2A-6.24, and 10A-2A-6.31; 10A-2A-7.04, as
15	amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-2A-7.05 and 10A-2A-10.05;
16	10A-2A-10.07 and 10A-2A-10.08, as amended by Act 2023-503;
17	10A-2A-12.01, 10A-2A-13.02, and 10A-2A-14.05; 10A-3A-1.02,
18	10A-3A-1.23, 10A-3A-1.26, 10A-3A-2.02, 10A-3A-7.04,
19	10A-3A-7.05, 10A-3A-9.05, 10A-3A-9.07, 10A-3A-10.01,
20	10A-3A-10.03, 10A-3A-10.04, and 10A-3A-11.07, as added by Act
21	2023-503; 10A-4-1.03, 10A-4-2.01, 10A-4-2.02, 10A-4-2.03,
22	10A-4-2.04, 10A-4-3.01, 10A-4-3.02, 10A-4-3.03, 10A-4-3.05,
23	10A-4-3.06, 10A-4-4.01, 10A-4-4.02, 10A-4-5.01, 10A-4-5.02,
24	10A-4-5.03, 10A-4-5.04, 10A-4-5.05, 10A-4-5.06, 10A-4-5.08,
25	10A-5A-1.08, 10A-5A-2.01, 10A-5A-2.02, 10A-5A-3.02,
26	10A-5A-8.01, 10A-8A-1.08, 10A-8A-10.02, 10A-9A-1.08, and
27	10A-9A-2.01; and 10A-9A-2.02, as amended by Act 2023-503, Code
28	of Alabama 1975: to eliminate references to the old Alabama



29 Nonprofit Corporation Law; to clarify that the address of 30 registered agents must be in this state, that the certificate 31 of formation must set forth the county of the registered agent 32 in accordance with current practice, and to streamline and 33 clarify the ratification process of certain actions in 34 accordance with Delaware law changes; to provide that business 35 and nonprofit corporations may provide for exculpation of 36 certain officers for certain actions in accordance with 37 changes to Delaware law and the Model Business Corporation Act; to clarify the amendment and restatement process; to 38 39 clarify the provisions regarding the sale of property by 40 business and nonprofit corporations in accordance with changes to Delaware law; to conform the professional corporation law 41 42 to recent changes in the business and nonprofit corporation 43 laws; to add Sections 10A-5A-1.11, 10A-8A-1.14, and 10A-9A-1.15 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to provide a process 44 for ratification of certain actions and transactions for 45 46 limited liability companies, limited partnerships, and partnerships; to add Chapter 18 to Title 10A to the Code of 47 48 Alabama 1975, providing for the Alabama Statewide Trade 49 Association Law; and in connection therewith would have as its 50 purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased 51 expenditure of local funds within the meaning of Section 52 111.05 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022. 53 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA: 54 Section 1. Sections 10A-1-1.03, 10A-1-1.08, and 10A-1-3.32, as amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-1-5.31; 55 56 10A-2A-1.40, as amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-2A-1.48;



- 57 10A-2A-1.51 and 10A-2A-2.02, as amended by Act 2023-503;
- 58 10A-2A-6.21, 10A-2A-6.24, and 10A-2A-6.31; 10A-2A-7.04, as
- amended by Act 2023-503; 10A-2A-7.05 and 10A-2A-10.05;
- 10A-2A-10.07 and 10A-2A-10.08, as amended by Act 2023-503;
- 61 10A-2A-12.01, 10A-2A-13.02, and 10A-2A-14.05; 10A-3A-1.02,
- 62 10A-3A-1.23, 10A-3A-1.26, 10A-3A-2.02, 10A-3A-7.04,
- 63 10A-3A-7.05, 10A-3A-9.05, 10A-3A-9.07, 10A-3A-10.01,
- 64 10A-3A-10.03, 10A-3A-10.04, and 10A-3A-11.07, as added by Act
- 65 2023-503; 10A-4-1.03, 10A-4-2.01, 10A-4-2.02, 10A-4-2.03,
- 10A-4-2.04, 10A-4-3.01, 10A-4-3.02, 10A-4-3.03, 10A-4-3.05,
- 67 10A-4-3.06, 10A-4-4.01, 10A-4-4.02, 10A-4-5.01, 10A-4-5.02,
- 68 10A-4-5.03, 10A-4-5.04, 10A-4-5.05, 10A-4-5.06, 10A-4-5.08,
- 69 10A-5A-1.08, 10A-5A-2.01, 10A-5A-2.02, 10A-5A-3.02,
- 70 10A-5A-8.01, 10A-8A-1.08, 10A-8A-10.02, 10A-9A-1.08,
- 71 10A-9A-2.01, and 10A-9A-2.02 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are
- 72 amended to read as follows:
- 73 "\$10A-1-1.03
- 74 (a) If a term, including a term that is defined in
- 75 subsection (b), is defined in a chapter of this title, then,
- 76 when used in that chapter, the term shall have the meaning set
- 77 forth in that chapter.
- 78 (b) As used in this title, except as provided in
- 79 subsection (a) or where the context otherwise requires, the
- 80 following terms mean:
- 81 (1) AFFILIATE. A person who controls, is controlled by,
- 82 or is under common control with another person. An affiliate
- 83 of an individual includes the spouse, or a parent or sibling
- 84 thereof, of the individual, or a child, grandchild, sibling,



- 85 parent, or spouse of any thereof, of the individual, or an 86 individual having the same home as the individual, or a trust 87 or estate of which an individual specified in this sentence is 88 a substantial beneficiary; a trust, estate, incompetent, 89 conservatee, protected person, or minor of which the 90 individual is a fiduciary; or an entity of which the 91 individual is director, general partner, agent, employee or 92 the governing authority or member of the governing authority.
- 93 (2) ASSOCIATE. When used to indicate a relationship
- 94 with:
- 95 (A) a domestic or foreign entity for which the person 96 is:
- 97 (i) an officer or governing person; or
- 98 (ii) a beneficial owner of 10 percent or more of a
 99 class of voting ownership interests or similar securities of
 100 the entity;
- 101 (B) a trust or estate in which the person has a

 102 substantial beneficial interest or for which the person serves

 103 as trustee or in a similar fiduciary capacity;
- 104 (C) the person's spouse or a relative of the person
 105 related by consanguinity or affinity within the fifth degree
 106 who resides with the person; or
- 107 (D) a governing person or an affiliate or officer of the person.
- 109 (3) ASSOCIATION. Includes, but is not limited to, an
 110 unincorporated nonprofit association as defined in Chapter 17
 111 and an unincorporated professional association as defined in
 112 Article 1 of Chapter 30.



- 113 (4) BENEFIT CORPORATION. A benefit corporation as
 114 defined in Chapter 2A.
- (5) BUSINESS CORPORATION. A corporation or foreign corporation as defined in Chapter 2A. The term includes a benefit corporation as defined in Chapter 2A.
- 118 (6) BUSINESS TRUST. A business trust as defined in 119 Chapter 16.
- (7) CERTIFICATE OF DISSOLUTION. Any document such as a certificate of dissolution, statement of dissolution, or articles of dissolution, required or permitted to be filed publicly with respect to an entity's dissolution and winding up of its business, activity, activities, not for profit activity, or affairs.
- 126 (8) CERTIFICATE OF FORMATION.
- 127 (A) The document required to be filed publicly under 128 this title to form a filing entity; and
- (B) if appropriate, a restated certificate of formation and all amendments of an original or restated certificate of formation; provided that a restated certificate of formation and an amendment of an original or restated certificate of formation shall not be deemed to be a certificate of formation for purposes of Section 10A-1-4.31.
- 135 (9) CERTIFICATE OF OWNERSHIP. An instrument evidencing
 136 an ownership interest or membership interest in an entity.
- 137 (10) CERTIFICATED OWNERSHIP INTEREST. An ownership
 138 interest of a domestic entity represented by a certificate.
- 139 (11) CERTIFICATION or CERTIFIED. Duly authenticated by
 140 the proper officer or filing officer of the jurisdiction the



- laws of which govern the internal affairs of an entity.
- 142 (12) CONTRIBUTION. A tangible or intangible benefit
- that a person transfers to an entity in consideration for an
- 144 ownership interest in the entity or otherwise in the person's
- 145 capacity as an owner or a member. A benefit that may
- 146 constitute a contribution transferred in exchange for an
- ownership interest or transferred in the transferor's capacity
- 148 as an owner or member may include cash, property, services
- 149 rendered, a contract for services to be performed, a
- 150 promissory note or other obligation of a person to pay cash or
- 151 transfer property to the entity, or securities or other
- interests in or obligations of an entity. In either case, the
- 153 benefit does not include cash or property received by the
- 154 entity:
- (A) with respect to a promissory note or other
- obligation to the extent that the agreed value of the note or
- obligation has previously been included as a contribution; or
- 158 (B) that the person intends to be a loan to the entity.
- 159 (13) CONVERSION. A conversion, whether referred to as a
- 160 conversion, domestication, or otherwise, means:
- 161 (A) the continuance of a domestic entity as a foreign
- 162 entity of any type;
- 163 (B) the continuance of a foreign entity as a domestic
- 164 entity of any type; or
- 165 (C) the continuance of a domestic entity of one type as
- 166 a domestic entity of another type.
- 167 (14) CONVERTED ENTITY. An entity resulting from a
- 168 conversion.

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- 169 (15) CONVERTING ENTITY. An entity as the entity existed 170 before the entity's conversion.
- 171 (16) COOPERATIVE. Includes an employee cooperative as
 172 defined in Chapter 11.
- 173 (17) CORPORATION. Includes a domestic or foreign
 174 business corporation, including a benefit corporation, as
 175 defined in Chapter 2A, a domestic or foreign nonprofit
 176 corporation as defined in Chapter 3 or Chapter 3A, a domestic
 177 or foreign professional corporation as defined in Chapter 4,
 178 and those entities specified in Chapter 20 as corporate.
 - (18) COURT. The designated court, and if none, the circuit court specifically set forth in this title, and if none, any other court having jurisdiction in a case.
- 182 (19) DAY. When used in the computation of time, 183 excludes the first day and includes the last day of the period so computed, unless the last day is a Saturday, Sunday, or 184 legal holiday, in which event the period runs until the end of 185 186 the next day that is not a Saturday, a Sunday, or a legal 187 holiday. When the period of time to be computed is less than 7 188 days, intermediate Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays 189 shall be excluded.
- 190 (20) DEBTOR IN BANKRUPTCY. A person who is the subject
 191 of:
- 192 (A) an order for relief under the United States
 193 bankruptcy laws, Title 11, United States Code, or comparable
 194 order under a successor statute of general application; or
- 195 (B) a comparable order under federal, state, or foreign 196 law governing insolvency.



- 197 (21) DESIGNATED COURT. The court or courts that are 198 designated in the (i) certificate of incorporation or bylaws 199 of a corporation as authorized by Chapter 2A, (ii) certificate 200 of incorporation or bylaws of a nonprofit corporation as 201 authorized by Chapter 3A, (iii) limited liability company 202 agreement of a limited liability company formed pursuant to or 203 governed by Chapter 5A, (iv) partnership agreement of a 204 partnership formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 8A, or 205 (v) limited partnership agreement of a limited partnership 206 formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 9A.
- 207 (22) DIRECTOR. An individual who serves on the board of 208 directors, by whatever name known, of a foreign or domestic 209 corporation.
- (23) DISTRIBUTION. A transfer of property, including cash, from an entity to an owner or member of the entity in the owner's or member's capacity as an owner or member. The term includes a dividend, a redemption or purchase of an ownership interest, or a liquidating distribution.
- 215 (24) DOMESTIC. With respect to an entity, means 216 governed as to its internal affairs by this title.
- 217 (25) DOMESTIC ENTITY. An entity governed as to its 218 internal affairs by this title.
- 219 (26) EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS TITLE. January 1, 2011.
- 220 (27) ELECTRONIC. Relating to technology having
 221 electrical, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical,
 222 electromagnetic, or similar capabilities.
- (28) ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE. An electronic signature as that term is defined in the Uniform Electronic Transactions



- 225 Act, Chapter 1A of Title 8, or any successor statute.
- 226 (29) ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION or ELECTRONICALLY
- 227 TRANSMITTED. Any form or process of communication not directly
- 228 involving the physical transfer of paper or another tangible
- 229 medium, which (i) is suitable for the retention, retrieval,
- and reproduction of information by the recipient, and (ii) is
- 231 retrievable in paper form by the recipient through an
- 232 automated process used in conventional commercial practice.
- 233 (30) ELECTRONIC WRITING. Information that is stored in
- 234 an electronic or other nontangible medium and is retrievable
- in paper form through an automated process used in
- 236 conventional commercial practice.
- 237 (31) ENTITY. A domestic or foreign organization.
- 238 (32) FILING ENTITY. A domestic entity that is a
- 239 corporation, limited partnership, limited liability limited
- 240 partnership, limited liability company, professional
- association, employee cooperative corporation, or real estate
- 242 investment trust.
- 243 (33) FILING INSTRUMENT. An instrument, document, or
- 244 statement that is required or permitted by this title to be
- delivered for filing by or for an entity to a filing officer.
- 246 (34) FILING OFFICER. An officer of this state with whom
- 247 a filing instrument is required or permitted to be delivered
- 248 for filing pursuant to this title.
- 249 (35) FOREIGN. With respect to an entity, means governed
- as to its internal affairs by the laws of a jurisdiction other
- 251 than this state.
- 252 (36) FOREIGN ENTITY. An entity governed as to its



- 253 internal affairs by the laws of a jurisdiction other than this 254 state.
- 255 (37) FOREIGN FILING ENTITY. A foreign entity that
 256 registers or is required to register as a foreign entity under
- 258 (38) FOREIGN GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY. A governmental
 259 official, agency, or instrumentality of a jurisdiction other
 260 than this state.
- 261 (39) FOREIGN NONFILING ENTITY. A foreign entity that is not a foreign filing entity.
- 263 (40) GENERAL PARTNER.

Article 7.

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- 264 (A) Each partner in a general partnership; or
- 265 (B) a person who is admitted to a limited partnership
 266 as a general partner in accordance with the governing
 267 documents of the limited partnership.
- 268 (41) GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. A partnership as defined in 269 Chapter 8A. The term includes a limited liability partnership 270 as defined in Chapter 8A.
- 271 (42) GOVERNING AUTHORITY. A person or group of persons 272 who are entitled to manage and direct the affairs of an entity 273 pursuant to this title and the governing documents of the 274 entity, except that if the governing documents of the entity 275 or this title divide the authority to manage and direct the 276 affairs of the entity among different persons or groups of 277 persons according to different matters, governing authority 278 means the person or group of persons entitled to manage and direct the affairs of the entity with respect to a matter 279 280 under the governing documents of the entity or this title. The



- 281 term includes the board of directors of a corporation, by 282 whatever name known, or other persons authorized to perform 283 the functions of the board of directors of a corporation, the 284 general partners of a general partnership or limited 285 partnership, the persons who have direction and oversight of a 286 limited liability company, and the trust managers of a real 287 estate investment trust. The term does not include an officer 288 who is acting in the capacity of an officer.
- 289 (43) GOVERNING DOCUMENTS.

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- 290 (A) In the case of a domestic entity:
- 291 (i) the certificate of formation for a filing entity or 292 the document or agreement under which a nonfiling entity is 293 formed; and
- 294 (ii) the other documents or agreements, including
 295 bylaws, partnership agreements of partnerships, limited
 296 liability company agreements of limited liability companies,
 297 or similar documents, adopted by the entity pursuant to this
 298 title to govern the formation or the internal affairs of the
 299 entity; or
 - (B) in the case of a foreign entity, the instruments, documents, or agreements adopted under the law of its jurisdiction of formation to govern the formation or the internal affairs of the entity.
- 304 (44) GOVERNING PERSON. A person serving as part of the governing authority of an entity.
- 306 (45) INDIVIDUAL. A natural person and the estate of an incompetent or deceased natural person.



- 308 (46) INSOLVENCY. The inability of a person to pay the 309 person's debts as they become due in the usual course of 310 business or affairs.
- 311 (47) INSOLVENT. A person who is unable to pay the 312 person's debts as they become due in the usual course of 313 business or affairs.
- 314 (48) JUDGE OF PROBATE. The judge of probate of the 315 county in which an entity is required or permitted to deliver 316 a filing instrument for filing pursuant to this title.
- 317 (49) JURISDICTION OF FORMATION.
- 318 (A) In the case of a filing entity, this state;
- 319 (B) in the case of a foreign entity, the jurisdiction 320 in which the entity's certificate of formation or similar 321 organizational instrument is filed, or if no certificate of 322 formation or similar organizational instrument is filed, then 323 the laws of the jurisdiction which govern the internal affairs
- 324 of the foreign entity;
- 325 (C) in the case of a general partnership which has 326 filed a statement of partnership, a statement of not for 327 profit partnership, or a statement of limited liability 328 partnership in accordance with Chapter 8A, in this state;
- 329 (D) in the case of a foreign limited liability
 330 partnership, the laws of the jurisdiction which govern the
 331 filing of the foreign limited liability partnership's
 332 statement of limited liability partnership or such filing in
 333 that jurisdiction; and
- 334 (E) in the case of a foreign or domestic nonfiling 335 entity other than those entities described in subsection (C)



- 336 or (D):
- 337 (i) the jurisdiction the laws of which are chosen in
- 338 the entity's governing documents to govern its internal
- 339 affairs if that jurisdiction bears a reasonable relation to
- 340 the owners or members or to the domestic or foreign nonfiling
- entity's business, activities, and affairs under the
- 342 principles of this state that otherwise would apply to a
- 343 contract among the owners or members; or
- (ii) if subparagraph (i) does not apply, the
- 345 jurisdiction in which the entity has its principal office.
- 346 (50) LAW. Unless the context requires otherwise, both
- 347 statutory and common law.
- 348 (51) LICENSE. A license, certificate of registration,
- 349 or other legal authorization.
- 350 (52) LICENSING AUTHORITY. The state court, state
- 351 regulatory licensing board, or other like agency which has the
- 352 power to issue a license or other legal authorization to
- 353 render professional services.
- 354 (53) LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY. A limited liability
- 355 company as defined in Chapter 5A.
- 356 (54) LIMITED LIABILITY LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. A limited
- 357 liability limited partnership as defined in Chapter 9A.
- 358 (55) LIMITED LIABILITY PARTNERSHIP. A limited liability
- 359 partnership as defined in Chapter 8A.
- 360 (56) LIMITED PARTNER. A person who has been admitted to
- 361 a limited partnership as a limited partner as provided by:
- 362 (A) in the case of a domestic limited partnership,
- 363 Chapter 9A; or



- 364 (B) in the case of a foreign limited partnership, the laws of its jurisdiction of formation.
- 366 (57) LIMITED PARTNERSHIP. A limited partnership as
 367 defined in Chapter 9A. The term includes a limited liability
 368 limited partnership as defined in Chapter 9A.
- 369 (58) MANAGERIAL OFFICIAL. An officer or a governing 370 person.
- 371 (59) MEMBER.
- 372 (A) A person defined as a member under Chapter 5A;
- 373 (B) in the case of a nonprofit corporation formed

 374 pursuant to or governed by Chapter 3, a person having

 375 membership rights in the nonprofit corporation in accordance

 376 with its governing documents as provided in Chapter 3, and in

 377 the case of a nonprofit corporation formed pursuant to or

 378 governed by Chapter 3A, a person defined as a member under
- 380 (C) in the case of an employee cooperative corporation 381 formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 11, a natural person 382 who, as provided in Chapter 11, has been accepted for 383 membership in and owns a membership share in an employee
- 384 cooperative;

Chapter 3A;

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- (D) in the case of a nonprofit association, a person who, as provided in Chapter 17, may participate in the selection of persons authorized to manage the affairs of the nonprofit association or in the development of its policy.
- 389 (60) MERGER. The combination of one or more domestic 390 entities with one or more domestic entities or foreign 391 entities resulting in:



- 392 (A) one or more surviving domestic entities or foreign entities;
- 394 (B) the creation of one or more new domestic entities 395 or foreign entities, or one or more surviving domestic 396 entities or foreign entities; or
- 397 (C) one or more surviving domestic entities or foreign 398 entities and the creation of one or more new domestic entities 399 or foreign entities.
- 400 (61) NONFILING ENTITY. A domestic entity that is not a 401 filing entity. The term includes a domestic general 402 partnership, a limited liability partnership, and a nonprofit 403 association.
- 404 (62) NONPROFIT ASSOCIATION. An unincorporated nonprofit
 405 association as defined in Chapter 17. The term does not
 406 include a general partnership which has filed a statement of
 407 not for profit partnership in accordance with Chapter 8A, a
 408 limited partnership which is carrying on a not for profit
 409 purpose, or a limited liability company which is carrying on a
 410 not for profit purpose.
- 411 (63) NONPROFIT CORPORATION. A domestic or foreign
 412 nonprofit corporation as defined in Chapter 3 or Chapter 3A.
- 413 (64) NONPROFIT ENTITY. An entity that is a nonprofit corporation, nonprofit association, or other entity that is organized solely for one or more nonprofit purposes.
- 416 (65) OFFICER. An individual elected, appointed, or
 417 designated as an officer of an entity by the entity's
 418 governing authority or under the entity's governing documents.
- 419 (66) ORGANIZATION. A corporation, limited partnership,



420 general partnership, limited liability company, business 421 trust, real estate investment trust, joint venture, joint 422 stock company, cooperative, association, or other 423 organization, including, regardless of its organizational 424 form, a bank, insurance company, credit union, and savings and loan association, whether for profit, not for profit, 425 426 nonprofit, domestic, or foreign. 427 (67) ORGANIZER. A person, who need not be an owner or 428 member of the entity, who, having the capacity to contract, is authorized to execute documents in connection with the 429 430 formation of the entity. The term includes an incorporator. (68) OWNER. 431 432 (A) With respect to a foreign or domestic business 433 corporation or real estate investment trust, a stockholder or 434 a shareholder; (B) with respect to a foreign or domestic partnership, 435 436 a partner; 437 (C) with respect to a foreign or domestic limited 438 liability company or association, a member; and 439 (D) with respect to another foreign or domestic entity, 440 an owner of an equity interest in that entity. 441 (69) OWNERSHIP INTEREST. An owner's interest in an entity. The term includes the owner's share of profits and 442 443 losses or similar items and the right to receive 444 distributions. The term does not include an owner's right to

participate in management or participate in the direction or

oversight of the entity. An ownership interest is personal

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property.



- 448 (70) PARENT or PARENT ENTITY. An entity that:
- 449 (A) owns at least 50 percent of the ownership or 450 membership interest of a subsidiary; or
- 451 (B) possesses at least 50 percent of the voting power of the owners or members of a subsidiary.
- 453 (71) PARTNER. A limited partner or general partner.
- 454 (72) PARTNERSHIP. Includes a general partnership, a
 455 limited liability partnership, a foreign limited liability
 456 partnership, a limited partnership, a foreign limited
 457 partnership, a limited liability limited partnership, and a
 458 foreign limited liability limited partnership.
- 459 (73) PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT. Any agreement (whether 460 referred to as a partnership agreement or otherwise), written, 461 oral or implied, of the partners as to the activities and 462 affairs of a general partnership or a limited partnership. The 463 partnership agreement includes any amendments to the 464 partnership agreement. In the case of limited partnerships 465 formed prior to October 1, 1998, partnership agreement 466 includes the certificate of partnership.
- 467 (74) PARTY TO THE MERGER. A domestic entity or foreign
 468 entity that under a plan of merger is combined by a merger.
 469 The term does not include a domestic entity or foreign entity
 470 that is not to be combined into or with one or more domestic
 471 entities or foreign entities, regardless of whether ownership
 472 interests of the entity are to be issued under the plan of
 473 merger.
- 474 (75) PERSON. An individual, including the estate of an 475 incompetent or deceased individual, or an entity, whether



- 476 created by the laws of this state or another state or foreign 477 country, including, without limitation, a general partnership, 478 limited liability partnership, limited partnership, limited 479 liability limited partnership, limited liability company, 480 corporation, professional corporation, nonprofit corporation, 481 professional association, trustee, personal representative, 482 fiduciary, as defined in Section 19-3-150 or person performing 483 in any similar capacity, business trust, estate, trust, 484 association, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, or any other legal or 485 486 commercial entity.
- 487 (76) PRESIDENT.
- 488 (A) The individual designated as president of an entity 489 under the entity's governing documents; or
- 490 (B) the officer or committee of persons authorized to
 491 perform the functions of the principal executive officer of an
 492 entity without regard to the designated name of the officer or
 493 committee.
- 494 (77) PRINCIPAL OFFICE. The office, in or out of this 495 state, where the principal executive office, whether referred 496 to as the principal executive office, chief executive office, 497 or otherwise, of an entity is located.
- 498 (78) PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION. A professional association as defined in Chapter 30.
- 500 (79) PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION. A domestic or foreign 501 professional corporation as defined in Chapter 4.
- 502 (80) PROFESSIONAL ENTITY. A professional association 503 and a professional corporation.



- 104 (81) PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Any type of service that may lawfully be performed only pursuant to a license issued by a state court, state regulatory licensing board, or other like agency pursuant to state laws.
- 508 (82) PROPERTY. Includes all property, whether real,
 509 personal, or mixed, or tangible or intangible, or any right or
 510 interest therein.
- 511 (83) REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUST. An unincorporated 512 trust, association, or other entity as defined in Chapter 10.
- 513 (84) SECRETARY.
- 514 (A) The individual designated as secretary of an entity 515 under the entity's governing documents; or
- 516 (B) the officer or committee of persons authorized to
 517 perform the functions of secretary of an entity without regard
 518 to the designated name of the officer or committee.
- 519 (85) SECRETARY OF STATE. The Secretary of State of the 520 State of Alabama.
- 521 (86) SIGN or SIGNATURE. With the present intent to 522 authenticate or adopt a writing:
- 523 (A) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol to a writing, 524 and includes any manual, facsimile, or conformed signature; or
- 525 (B) to attach to or logically associate with an
 526 electronic transmission an electronic sound, symbol, or
 527 process, and includes an electronic signature in an electronic
 528 transmission.
- 529 (87) STATE. Includes, when referring to a part of the 530 United States, a state or commonwealth, and its agencies and 531 governmental subdivisions, and a territory or possession, and



- its agencies and governmental subdivisions, of the United

 States.
- 534 (88) SUBSCRIBER. A person who agrees with or makes an 535 offer to an entity to purchase by subscription an ownership 536 interest in the entity.
- 537 (89) SUBSCRIPTION. An agreement between a subscriber
 538 and an entity, or a written offer made by a subscriber to an
 539 entity before or after the entity's formation, in which the
 540 subscriber agrees or offers to purchase a specified ownership
 541 interest in the entity.
- 542 (90) SUBSIDIARY. An entity at least 50 percent of:
- 543 (A) the ownership or membership interest of which is 544 owned by a parent entity; or
- 545 (B) the voting power of which is possessed by a parent entity.
- 547 (91) TREASURER.
- 548 (A) The individual designated as treasurer of an entity 549 under the entity's governing documents; or
- 550 (B) the officer or committee of persons authorized to
 551 perform the functions of treasurer of an entity without regard
 552 to the designated name of the officer or committee.
- 553 (92) TRUSTEE. A person who serves as a trustee of a trust, including a real estate investment trust.
- 555 (93) UNCERTIFICATED OWNERSHIP INTEREST. An ownership 556 interest in a domestic entity that is not represented by a 557 certificate.
- 558 (94) VICE PRESIDENT.
- 559 (A) The individual designated as vice president of an



entity under the governing documents of the entity; or

- (B) the officer or committee of persons authorized to perform the functions of the president of the entity on the death, absence, or resignation of the president or on the inability of the president to perform the functions of office without regard to the designated name of the officer or committee.
- 567 (95) WRITING or WRITTEN. Information that is inscribed 568 on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or 569 other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form."
- 570 "\$10A-1-1.08

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- 571 (a) The provisions of this title as described by this 572 section may be cited as provided by this section.
- 573 (b) Chapter 2A and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the 574 extent applicable to business corporations may be cited as the 575 Alabama Business Corporation Law.
 - (c) Chapter 3 or Chapter 3A and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to nonprofit corporations may be cited as the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law.
- 579 (d) Chapter 4 and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the
 580 extent applicable to professional corporations may be cited as
 581 the Alabama Professional Corporation Law.
- (e) Chapter 5A and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to limited liability companies may be cited as the Alabama Limited Liability Company Law.
- (f) Chapter 8A and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to general partnerships may be cited as the Alabama Partnership Law.



- (g) Chapter 9A and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to limited partnerships may be cited as the Alabama Limited Partnership Law.
- (h) Chapter 10 and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to real estate investment trusts may be cited as the Alabama Real Estate Investment Trust Law.
- (i) Chapter 11 and the provisions of Chapter 1 and Chapter 2A to the extent applicable to employee cooperative corporations may be cited as the Alabama Employee Cooperative Corporations Law.
- (j) Chapter 17 and the provisions of Chapter 1 to the extent applicable to unincorporated nonprofit associations may be cited as the Alabama Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Law."
- 602 "\$10A-1-3.32

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(a) This section applies to domestic entities other 603 604 than (i) corporations formed pursuant to or governed by 605 Chapter 2A or Chapter 4, and real estate investment trusts 606 formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 10, each of which is 607 governed by the separate recordkeeping requirements and record 608 inspections provisions of Chapter 2A and (ii) nonprofit 609 corporations formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 3 or 610 Chapter 3A, limited liability companies formed pursuant to or 611 governed by Chapter 5A, general partnerships formed pursuant to or governed by Chapter 8A, and limited partnerships formed 612 pursuant to or governed by Chapter 9A, each of which are 613 governed by the separate recordkeeping requirements and record 614 615 inspection provisions set forth in each entity's respective



chapter governing that entity.

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- (b) With respect to a domestic entity covered by this section, the books and records maintained under the chapter of this title applicable to that entity and any other books and records of that entity, wherever situated, are subject to inspection and copying at the reasonable request, and at the expense of, any owner or member or the owner's or member's agent or attorney during regular business hours. The right of access extends to the legal representative of a deceased owner or member or owner or member under legal disability. The entity shall also provide former owners and members with access to its books and records pertaining to the period during which they were owners or members.
- (c) The governing documents of a domestic entity may
 not unreasonably restrict an owner's or member's right to
 information or access to books and records.
- 632 (d) Any agent or governing person of a domestic entity 633 who, without reasonable cause, refuses to allow any owner or 634 member or the owner's or member's agent or legal counsel to 635 inspect any books or records of that entity shall be 636 personally liable to the agent or member for a penalty in an 637 amount not to exceed 10 percent of the fair market value of 638 the ownership interest of the owner or member, in addition to 639 any other damages or remedy."
- 640 "\$10A-1-5.31
- (a) Each filing entity and each foreign filing entity
 with a registration under Article 7, and each general
 partnership that has an effective statement of partnership,



644 statement of not for profit partnership, or statement of 645 limited liability partnership on file with the Secretary of 646 State in accordance with Chapter 8A, shall designate and 647 continuously maintain in this state: 648 (1) a registered agent; and 649 (2) a registered office. 650 (b) A registered agent: 651 (1) is an agent of the entity on which may be served 652 any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served on the entity; 653 654 (2) may be: (A) an individual who is a resident of this state; or 655 656 (B) a domestic entity or a foreign entity that is 657 registered to transact business in this state; and 658 (3) must maintain a business office at the same address as the entity's registered office. 659 660 (c) The registered office: 661 (1) must be located at a street address in this state 662 where process may be personally served on the entity's 663 registered agent; 664 (2) is not required to be a place of business of the 665 filing entity or foreign filing entity; and 666 (3) may not be solely a mailbox service or a telephone 667 answering service." 668 "\$10A-2A-1.40 As used in this chapter, unless otherwise specified or 669 unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms 670

have the following meanings:

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- 672 (1) AUTHORIZED STOCK means the stock of all classes and 673 series a corporation or foreign corporation is authorized to 674 issue.
 - (2) BENEFICIAL STOCKHOLDER means a person who owns the beneficial interest in stock, which is either a record stockholder or a person on whose behalf shares of stock are registered in the name of an intermediary or nominee.
- 679 (3) CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION means the certificate 680 of incorporation described in Section 10A-2A-2.02, all amendments to the certificate of incorporation, and any other 681 682 documents permitted or required to be delivered for filing by a corporation with the Secretary of State under this chapter 683 684 or Chapter 1 that modify, amend, supplement, restate, or 685 replace the certificate of incorporation. After an amendment 686 of the certificate of incorporation or any other document filed the filing of a filing instrument under this chapter or 687 688 Chapter 1 that restates or amends and restates the certificate 689 of incorporation in its entirety, the certificate of 690 incorporation shall not include any prior documents, but the 691 original date of incorporation shall remain unchanged. When 692 used with respect to a corporation incorporated and existing 693 on December 31, 2019, under a predecessor law of this state, the term "certificate of incorporation" means articles of 694 695 incorporation, charter, or similar incorporating document, and 696 all amendments and restatements to the certificate of 697 incorporation, charter, or similar incorporating document. When used with respect to a foreign corporation, a nonprofit 698 699 corporation, or a foreign nonprofit corporation, the

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- "certificate of incorporation" of such an entity means the
 document of such entity that is equivalent to the certificate
 of incorporation of a corporation. The term "certificate of
 incorporation" as used in this chapter is synonymous to the
 term "certificate of formation" used in Chapter 1.
 - (4) CORPORATION, except in the phrase foreign corporation, means an entity incorporated or existing under this chapter.
- (5) DELIVER or DELIVERY means any method of delivery used in conventional commercial practice, including delivery by hand, mail, commercial delivery, and, if authorized in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.41, by electronic transmission.
- (6) DISTRIBUTION means a direct or indirect transfer of 713 714 cash or other property (except a corporation's own stock) or 715 incurrence of indebtedness by a corporation to or for the 716 benefit of its stockholders in respect of any of its stock. A 717 distribution may be in the form of a payment of a dividend; a 718 purchase, redemption, or other acquisition of stock; a 719 distribution of indebtedness; a distribution in liquidation; 720 or otherwise.
 - (7) DOCUMENT means a writing as defined in Chapter 1.
- 722 (8) EFFECTIVE DATE, when referring to a document
 723 accepted for filing by the Secretary of State, means the time
 724 and date determined in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 1.
- 725 (9) ELECTRONIC MAIL means an electronic transmission 726 directed to a unique electronic mail address.
 - (10) ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS means a destination,

can be sent or delivered.

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- commonly expressed as a string of characters, consisting of a unique user name or mailbox (commonly referred to as the "local part" of the address) and a reference to an internet domain (commonly referred to as the "domain part" of the address), whether or not displayed, to which electronic mail
- 734 (11) ELIGIBLE ENTITY means an unincorporated entity,
 735 foreign unincorporated entity, nonprofit corporation, or
 736 foreign nonprofit corporation.
- 737 (12) ELIGIBLE INTERESTS means interests or memberships.
- 738 (13) EMPLOYEE includes an officer, but not a director.
- 739 A director may accept duties that make the director also an employee.
- 741 (14) ENTITY includes corporation; foreign corporation;
 742 nonprofit corporation; foreign nonprofit corporation; estate;
 743 trust; unincorporated entity; foreign unincorporated entity;
 744 and state, United States, and foreign government.
- 745 (15) EXPENSES means reasonable expenses of any kind 746 that are incurred in connection with a matter.
- 747 (16) FILING ENTITY means an unincorporated entity,
 748 other than a limited liability partnership, that is of a type
 749 that is created by filing a public organic record or is
 750 required to file a public organic record that evidences its
 751 creation.
- 752 (17) FOREIGN CORPORATION means a corporation 753 incorporated under a law other than the law of this state 754 which would be a corporation if incorporated under the law of 755 this state.



- 756 (18) FOREIGN NONPROFIT CORPORATION means a corporation 757 incorporated under a law other than the law of this state 758 which would be a nonprofit corporation if incorporated under 759 the law of this state.
- 760 (19) GOVERNING STATUTE means the statute governing the
 761 internal affairs of a corporation, foreign corporation,
 762 nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit corporation,
 763 unincorporated entity, or foreign unincorporated entity.
- 764 (20) GOVERNMENTAL SUBDIVISION includes authority,
 765 county, district, and municipality.
- 766 (21) INCLUDES and INCLUDING denote a partial definition 767 or a nonexclusive list.
- 768 (22) INTEREST means either or both of the following
 769 rights under the governing statute governing an unincorporated
 770 entity:
- 771 (i) the right to receive distributions from the entity 772 either in the ordinary course or upon liquidation; or
- 773 (ii) the right to receive notice or vote on issues 774 involving its internal affairs, other than as an agent, 775 assignee, proxy, or person responsible for managing its
- 776 business and affairs.
- 777 (23) INTEREST HOLDER means a person who holds of record 778 an interest.
- 779 (24) KNOWLEDGE is determined as follows:
- 780 (a) A person knows a fact when the person:
- 781 (1) has actual knowledge of it; or
- 782 (2) is deemed to know it under law other than this chapter.



- 784 (b) A person has notice of a fact when the person:
- 785 (1) knows of it;
- 786 (2) receives notification of it in accordance with
- 787 Section 10A-2A-1.41;
- 788 (3) has reason to know the fact from all of the facts
- 789 known to the person at the time in question; or
- 790 (4) is deemed to have notice of the fact under
- 791 subsection (d).
- 792 (c) A person notifies another of a fact by taking steps
- 793 reasonably required to inform the other person in ordinary
- 794 course in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.41, whether or not
- 795 the other person knows the fact.
- 796 (d) A person is deemed to have notice of a
- 797 corporation's:
- 798 (1) matters included in the certificate of
- 799 incorporation upon filing;
- 800 (2) dissolution, 90 days after a certificate of
- 801 dissolution under Section 10A-2A-14.03 becomes effective;
- 802 (3) conversion, merger, or interest exchange under
- 803 Article 9 or Article 11, 90 days after a statement of
- 804 conversion, or statement of merger or interest exchange
- 805 becomes effective;
- 806 (4) conversion or merger under Article 8 of Chapter 1,
- 807 90 days after a statement of conversion or statement of merger
- 808 becomes effective; and
- 809 (5) revocation of dissolution and reinstatement, 90
- 810 days after certificate of revocation of dissolution and
- reinstatement under Section 10A-2A-14.04 becomes effective.



- 812 (e) A stockholder's knowledge, notice, or receipt of a
 813 notification of a fact relating to the corporation is not
 814 knowledge, notice, or receipt of a notification of a fact by
 815 the corporation solely by reason of the stockholder's capacity
 816 as a stockholder.
- 817 (f) The date and time of the effectiveness of a notice 818 delivered in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.41, is 819 determined by Section 10A-2A-1.41.
 - (25) MEANS denotes an exhaustive definition.
- 821 (26) MEMBERSHIP means the rights of a member in a nonprofit corporation or foreign nonprofit corporation.

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- 823 (27) ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS means the public organic 824 record and private organizational documents of a corporation, 825 foreign corporation, or eligible entity.
- 826 (28) PRINCIPAL OFFICE means the office (in or out of 827 this state) so designated in the annual report where the 828 principal executive offices of a corporation or foreign 829 corporation are located.
- 830 (29) PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS means (i) the 831 bylaws of a corporation, foreign corporation, nonprofit 832 corporation, or foreign nonprofit corporation, or (ii) the 833 rules, regardless of whether in writing, that govern the 834 internal affairs of an unincorporated entity or foreign 835 unincorporated entity, are binding on all its interest 836 holders, and are not part of its public organic record, if any. Where private organizational documents have been amended 837 or restated, the term means the private organizational 838 839 documents as last amended or restated.



- (30) PROCEEDING includes any civil suit and criminal, administrative, and investigatory action.
- (31) PUBLIC ORGANIC RECORD means (i) the certificate of incorporation of a corporation, foreign corporation, nonprofit corporation, or foreign nonprofit corporation, or (ii) the document, if any, the filing of which is required to create an unincorporated entity or foreign unincorporated entity, or which creates the unincorporated entity or foreign unincorporated entity and is required to be filed. Where a public organic record has been amended or restated, the term means the public organic record as last amended or restated.
 - (32) RECORD DATE means the date fixed for determining the identity of the corporation's stockholders and their stockholdings for purposes of this chapter. Unless another time is specified when the record date is fixed, the determination shall be made as of the close of business at the principal office of the corporation on the date so fixed.
 - (33) RECORD STOCKHOLDER means (i) the person in whose name shares of stock are registered in the records of the corporation, or (ii) the person identified as the beneficial owner of stock in a beneficial ownership certificate pursuant to Section 10A-2A-7.23 on file with the corporation to the extent of the rights granted by such certificate.
 - (34) SECRETARY means the corporate officer to whom the board of directors has delegated responsibility under Section 10A-2A-8.40(c) to maintain the minutes of the meetings of the board of directors and of the stockholders and for authenticating records of the corporation.



- 868 (35) STOCK EXCHANGE means a transaction pursuant to Section 10A-2A-11.03.
- 870 (36) STOCKHOLDER means a record stockholder.
- 871 (37) STOCK means the units into which the proprietary
 872 interests in a corporation or foreign corporation are divided.
- 873 (38) TYPE OF ENTITY means a generic form of entity: (i)
 874 recognized at common law; or (ii) formed under a governing
 875 statute, regardless of whether some entities formed under that
 876 law are subject to provisions of that law that create
 877 different categories of the form of entity.
- 878 (39) UNINCORPORATED ENTITY means an organization or 879 artificial legal person that either has a separate legal 880 existence or has the power to acquire an estate in real 881 property in its own name and that is not any of the following: 882 a corporation, foreign corporation, nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit corporation, a series of a limited liability 883 884 company or of another type of entity, an estate, a trust, a 885 state, United States, or foreign government. The term includes 886 a general partnership, limited liability company, limited 887 partnership, business trust, joint stock association, and 888 unincorporated nonprofit association.
- 889 (40) UNITED STATES includes any district, authority, 890 bureau, commission, department, and any other agency of the 891 United States.
- 892 (41) UNRESTRICTED VOTING TRUST BENEFICIAL OWNER means,
 893 with respect to any stockholder rights, a voting trust
 894 beneficial owner whose entitlement to exercise the stockholder
 895 right in question is not inconsistent with the voting trust



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- (42) VOTING GROUP means all stock of one or more classes or series that under the certificate of incorporation or this chapter are entitled to vote and be counted together collectively on a matter at a meeting of stockholders. All stock entitled by the certificate of incorporation or this chapter to vote generally on the matter is for that purpose a single voting group.
- 904 (43) VOTING POWER means the current power to vote in 905 the election of directors.
 - (44) VOTING TRUST BENEFICIAL OWNER means an owner of a beneficial interest in stock of the corporation held in a voting trust established pursuant to Section 10A-2A-7.30(a)."

909 "\$10A-2A-1.48

- 910 (a) The quorum and voting requirements applicable to a 911 ratifying action by the board of directors under Section 912 10A-2A-1.47(a) shall be the quorum and voting requirements 913 applicable to the corporate action proposed to be ratified at 914 the time—such the ratifying action is taken.
- 915 (b) If the ratification of the defective corporate 916 action requires approval by the stockholders under Section 917 10A-2A-1.47(c), and if the approval is to be given at a meeting, the corporation shall notify each holder of valid and 918 919 putative stock, regardless of whether entitled to vote, as of 920 (i) the record date for notice of the meeting and as of (i) 921 the date of the action by the board of directors under Section 10A-2A-1.47(a), which shall be the record date, and (ii) the 922 923 date of the occurrence of the defective corporate action,

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924 provided that notice shall not be required to be given to 925 holders of valid or putative stock whose identities or 926 addresses for notice cannot be determined from the records of 927 the corporation. The notice must state that the purpose, or 928 one of the purposes, of the meeting, is to consider 929 ratification of a defective corporate action and must be 930 accompanied by (i) either a copy of the action taken by the 931 board of directors in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.47(a) 932 or the information required by Section 10A-2A-1.47(a)(1) through (a)(4), and (ii) a statement that any claim that the 933 934 ratification of such the defective corporate action and any putative stock issued as a result of such the defective 935 936 corporate action should not be effective, or should be 937 effective only on certain conditions, shall be brought within 938 120 days from the applicable validation effective time.

- (c) Except as provided in subsection (d) with respect to the voting requirements to ratify the election of a director, the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the approval by the stockholders required by Section 10A-2A-1.47(c) shall be the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the corporate action proposed to be ratified at the time of such the stockholder approval.
- (d) The approval by stockholders to ratify the election of a director requires that the votes cast within the voting group favoring—such_the ratification exceed the votes cast opposing the ratification of the election at a meeting at which a quorum is present.
 - (e) Putative stock on the record date for determining



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the stockholders entitled to vote on any matter submitted to stockholders under Section 10A-2A-1.47(c) of the action by the board of directors under Section 10A-2A-1.47(a) (and without giving effect to any ratification of putative stock that becomes effective as a result of such the vote) shall neither be entitled to vote nor counted for quorum purposes in any vote to approve the ratification of any defective corporate action.

(f) If the approval under this section of putative stock would result in an overissue, in addition to the approval required by Section 10A-2A-1.47, approval of an amendment to the certificate of incorporation under Article 10 to increase the number of shares of stock of an authorized class or series or to authorize the creation of a class or series of stock so there would be no overissue shall also be required."

"\$10A-2A-1.51

(a) If the defective corporate action ratified under this Division D of Article 1 would have required under any other section of this chapter a filing in accordance with this chapter, then, regardless of whether a filing was previously made in respect of such defective corporate action and instrument to be delivered to a filing officer for filing and either (i) the filing instrument requires any change to give effect to the defective corporate action in accordance with this Division D of Article 1 (including any change to the date and time of the effectiveness of the filing instrument) or (ii) a filing instrument under any other section of this



980	chapter was not previously delivered to a filing officer for
981	filing in respect of the defective corporate action, then, in
982	lieu of a filing <u>instrument</u> otherwise required by this
983	chapter, the corporation shall <u>file</u> <u>deliver</u> a certificate of
984	validation to the appropriate filing officer for filing in
985	accordance with this section, and that certificate of
986	validation shall serve to amend or substitute for any other
987	filing <u>instrument</u> with respect to <u>such</u> the defective corporate
988	action required by this chapter.
989	(b) The certificate of validation must set forth:
990	(1) the name of the corporation;
991	(2) the unique identifying number or other designation
992	as assigned by the Secretary of State;
993	(3) the defective corporate action that is the subject
994	of the certificate of validation (including, in the case of
995	any defective corporate action involving the issuance of
996	putative stock, the number and type of shares of putative
997	stock issued and the date or dates upon which that putative
998	stock was purported to have been issued);
999	(4) the date of the defective corporate action;
1000	(5) the nature of the failure of authorization in
1001	respect of the defective corporate action;
1002	$\frac{(6)}{(3)}$ a statement that the defective corporate action
1003	was ratified in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.47, including

(6) (3) a statement that the defective corporate action
was ratified in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.47, including
the date on which the board of directors ratified that
defective corporate action and the date, if any, on which the
stockholders approved the ratification of that defective
corporate action; and

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- 1008 $\frac{(7)}{(4)}$ the information required by subsection (c).
- 1009 (c) The certificate of validation must also contain the 1010 following information:
 - (1) if a filing was previously made in respect of the defective corporate action and no changes to that filing are required to give effect to the ratification of that defective corporate action in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.47, the certificate of validation must set forth (i) the name, title, and filing date of the filing previously made and any certificate of correction to that filing, and (ii) a statement that a copy of the filing previously made, together with any certificate of correction to that filing, is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation;

1021 (1) if a filing instrument was previously—made 1022 delivered to a filing officer for filing in respect of the defective corporate action and that filing instrument requires 1023 1024 any change to give effect to the ratification of that 1025 defective corporate action in accordance with Section 1026 10A-2A-1.47, the certificate of validation must set forth (i) 1027 the name, title, and filing date of the filing instrument 1028 previously made delivered to a filing officer for filing and 1029 any certificate of correction to that filing instrument, and 1030 (ii) a statement that a filing instrument containing all of 1031 the information required to be included under the applicable 1032 section or sections of this chapter to give effect to that 1033 defective corporate action is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, and (iii) the date and time that 1034 1035 filing instrument is deemed to have become effective; or



- delivered to a filing instrument was not previously—made delivered to a filing officer for filing in respect of the defective corporate action and the defective corporate action ratified under Section 10A-2A-1.47 would have required a filing instrument under any other section of this chapter, the certificate of validation must set forth (i) a statement that a filing instrument containing all of the information required to be included under the applicable section or sections of this chapter to give effect to that defective corporate action is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, and (ii) the date and time that filing instrument is deemed to have become effective."
- 1048 "\$10A-2A-2.02
- 1049 Section 10A-1-3.05 shall not apply to this chapter.
- 1050 Instead:

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- 1051 (a) The certificate of incorporation must set forth:
- 1052 (1) a corporate name for the corporation that satisfies 1053 the requirements of Article 5 of Chapter 1;
- 1054 (2) the number of shares of stock the corporation is authorized to issue;
- 1056 (3) the street and mailing addresses of the
 1057 corporation's initial registered office, the county within
 1058 this state in which the street and mailing address is located,
 1059 and the name of the corporation's initial registered agent at
 1060 that office as required by Article 5 of Chapter 1; and
 - (4) the name and address of each incorporator.
 - (b) The certificate of incorporation may set forth:
- 1063 (1) the names and addresses of the individuals who are



- 1064 to serve as the initial directors;
- 1065 (2) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding:
- 1066 (i) the purpose or purposes for which the corporation 1067 is organized;
- 1068 (ii) managing the business and regulating the affairs
 1069 of the corporation;
- 1070 (iii) defining, limiting, and regulating the powers of 1071 the corporation, its board of directors, and stockholders;
- 1072 (iv) a par value for authorized stock or classes of stock; or
- (v) subject to subsection (f), a provision imposing
 personal liability for the debts of the corporation on its
 stockholders to a specified extent and upon specified
 conditions; otherwise, the stockholders of a corporation shall
 not be personally liable for the payment of the corporation's
 debts, except as they may be liable by reason of their own
 conduct or acts;
- 1081 (3) any provision that under this chapter is permitted 1082 to be set forth in the certificate of incorporation or 1083 required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws;
- 1084 (4) a provision eliminating or limiting the liability 1085 of a director or officer to the corporation or its 1086 shareholders stockholders for money damages for any action 1087 taken, or any failure to take any action, as a director or 1088 officer, except liability for (i) the amount of a financial 1089 benefit received by a director or officer to which the director or officer is not entitled; (ii) an intentional 1090 1091 infliction of harm on the corporation or the stockholders;

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- 1092 (iii) in the case of a director, a violation of Section 1093 10A-2A-8.32; or (iv) an intentional violation of criminal law; 1094 or (v) in the case of an officer, any claim by or in the right 1095 of the corporation;
- (5) a provision permitting or making obligatory 1097 indemnification of a director for liability as defined in Section 10A-2A-8.50 to any person for any action taken, or any 1099 failure to take any action, as a director, except liability 1100 for (i) receipt of a financial benefit to which the director is not entitled, (ii) an intentional infliction of harm on the corporation or its stockholders, (iii) a violation of Section 10A-2A-8.32, or (iv) an intentional violation of criminal law; 1104 and
- (6) a provision limiting or eliminating any duty of a 1105 1106 director or any other person to offer the corporation the right to have or participate in any, or one or more classes or 1107 categories of, business opportunities, before the pursuit or 1108 1109 taking of the opportunity by the director or other person; 1110 provided that any application of that provision to an officer 1111 or a related person of that officer (i) also requires approval 1112 of that application by the board of directors, subsequent to 1113 the effective date of the provision, by action of qualified directors taken in compliance with the same procedures as are 1114 1115 set forth in Section $10A-2A-8.60_{7}$; and (ii) may be limited by the authorizing action of the board of directors. 1116
- (c) The certificate of incorporation need not set forth 1117 any of the corporate powers enumerated in Sections 10A-1-2.11, 1118 10A-1-2.12, and 10A-1-2.13. 1119



- 1120 (d) Provisions of the certificate of incorporation may be made dependent upon facts objectively ascertainable outside 1121 1122 the certificate of incorporation in accordance with Section 1123 10A-2A-1.20(c). 1124 (e) As used in this section, "related person" means: 1125 (i) the individual's spouse; 1126 (ii) a child, stepchild, grandchild, parent, 1127 stepparent, grandparent, sibling, stepsibling, half sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew (or spouse of any such person) 1128 of the individual or of the individual's spouse; 1129 1130 (iii) a natural person living in the same home as the 1131 individual; 1132 (iv) an entity (other than the corporation or an entity 1133 controlled by the corporation) controlled by the individual or 1134 any person specified above in this definition; (v) a domestic or foreign: 1135 1136 (A) business or nonprofit corporation (other than the 1137 corporation or an entity controlled by the corporation) of 1138 which the individual is a director +, 1139 (B) unincorporated entity of which the individual is a 1140 general partner or a member of the governing authority;, or 1141 (C) individual, trust or estate for whom or of which
 - 1141 (C) individual, trust or estate for whom or of which
 1142 the individual is a trustee, guardian, personal
- 1143 representative, or like fiduciary;, or
- 1144 (vi) a person that is, or an entity that is, controlled 1145 by an employer of the individual.
- 1146 (f) The certificate of incorporation may not contain 1147 any provision that would impose liability on a stockholder for

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the attorney's fees or expenses of the corporation or any other party in connection with an internal corporate claim, as defined in Section 10A-2A-2.07(d).

- (g) The certificate of incorporation is part of a binding contract between the corporation and the stockholders, subject to the provisions of this chapter.
- 1154 (h) For purposes of subsection (b) (4) only, unless the 1155 certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, "officer" 1156 means an individual appointed or elected in accordance with Section 10A-2A-8.40 as (i) president, chief executive officer, 1157 1158 chief operating officer, chief financial officer, chief legal officer, secretary, controller, treasurer, or chief accounting 1159 officer of the corporation; and (ii) any officer of the 1160 corporation designated by resolution of the board of directors 1161 1162 as an "officer" for purposes of subsection (b)(4). The board of directors may, from time to time, by resolution determine 1163 1164 that one or more of the officers designated in accordance with 1165 subsection (h)(ii) shall no longer be an officer for purposes 1166 of subsection (b)(4), but no such resolution shall be 1167 effective as to any such officer, or any act or omission of 1168 any such officer, prior to the adoption of the resolution.
- (i) No provision in the certificate of incorporation

 pursuant to subsection (b) (4) shall eliminate or limit the

 liability of a director or officer for any act or omission

 occurring prior to the date when the provision in the

 certificate of incorporation becomes effective. Any amendment,

 repeal, or elimination of a provision in the certificate of

 incorporation pursuant to subsection (b) (4) shall not affect



- House Judiciary Reported Substitute for SB112 1176 its application with respect to an act or omission by a 1177 director or officer occurring before the amendment, repeal, or 1178 elimination unless the provision in the certificate of 1179 incorporation provides otherwise at the time of the act or 1180 omission." 1181 "\$10A-2A-6.21 (a) The powers granted in this section to the board of 1182 1183 directors may be reserved to the stockholders by the 1184 certificate of incorporation. (b) The board of directors may authorize stock to be 1185 issued for consideration consisting of a contribution. Stock may be issued in one or more transactions, in the numbers, at
- 1186 1187 1188 the time and for the consideration as set forth in a resolution of the board of directors. 1189
- 1190 (c) A resolution of the board of directors may delegate to a person or body, in addition to the board of directors, 1191 1192 the authority to enter into one or more transactions to issue 1193 stock, and with respect to that transaction, shares of stock 1194 may be issued in the numbers, at the time and for the 1195 consideration as the person or body may determine; provided 1196 the resolution fixes (i) a maximum number of shares of stock 1197 that may be issued pursuant to the resolution, (ii) a time period during which the stock may be issued, and (iii) a 1198 1199 minimum amount of consideration for which the stock may be 1200 issued. No resolution shall permit a person or body to issue 1201 stock to that person or body.
 - (c) (d) Before the corporation issues stock pursuant to subsection (b) or subsection (c), the board of directors or



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the person or body authorized pursuant to subsection (c) shall determine that the consideration received or to be received for stock to be issued is adequate. That determination by the board of directors or the person or body authorized pursuant to subsection (c) is conclusive insofar as the adequacy of consideration for the issuance of stock relates to whether the stock is validly issued, fully paid, and nonassessable.

(e) Any provision of a resolution contemplated by subsection (b) or subsection (c) may be made dependent on facts ascertainable outside the resolution, which facts shall be determined in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.20(c).

(d) (f) When the corporation receives the consideration for which the board of directors authorized the issuance of stock, the stock issued therefor is fully paid and nonassessable.

(e) (g) The corporation may place in escrow stock issued for a contract for future services or benefits or a promissory note, or make other arrangements to restrict the transfer of the stock, and may credit distributions in respect of the stock against its purchase price, until the services are performed, the benefits are received, or the note is paid. If the services are not performed, the benefits are not received, or the note is not paid, the stock escrowed or restricted and the distributions credited may be cancelled in whole or part."

"\$10A-2A-6.24

(a) A corporation may issue rights, options, or warrants for the purchase of stock or other securities of the corporation. The board of directors shall determine (i) the

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terms and conditions upon which the rights, options, or warrants are issued; and (ii) the terms, including the consideration for which the stock or other securities acquired from the corporation upon the exercise of any rights, options, or warrants are to be issued. The authorization by the board of directors for the corporation to issue rights, options, or warrants constitutes authorization of the issuance of the stock or other securities for which the rights, options, or warrants are exercisable.

(b) The board of directors may adopt a resolution to 1241 1242 delegate to a person or body, in addition to the board of directors, the authority to enter into one or more 1243 1244 transactions to issue rights, options, or warrants, and with respect to those transactions, the rights, options, or 1245 1246 warrants may be issued in the numbers, at the time and for the consideration as the person or body may determine; provided 1247 1248 that the resolution fixes (i) the maximum number of rights, 1249 options, or warrants, and the maximum number of shares of 1250 stock issuable upon exercise thereof, that may be issued 1251 pursuant to the resolution, (ii) a time period during which 1252 the rights, options, or warrants, and during which the stock 1253 issuable upon exercise thereof, may be issued, and (iii) a 1254 minimum amount of consideration (if any) for which the rights, 1255 options, or warrants may be issued and a minimum amount of 1256 consideration for the stock issuable upon exercise thereof. No resolution shall permit a person or body to issue rights, 1257 options, or warrants to that person or body. 1258

(c) Any provision in a resolution contemplated by

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- subsection (a) or subsection (b) may be made dependent on

 facts ascertainable outside the resolution, which facts shall

 be determined in accordance with Section 10A-2A-1.20(c).
 - (b) (d) The terms and conditions of rights, options, or warrants may include restrictions or conditions that:
 - (1) preclude or limit the exercise, transfer, or receipt of rights, options, or warrants by any person or persons owning or offering to acquire a specified number or percentage of the outstanding stock or other securities of the corporation or by any transferee or transferees of that person or persons, or
 - (2) invalidate or void rights, options, or warrants held by that person or persons or any of that person's transferee or transferees.

1274 (c) (e) The board of directors or the person or body 1275 authorized pursuant to subsection (b) may authorize one or 1276 more officers to (i) designate the recipients of rights, 1277 options, warrants, or other equity compensation awards that 1278 involve the issuance of stock and (ii) determine, within an 1279 amount and subject to any other limitations established by the 1280 board of directors, the person or body authorized pursuant to 1281 subsection (b) and, if applicable, the stockholders, the 1282 number of the rights, options, warrants, or other equity 1283 compensation awards and the terms of the rights, options, 1284 warrants, or awards to be received by the recipients, provided 1285 that an officer may not use that authority to designate himself or herself or any other persons as the board of 1286 1287 directors may specify as a recipient of rights, options,



1288	warrants, or other equity compensation awards."
1289	"\$10A-2A-6.31
1290	(a) A corporation may acquire its own stock, and,
1291	unless otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation,
1292	the stock so acquired constitutes shall constitute authorized
1293	but unissued stock-, provided, however, that:
1294	(1) the certificate of incorporation may provide that
1295	the acquired stock shall constitute authorized, issued, but
1296	<pre>not outstanding stock;</pre>
1297	(b) If the (2) the certificate of incorporation
1298	<pre>prohibits may prohibit the reissue of the acquired stock, in</pre>
1299	which case, the number of authorized shares of stock is
1300	reduced by the number of shares of stock acquired-; or
1301	(3) if the certificate of incorporation does not (i)
1302	provide that the acquired stock shall constitute authorized
1303	but unissued stock, (ii) prohibit the reissuance of the
1304	acquired stock, or (iii) provide that the acquired stock shall
1305	constitute authorized, issued, but not outstanding stock, then
1306	the board of directors may determine, at or prior to the time
1307	of the acquisition, that the acquired stock will constitute
1308	authorized, issued, but not outstanding stock.
1309	(b) If the board of directors has determined that any
1310	acquired stock was to be authorized, issued, but not
1311	outstanding in accordance with subsection (a)(3), then the
1312	board of directors may thereafter determine that the acquired
1313	stock shall be converted to stock that is authorized but not
1314	<u>issued.</u> "

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"\$10A-2A-7.04

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- (a) Unless otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation, any action required or permitted by this chapter to be taken at any meeting of the stockholders may be taken without a meeting, and without prior notice, if one or more consents in writing setting forth the action so taken are signed by the holders of outstanding stock having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be required to authorize or take the action at a meeting at which all shares of stock entitled to vote on the action were present and voted; provided, however, that if a corporation's certificate of incorporation authorizes stockholders to cumulate their votes when electing directors pursuant to Section 10A-2A-7.28, directors may not be elected by less than unanimous written consent. The action must be evidenced by one or more written consents describing the action taken, signed by the stockholders approving the action and delivered to the corporation for filing by the corporation with the minutes or corporate records.
- 1334 (b) If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-2A-7.07 1335 and if prior action by the board of directors is not required 1336 respecting the action to be taken without a meeting, the 1337 record date for determining the stockholders entitled to take 1338 action without a meeting shall be the first date on which a 1339 signed written consent signed by a stockholder is delivered to 1340 the corporation. If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-2A-7.07 and if prior action by the board of directors is 1341 required respecting the action to be taken without a meeting, 1342 1343 the record date shall be the close of business on the day the

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resolution of the board of directors taking the prior action is adopted. No written consent of the stockholders shall be effective to take the corporate action referred to therein unless, within 60 days of the earliest date on which a consent is delivered to the corporation as required by this section, written consents signed by sufficient stockholders to take the action have been delivered to the corporation. Any person executing signing a consent may provide, whether through instruction to an agent or otherwise, that such the consent will be effective at a future time, including a time determined upon the happening of an event, occurring not later than 60 days after such the instruction is given or such provision is made, if evidence of the instruction or provision is provided to the corporation.—A If a person signs a consent when that person is not a stockholder, then that person's consent shall not be valid unless that person is a stockholder as of the record date for determining stockholders entitled to consent to the action. Unless a person's written consent states that it is irrevocable, that written consent may be revoked by that person by a writing to that effect delivered to the corporation before unrevoked written consents sufficient in number to take the corporate action have been delivered to the corporation.

(c) A consent signed pursuant to this section has the effect of a vote taken at a meeting and may be described as such in any document. Unless the certificate of incorporation, bylaws or a resolution of the board of directors provides for a reasonable delay to permit tabulation of written consents,



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the action taken by written consent shall be effective when written consents signed by sufficient stockholders to take the action have been delivered to the corporation.

- (d) If this chapter requires that notice of a proposed action be given to nonvoting stockholders and the action is to be taken by written consent of the voting stockholders, the corporation shall give its nonvoting stockholders written notice of the action not more than 10 days after (i) written consents sufficient to take the action have been delivered to the corporation, or (ii) any later date that tabulation of consents is completed pursuant to an authorization under subsection (c). The notice must reasonably describe the action taken and contain or be accompanied by the same material that, under any provision of this chapter, would have been required to be sent to nonvoting stockholders in a notice of a meeting at which the proposed action would have been submitted to the stockholders for action.
- (e) If action is taken by less than unanimous written consent of the voting stockholders, the corporation shall give its nonconsenting voting stockholders written notice of the action not more than 10 days after (i) written consents sufficient to take the action have been delivered to the corporation, or (ii) any later date that tabulation of consents is completed pursuant to an authorization under subsection (c). The notice must reasonably describe the action taken and contain or be accompanied by the same material that, under any provision of this chapter, would have been required to be sent to voting stockholders in a notice of a meeting at



1400 which the action would have been submitted to the stockholders for action. 1401

> (f) The notice requirements in subsections (d) and (e) shall not delay the effectiveness of actions taken by written consent, and a failure to comply with those notice requirements shall not invalidate actions taken by written consent, provided that this subsection shall not be deemed to limit judicial power to fashion any appropriate remedy in favor of a stockholder adversely affected by a failure to give the notice within the required time period."

"\$10A-2A-7.05

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(a) A corporation shall notify stockholders of the 1412 place, if any, date, and time of each annual and special 1413 stockholders' meeting no fewer than 10 nor more than 60 days 1414 before the meeting date. If the board of directors has 1415 authorized participation by means of remote communication pursuant to Section 10A-2A-7.09 for holders of any class or 1416 1417 series of stock, the notice to the holders of that class or 1418 series of stock must describe the means of remote 1419 communication to be used. The notice must include the record 1420 date for determining the stockholders entitled to vote at the 1421 meeting, if that date is different from the record date for 1422 determining stockholders entitled to notice of the meeting. 1423 Unless this chapter or the certificate of incorporation 1424 requires otherwise, the corporation is required to give notice 1425 only to stockholders entitled to vote at the meeting as of the record date for determining the stockholders entitled to 1426 1427 notice of the meeting.

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- (b) Unless this chapter or the certificate of incorporation requires otherwise, the notice of an annual meeting of stockholders need not include a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.
- (c) Notice of a special meeting of stockholders must include a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting is called.
- (d) If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-2A-7.03 or Section 10A-2A-7.07, the record date for determining stockholders entitled to notice of and to vote at an annual or special stockholders' meeting is the earlier of (i) the date of the action by the board of directors calling the meeting of the stockholders or (ii) the day before the first notice is delivered to stockholders.
- 1442 (e) Unless the certificate of incorporation or bylaws require otherwise, if an annual or special stockholders' 1443 1444 meeting is adjourned to a different place, if any, date, or 1445 time (including an adjournment taken to address a technical 1446 failure to convene or continue a meeting using remote 1447 communication pursuant to Section 10A-2A-7.09), notice need 1448 not be given of the new place, if any, date, or time if the 1449 new place, if any, date, or time is (i) announced at the 1450 meeting before adjournment or (ii) displayed, during the time 1451 scheduled for the meeting, on the same electronic network used 1452 to enable stockholders and proxy holders to participate in the 1453 meeting by means of remote communication. If a new record date for the adjourned meeting is or must be fixed under Section 1454 1455 10A-2A-7.07, however, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be



- given under this section to stockholders entitled to vote at the adjourned meeting as of the record date fixed for notice of the adjourned meeting."
- 1459 "\$10A-2A-10.05
- 1460 Unless the certificate of incorporation provides

 1461 otherwise, a corporation's board of directors may adopt

 1462 amendments to the corporation's certificate of incorporation

 1463 without stockholder approval:
- 1464 (a) to extend the duration of the corporation if it was

 1465 incorporated at a time when limited duration was required by

 1466 law;
- 1467 (b) to delete the names and addresses of the 1468 incorporators or initial directors;
- 1469 (c) to delete the name and address of the initial 1470 registered agent or registered office, if a statement of 1471 change is on file with the Secretary of State;
- 1472 (d) if the corporation has only one class of stock 1473 outstanding:
- 1474 (1) to change each issued and unissued authorized share
 1475 of stock of the class into a greater number of whole shares of
 1476 stock of that class; or
- 1477 (2) to increase the number of authorized shares of 1478 stock of the class to the extent necessary to permit the 1479 issuance of stock as a stock dividend;
- 1480 (e) to change the corporate name, provided that the
 1481 name complies with Article 5 of Chapter 1;
- 1482 (f) to reflect a reduction in authorized stock, as a result of the operation of Section $\frac{10\lambda-2\lambda-6.31}{(b)}$



- 10A-2A-6.31(a)(2), when the corporation has acquired its own stock and the certificate of incorporation prohibits the reissue of the acquired stock;
- 1487 (q) to delete a class of stock from the certificate of 1488 incorporation, as a result of the operation of Section 1489 $\frac{10A-2A-6.31}{(b)}$ 10A-2A-6.31(a)(2), when there is no remaining stock of the class because the corporation has acquired all stock of the class and the certificate of incorporation 1492 prohibits the reissue of the acquired stock; or
- (h) to take actions expressly permitted by Section 1493 1494 10A-2A-6.02 to be made without stockholder approval."
- "\$10A-2A-10.07 1495

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- 1496 (a) A corporation's board of directors may restate its 1497 certificate of incorporation at any time, without stockholder 1498 approval, to consolidate all amendments into a single document. The restated certificate of incorporation may amend 1499 1500 the certificate of incorporation with those amendments that 1501 the board of directors is permitted to adopt without 1502 stockholder approval in accordance with Sections 10A-2A-10.02 1503 and 10A-2A-10.05. The restated certificate of incorporation 1504 may also amend the certificate of incorporation with those 1505 amendments that the stockholders must approve in accordance 1506 with Section 10A-2A-10.03.
 - (b) If the restated certificate of incorporation includes one or more new amendments that require stockholder approval, the amendments shall be adopted and approved as provided in Section 10A-2A-10.03.
 - (c) A corporation that restates its certificate of



- incorporation shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a certificate of restatement setting forth:
 - (1) the name of the corporation;
- 1515 (2) the text of the restated certificate of 1516 incorporation;
- 1517 (3) a statement that the restated certificate of 1518 incorporation consolidates all amendments into a single 1519 document;
- 1520 (4) if a new amendment is included in the restated 1521 certificate of incorporation, the statements required under 1522 Section 10A-2A-10.06 with respect to the new amendment; and
 - (5) the unique identifying number or other designation as assigned by the Secretary of State.
- 1525 (d) The duly adopted restated certificate of
 1526 incorporation supersedes the original certificate of
 1527 incorporation and all amendments to the certificate of
 1528 incorporation.
- (e) A restated certificate of incorporation may omit
 the information that may be deleted pursuant to Section

 1531 10A-2A-10.05."
- 1532 "\$10A-2A-10.08

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1533 (a) A corporation's certificate of incorporation may be
1534 amended without action by the board of directors or
1535 stockholders to carry out a plan of reorganization ordered or
1536 decreed by a court of competent jurisdiction under the
1537 authority of a law of the United States if the certificate of
1538 incorporation after the amendment only contains provisions
1539 required or permitted by Section 10A-2A-2.02.



- 1540 (b) The individual or individuals designated by the 1541 court shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a 1542 certificate of amendment setting forth: 1543
 - (1) the name of the corporation;
 - (2) the text of each amendment approved by the court;
- 1545 (3) the date of the court's order or decree approving 1546 the certificate of amendment;
- 1547 (4) the title of the reorganization proceeding in which 1548 the order or decree was entered;
- (5) a statement that the court had jurisdiction of the 1549 1550 proceeding under federal statute; and
- 1551 (6) the unique identifying number or other designation 1552 as assigned by the Secretary of State.
 - (c) Stockholders of a corporation undergoing reorganization do not have dissenters! appraisal rights except as and to the extent provided in the reorganization plan.
- 1556 (d) This section does not apply after entry of a final 1557 decree in the reorganization proceeding even though the court 1558 retains jurisdiction of the proceeding for limited purposes 1559 unrelated to consummation of the reorganization plan."
- 1560 "\$10A-2A-12.01

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- 1561 (a) No approval of the stockholders is required, unless 1562 the certificate of incorporation otherwise provides:
- 1563 (a) (1) to sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose 1564 of any or all of the corporation's assets in the usual and regular course of business; 1565
- (b) (2) to mortgage, pledge, dedicate to the repayment 1566 1567 of indebtedness (whether with or without recourse), or



1568 otherwise encumber any or all of the corporation's assets, 1569 regardless of whether in the usual and regular course of 1570 business; 1571 (c) (3) to transfer any or all of the corporation's 1572 assets to one or more corporations, foreign corporations, or 1573 other entities all of the stock or interests of which are owned by the corporation; or 1574 1575 (d) (4) to distribute assets pro rata to the holders of one or more classes or series of the corporation's stock. 1576 1577 (b) Without limiting the rights of a secured party 1578 under applicable law, no approval by stockholders shall be required by Section 10A-2A-12.02 for a sale, lease, exchange, 1579 1580 or other disposition of any of the corporation's assets if those assets are mortgaged, pledged, dedicated to the 1581 1582 repayment of indebtedness, or otherwise encumbered for the benefit of a secured party or other creditor and either: 1583 1584 (1) The secured party or other creditor exercises its 1585 rights under the law governing the mortgage, pledge,

dedication, or encumbrance, or other applicable law, whether under the Uniform Commercial Code, a real property law, or other law, to effect the sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of those assets without the consent of the corporation; or

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(2) In lieu of the secured party or other creditor exercising such rights, the board of directors of the corporation authorizes an alternative sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of those assets, whether with the secured party or other creditor, that results in the reduction or



1596	elimination of the total liabilities or obligations secured by
1597	those assets, provided that (i) the value of those assets is
1598	less than or equal to the total amount of the liabilities or
1599	obligations being eliminated or reduced and (ii) the sale,
1600	lease, exchange, or other disposition of those assets is not
1601	prohibited by the law governing the mortgage, pledge,
1602	dedication, or encumbrance. The provision of consideration to
1603	the corporation or to its stockholders shall not create a
1604	presumption that the value of the assets is greater than the
1605	total amount of the liabilities or obligations being
1606	eliminated or reduced.
1607	(c) A failure to satisfy the condition in subsection
1608	(b)(2)(i) shall not result in the invalidation of a sale,
1609	lease, exchange, or other disposition of the corporation's
1610	assets if the transferee of those assets (i) provided value
1611	therefor (which may include the reduction or elimination of
1612	the total liabilities or obligations secured by those assets)
1613	and (ii) acted in good faith (as defined in Section
1614	7-1-201(b)). The preceding sentence shall not apply to a
1615	proceeding against the corporation and any other necessary
1616	parties to enjoin the sale, lease, exchange, or other
1617	disposition of the corporation's assets before the
1618	consummation thereof and shall not eliminate any liability for
1619	monetary damages for any claim, including a claim in the right
1620	of the corporation, based upon a violation of a duty by a
1621	current or former director or officer, or other person.
1622	(d) A provision of the certificate of incorporation
1623	that requires the authorization or consent of stockholders for



- 1624 a sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of the 1625 corporation's assets shall not apply to a transaction 1626 permitted by subsection (b) unless that provision expressly so 1627 requires."
- 1628 "\$10A-2A-13.02

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- (a) A stockholder is entitled to appraisal rights, and to obtain payment of the fair value of that stockholder's stock, in the event of any of the following corporate actions:
- 1632 (1) consummation of a merger to which the corporation 1633 is a party (i) if the corporation is a subsidiary and the merger is governed by Section 10A-2A-11.05 or (ii) if stockholder approval is required for the merger by Section 1636 10A-2A-11.04, or would be required but for the provisions of 1637 Section 10A-2A-11.04(j), except that appraisal rights shall 1638 not be available to any stockholder of the corporation with respect to stock of any class or series that remain 1639 1640 outstanding after consummation of the merger;
 - (2) consummation of a stock exchange to which the corporation is a party the stock of which will be acquired, except that appraisal rights shall not be available to any stockholder of the corporation with respect to any class or series of stock of the corporation that is not acquired in the stock exchange;
- 1647 (3) consummation of a disposition of assets pursuant to 1648 Section 10A-2A-12.02 if the stockholder is entitled to vote on 1649 the disposition, except that appraisal rights shall not be available to any stockholder of the corporation with respect 1650 1651 to stock of any class or series if (i) (A) under the terms of



the corporate action approved by the stockholders there is to
be distributed to stockholders in cash the corporation's net
assets, in excess of a reasonable amount reserved to meet
claims of the type described in Section 10A-2A-14.06 and
Section 10A-2A-14.07, $\frac{(A)}{(I)}$ within one year after the
stockholders' approval of the action and (B)(II) in accordance
with their respective interests determined at the time of
distribution, and $\frac{\text{(ii)}}{\text{(B)}}$ the disposition of assets is not an
interested transaction, or (ii) the certificate of
incorporation states that no stockholder shall be entitled to
appraisal rights with respect to the consummation of a
disposition of assets pursuant to Section 10A-2A-12.02;

- (4) an amendment of the certificate of incorporation with respect to a class or series of stock that reduces the number of stock of a class or series owned by the stockholder to a fraction of a stock if the corporation has the obligation or right to repurchase the fractional stock so created;
- (5) any other merger, stock exchange, disposition of assets or amendment to the certificate of incorporation, in each case to the extent provided by the certificate of incorporation, bylaws or a resolution of the board of directors;
- (6) consummation of a conversion of a corporation to a foreign corporation pursuant to Article 9 of this chapter or Article 8 of Chapter 1 if the stockholder does not receive stock in the foreign corporation resulting from the conversion that has terms as favorable to the stockholder in all material respects, and represents at least the same percentage interest



- of the total voting rights of the outstanding stock of the foreign corporation, as the stock held by the stockholder before the conversion;
- 1683 (7) consummation of a conversion of a corporation to a

 1684 nonprofit corporation pursuant to Article 9 of this chapter—of

 1685 or Article 8 of Chapter 1; or
- 1686 (8) consummation of a conversion of the corporation to
 1687 an unincorporated entity pursuant to Article 9 of this chapter
 1688 or Article 8 of Chapter 1.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (a), the availability of appraisal rights under subsections (a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (6), and (8) shall be limited in accordance with the following provisions:
- 1693 (1) Appraisal rights shall not be available for the 1694 holders of stock of any class or series of stock which is:

- 1695 (i) a covered security under Section 18(b)(1)(A) or (B)
 1696 of the Securities Act of 1933;
 - (ii) has at least 2,000 record stockholders; or
- (iii) issued by an open end management investment

 company registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission

 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 and which may be

 redeemed at the option of the holder at net asset value.
- 1702 (2) The applicability of subsection (b) (1) shall be 1703 determined as of:
- (i) the record date fixed to determine the stockholders

 entitled to receive notice of the meeting of stockholders to

 act upon the corporate action requiring appraisal rights or,

 in the case of an offer made pursuant to Section



10A-2A-11.04(j), the date of the offer; or

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- (ii) if there is no meeting of stockholders and no offer made pursuant to Section 10A-2A-11.04(j), the day before the consummation of the corporate action or effective date of the amendment of the certificate of incorporation, as applicable.
- 1714 (3) Subsection (b) (1) shall not be applicable and 1715 appraisal rights shall be available pursuant to subsection (a) 1716 for the holders of any class or series of stock (i) who are 1717 required by the terms of the corporate action requiring 1718 appraisal rights to accept for their stock anything other than cash or stock of any class or any series of stock of any 1719 1720 corporation, or any other proprietary interest of any other 1721 entity, that satisfies the standards set forth in subsection 1722 (b) (1) at the time the corporate action becomes effective, $-\infty$ (ii) in the case of the consummation of a disposition of 1723 assets pursuant to Section 10A-2A-12.02, unless the cash, 1724 1725 stock, or proprietary interests received in the disposition 1726 are, under the terms of the corporate action approved by the 1727 stockholders, to be distributed to the stockholders, as part 1728 of a distribution to stockholders of the net assets of the 1729 corporation in excess of a reasonable amount to meet claims of 1730 the type described in Sections 10A-2A-14.06 and 10A-2A-14.07, 1731 (A) within one year after the stockholders' approval of the 1732 action, and (B) in accordance with their respective interests 1733 determined at the time of the distribution, or (iii) in the case of the consummation of a disposition of assets pursuant 1734 1735 to Section 10A-2A-12.02, unless the certificate of



- incorporation states that no stockholder shall be entitled to
 appraisal rights with respect to the consummation of a
 disposition of assets pursuant to Section 10A-2A-12.02.
- 1739 (4) Subsection (b) (1) shall not be applicable and
 1740 appraisal rights shall be available pursuant to subsection (a)
 1741 for the holders of any class or series of stock where the
 1742 corporate action is an interested transaction.
- 1743 (c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 1744 10A-2A-13.02, the certificate of incorporation as originally 1745 filed or any amendment to the certificate of incorporation may 1746 limit or eliminate appraisal rights for any class or series of preferred stock, except that (i) no limitation or elimination 1747 shall be effective if the class or series does not have the 1748 1749 right to vote separately as a voting group (alone or as part 1750 of a group) on the action or if the action is a conversion or merger in which the converted organization or the surviving 1751 1752 organization is not a corporation or foreign corporation, and 1753 (ii) any limitation or elimination contained in an amendment 1754 to the certificate of incorporation that limits or eliminates 1755 appraisal rights for any stock that is outstanding immediately 1756 before the effective date of the amendment or that the 1757 corporation is or may be required to issue or sell thereafter 1758 pursuant to any conversion, exchange, or other right existing 1759 immediately before the effective date of the amendment shall 1760 not apply to any corporate action that becomes effective within one year after the effective date of the amendment if 1761 1762 that action would otherwise afford appraisal rights."

1763 "\$10A-2A-14.05



- (a) A dissolved corporation continues its existence as 1764 1765 a corporation but may not carry on any business except as is 1766 appropriate to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs, 1767 including: 1768 (1) collecting its assets; (2) disposing of its properties that will not be 1769 1770 distributed in kind to stockholders; 1771 (3) discharging or making provisions for discharging 1772 its liabilities; 1773 (4) distributing its remaining property among its 1774 stockholders according to their interests; and (5) doing every other act necessary to wind up and 1775 1776 liquidate its business and affairs. 1777 (b) In winding up its business and affairs, a 1778 corporation may: (1) preserve the corporation's business and affairs and 1779 property as a going concern for a reasonable time; 1780 1781 (2) prosecute, defend, or settle actions or proceedings 1782 whether civil, criminal, or administrative; 1783 (3) transfer the corporation's assets; 1784 (4) resolve disputes by mediation or arbitration; 1785 (5) merge or convert in accordance with Article 9 or 11 1786 of this chapter or Article 8 of Chapter 1; and 1787 (6) enter into a stock exchange in accordance with 1788 Article 11 of this chapter. 1789 (c) Dissolution of a corporation does not:
 - (2) prevent transfer of its stock or securities;

(1) transfer title to the corporation's property;

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- 1792 (3) subject its directors or officers to standards of
 1793 conduct different from those prescribed in Article 8 of this
 1794 chapter;
- 1795 (4) change (i) quorum or voting requirements for its 1796 board of directors or stockholders;
- 1797 (ii) provisions for selection, resignation, or removal
 1798 of its directors or officers or both; or
 - (iii) provisions for amending its bylaws;
- 1800 (5) prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against 1801 the corporation in its corporate name;
- 1802 (6) abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against 1803 the corporation on the effective date of dissolution; or
- 1804 (7) terminate the authority of the registered agent of the corporation.
- 1806 (d) A distribution in liquidation under this section may only be made by a dissolved corporation. For purposes of 1807 determining the stockholders entitled to receive a 1808 1809 distribution in liquidation, the board of directors may fix a 1810 record date for determining stockholders entitled to a 1811 distribution in liquidation, which date may not be 1812 retroactive. If the board of directors does not fix a record date for determining stockholders entitled to a distribution 1813 in liquidation, the record date is the date the board of 1814 1815 directors authorizes the distribution in liquidation."

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As used in this chapter, unless otherwise specified or unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms have the following meanings:



- 1820 (1) CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION means the certificate 1821 of incorporation described in Section 10A-3A-2.02, all 1822 amendments to the certificate of incorporation, and any other 1823 documents permitted or required to be delivered for filing by 1824 a nonprofit corporation with the Secretary of State under this 1825 chapter or Chapter 1 that modify, amend, supplement, restate, 1826 or replace the certificate of incorporation. After an 1827 amendment of the certificate of incorporation or any other 1828 document filed the filing of a filing instrument under this chapter or Chapter 1 that restates or amends and restates the 1829 1830 certificate of incorporation in its entirety, the certificate 1831 of incorporation shall not include any prior documents, but 1832 the original date of incorporation shall remain unchanged. 1833 When used with respect to a nonprofit corporation incorporated 1834 and existing on December 31, 2023, under a predecessor law of this state, the term "certificate of incorporation" means 1835 1836 articles of incorporation, charter, or similar incorporating 1837 document, and all amendments and restatements to the articles 1838 of incorporation, charter, or similar incorporating document. 1839 When used with respect to a foreign nonprofit corporation, a 1840 business corporation, or a foreign business corporation, the 1841 "certificate of incorporation" of that entity means the 1842 document of that entity that is equivalent to the certificate 1843 of incorporation of a corporation. The term "certificate of incorporation" as used in this chapter is synonymous to the 1844 term certificate of formation used in Chapter 1. 1845
 - (2) BOARD or BOARD OF DIRECTORS means the group of individuals responsible for the management or direction, and

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- 1848 oversight, of the activities and affairs of the nonprofit 1849 corporation, regardless of the name used to refer to the group 1850 or other persons authorized to perform the functions of the 1851 board of directors.
- (3) BUSINESS CORPORATION, except in the phrase foreign 1853 business corporation, means an entity incorporated or existing under the Alabama Business Corporation Law.
- 1855 (4) BYLAWS means the code or codes of rules (other than 1856 the certificate of incorporation) adopted for the regulation or management of the affairs of the nonprofit corporation, 1857 1858 regardless of the name or names by which the rules are 1859 designated.
- 1860 (5) DELIVER or DELIVERY means any method of delivery 1861 used in conventional commercial practice, including delivery 1862 by hand, mail, commercial delivery, and, if authorized in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.03, by electronic 1863 1864 transmission.
- 1865 (6) DIRECTOR means an individual designated, elected, or appointed, by that or any other name or title, to act as a 1866 1867 member of the board of directors, while the individual is 1868 holding that position.
- 1869 (7) DISTRIBUTION means a direct or indirect transfer of 1870 cash or other property from a nonprofit corporation to a 1871 member, director, or officer of that nonprofit corporation in 1872 that person's capacity as a member, director, or officer, but 1873 does not mean payments or benefits made in accordance with Section 10A-3A-6.41. 1874
 - (8) DOCUMENT means a writing as defined in Chapter 1.

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- (9) EFFECTIVE DATE when referring to a document accepted for filing by the Secretary of State, means the time and date determined in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 1.
- (10) ELECTRONIC MAIL means an electronic transmission directed to a unique electronic mail address.
- (11) ELECTRONIC MAIL ADDRESS means a destination,

 commonly expressed as a string of characters, consisting of a

 unique user name or mailbox (commonly referred to as the

 "local part" of the address) and a reference to an internet

 domain (commonly referred to as the "domain part" of the

 address), whether or not displayed, to which electronic mail

 can be sent or delivered.
- 1888 (12) EMPLOYEE does not include an individual serving as
 1889 an officer or director who is not otherwise employed by the
 1890 nonprofit corporation.
- 1891 (13) ENTITLED TO VOTE means entitled to vote on the
 1892 matter under consideration pursuant to the certificate of
 1893 incorporation or bylaws of the nonprofit corporation, or
 1894 applicable provisions of this chapter or Chapter 1.
- 1895 (14) ENTITY includes nonprofit corporation; foreign
 1896 nonprofit corporation; business corporation; foreign business
 1897 corporation; estate; trust; unincorporated entity; foreign
 1898 unincorporated entity; and state, United States, and foreign
 1899 government.
- 1900 (15) EXPENSES means reasonable expenses of any kind 1901 that are incurred in connection with a matter.
 - (16) FOREIGN BUSINESS CORPORATION means a business corporation incorporated under a law other than the law of



- this state which would be a business corporation if incorporated under the law of this state.
- 1906 (17) FOREIGN NONPROFIT CORPORATION means a nonprofit
 1907 corporation incorporated under a law other than the law of
 1908 this state which would be a nonprofit corporation if
 1909 incorporated under the law of this state.
- 1910 (18) FOREIGN UNINCORPORATED ENTITY means an

 1911 unincorporated entity whose internal affairs are governed by

 1912 the law of a jurisdiction other than this state.
- 1913 (19) FUNDAMENTAL TRANSACTION means an amendment of the
 1914 certificate of incorporation, an amendment to the bylaws, a
 1915 merger, a conversion, a sale of all or substantially all of
 1916 the assets, or the dissolution of a nonprofit corporation.
- 1917 (20) GOVERNING STATUTE means the statute governing the

 1918 internal affairs of a nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit

 1919 corporation, business corporation, foreign business

 1920 corporation, unincorporated entity, or foreign unincorporated

 1921 entity.
- 1922 (21) INCLUDES and INCLUDING denote a partial definition 1923 or a nonexclusive list.
- 1924 (22) INTEREST means:
- 1925 (a) a share;

- (b) a membership or membership interests; or
- 1927 (c) either or both of the following rights under the
 1928 governing statute governing an organization other than a
 1929 nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit corporation, business
 1930 corporation, or foreign business corporation:
- 1931 (i) the right to receive distributions from that



- 1932 organization either in the ordinary course or upon
- 1933 liquidation; or
- 1934 (ii) the right to receive notice or vote on issues
- 1935 involving that organization's internal affairs, other than as
- 1936 an agent, assignee, proxy, or person responsible for managing
- 1937 that organization's business and affairs.
- 1938 (23) INTEREST HOLDER means a person who holds of record
- 1939 an interest.
- 1940 (24) KNOWLEDGE is determined as follows:
- 1941 (a) A person knows a fact when the person:
- 1942 (1) has actual knowledge of it; or
- 1943 (2) is deemed to know it under law other than this
- 1944 chapter.
- 1945 (b) A person has notice of a fact when the person:
- 1946 (1) knows of it;
- 1947 (2) receives notification of it in accordance with
- 1948 Section 10A-3A-1.03;
- 1949 (3) has reason to know the fact from all of the facts
- 1950 known to the person at the time in question; or
- 1951 (4) is deemed to have notice of the fact under
- 1952 subsection (d).
- 1953 (c) A person notifies another of a fact by taking steps
- 1954 reasonably required to inform the other person in ordinary
- 1955 course in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.03, whether or not
- 1956 the other person knows the fact.
- 1957 (d) A person is deemed to have notice of a nonprofit
- 1958 corporation's:
- 1959 (1) matters included in the certificate of



- 1960 incorporation upon filing;
- 1961 (2) dissolution, 90 days after a certificate of 1962 dissolution under Section 10A-3A-11.05 becomes effective;
- 1963 (3) conversion or merger under Article 13 or Article 1964 12, 90 days after a statement of conversion or statement of 1965 merger becomes effective;
- 1966 (4) conversion or merger under Article 8 of Chapter 1,
 1967 90 days after a statement of conversion or statement of merger
 1968 becomes effective; and
- 1969 (5) revocation of dissolution and reinstatement, 90
 1970 days after certificate of revocation of dissolution and
 1971 reinstatement under Section 10A-3A-11.06 becomes effective.
- (e) A member's knowledge, notice, or receipt of a notification of a fact relating to the nonprofit corporation is not knowledge, notice, or receipt of a notification of a fact by that nonprofit corporation solely by reason of the member's capacity as a member.
- 1977 (f) The date and time of the effectiveness of a notice 1978 delivered in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.03, is 1979 determined by Section 10A-3A-1.03.
- 1980 (25) MEANS denotes an exhaustive definition.
- 1981 (26) MEMBER means a person in whose name a membership
 1982 is registered on the records of the membership nonprofit
 1983 corporation and who has the right to (i) select or vote for
 1984 the election of directors or (ii) vote on any type of
 1985 fundamental transaction.
- 1986 (27) MEMBERSHIP or MEMBERSHIP INTERESTS means the 1987 rights and any obligations of a member in a membership



- 1988 nonprofit corporation or a foreign membership nonprofit
 1989 corporation.
- 1990 (28) MEMBERSHIP NONPROFIT CORPORATION means, except as
 1991 provided in Section 10A-3A-14.01(c)(1), a nonprofit
 1992 corporation whose certificate of incorporation provides that
 1993 it will have members.
- 1994 (29) NONMEMBERSHIP NONPROFIT CORPORATION means a
 1995 nonprofit corporation whose certificate of incorporation
 1996 provides that it will not have members.
- 1997 (30) NONPROFIT CORPORATION, except in the phrase
 1998 foreign nonprofit corporation, means a nonprofit corporation
 1999 incorporated under or existing under this chapter.
- 2000 (31) ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS means the public organic 2001 record and private organizational documents of a nonprofit 2002 corporation, foreign nonprofit corporation, business 2003 corporation, foreign business corporation, or other 2004 organization.
- 2005 (32) PRINCIPAL OFFICE means the office (in or out of 2006 this state) where the principal executive offices of a 2007 nonprofit corporation or foreign nonprofit corporation are 2008 located.
- 2010 (33) PRIVATE ORGANIZATIONAL DOCUMENTS means (i) the
 2010 bylaws of a nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit
 2011 corporation, business corporation, or foreign business
 2012 corporation or (ii) the rules, regardless of whether in
 2013 writing, that govern the internal affairs of an unincorporated
 2014 entity or foreign unincorporated entity, are binding on all
 2015 its interest holders, and are not part of its public organic

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- record, if any. Where private organizational documents have been amended or restated, the term means the private organizational documents as last amended or restated.
- (34) PROCEEDING includes any civil suit and criminal, administrative, and investigatory action.
- 2021 (35) PUBLIC ORGANIC RECORD means (i) the certificate of 2022 incorporation of a nonprofit corporation, foreign nonprofit 2023 corporation, business corporation, or foreign business 2024 corporation, or (ii) the document, if any, the filing of which 2025 is required to create an unincorporated entity or foreign 2026 unincorporated entity, or which creates the unincorporated 2027 entity or foreign unincorporated entity and is required to be 2028 filed. Where a public organic record has been amended or 2029 restated, the term means the public organic record as last 2030 amended or restated.
- 2031 (36) RECORD DATE means the date fixed for determining
 2032 the identity of the nonprofit corporation's members and their
 2033 interests for purposes of this chapter. Unless another time is
 2034 specified when the record date is fixed, the determination
 2035 shall be made as of the close of business at the principal
 2036 office of the nonprofit corporation on the date so fixed.
- 2037 (37) SECRETARY means the corporate officer to whom the
 2038 certificate of incorporation, bylaws, or board of directors
 2039 has delegated responsibility under Section 10A-3A-8.40(c) to
 2040 maintain the minutes of the meetings of the board of
 2041 directors, committees, and the members, and for authenticating
 2042 records of the nonprofit corporation.
 - (38) SHARES means the units into which the proprietary



- 2044 interests in a domestic or foreign business corporation are divided.
- 2046 (39) TYPE OF ENTITY means a generic form of entity: (i)
 2047 recognized at common law; or (ii) formed under a governing
 2048 statute, regardless of whether some entities formed under that
 2049 law are subject to provisions of that law that create
 2050 different categories of the form of entity.
- 2051 (40) UNINCORPORATED ENTITY means an organization or 2052 artificial legal person that either has a separate legal existence or has the power to acquire an estate in real 2053 2054 property in its own name and that is not any of the following: 2055 a corporation, foreign corporation, nonprofit corporation, 2056 foreign nonprofit corporation, a series of a limited liability 2057 company or of another type of entity, an estate, a trust, a 2058 state, United States, or foreign government. The term includes a general partnership, limited liability company, limited 2059 2060 partnership, business trust, joint stock association, and 2061 unincorporated nonprofit association.
 - (41) UNITED STATES includes a district, authority, bureau, commission, department, and any other agency of the United States.

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- 2065 (42) VOTE, VOTING, or CASTING A VOTE includes the
 2066 giving of consent in writing without a meeting. The term does
 2067 not include either recording the fact of abstention or failing
 2068 to vote for a candidate or for approval or disapproval of a
 2069 matter, whether or not the person entitled to vote
 2070 characterizes that conduct as voting or casting a vote.
- 2071 (43) VOTING GROUP means one or more classes of members



that under the certificate of incorporation, bylaws, or this
chapter are entitled to vote and be counted together
collectively on a matter at a meeting of members. All members
entitled by the certificate of incorporation, bylaws, or this
chapter to vote generally on the matter are for that purpose a
single voting group.

(44) VOTING POWER means the current power to vote in the election of directors, or to vote on approval of any type of fundamental transaction.

"\$10A-3A-1.23

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- (a) The quorum and voting requirements applicable to a ratifying action by the board of directors under Section 10A-3A-1.22(a) shall be the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the corporate action proposed to be ratified at the time the ratifying action is taken.
- (b) If the ratification of the defective corporate 2087 2088 action requires approval by the members under Section 2089 10A-3A-1.22(c), and if the approval is to be given at a 2090 meeting, the membership nonprofit corporation shall notify 2091 each holder of valid and putative membership interests, 2092 regardless of whether entitled to vote, as of the record date 2093 for notice of the meeting and as of (i) the date of the action 2094 by the board of directors under Section 10A-3A-1.22(a) which 2095 shall be the record date and (ii) the date of the occurrence 2096 of the defective corporate action, provided that notice shall 2097 not be required to be given to holders of valid or putative membership interests whose identities or addresses for notice 2098 2099 cannot be determined from the records of the membership



2100 nonprofit corporation. The notice must state that the purpose, 2101 or one of the purposes, of the meeting, is to consider 2102 ratification of a defective corporate action and must be 2103 accompanied by (i) either a copy of the action taken by the 2104 board of directors in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.22(a) 2105 or the information required by Section 10A-3A-1.22(a)(1) 2106 through (a)(4), and (ii) a statement that any claim that the 2107 ratification of the defective corporate action and any 2108 putative membership interest issued as a result of the 2109 defective corporate action should not be effective, or should 2110 be effective only on certain conditions, shall be brought within 120 days from the applicable validation effective time. 2111

(c) Except as provided in subsection (d) with respect to the voting requirements to ratify the election of a director, the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the approval by the members, if any, and if none, by the directors shall be the quorum and voting requirements applicable to the corporate action proposed to be ratified at the time of the member or director approval.

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- (d) The approval by members to ratify the election of a director requires that the votes cast within the voting group favoring the ratification exceed the votes cast opposing the ratification of the election at a meeting at which a quorum is present.
- (e) Putative membership—<u>interest_interests</u> on the record date—<u>for determining the members entitled to vote on any matter submitted to members under Section 10A-3A-1.22(c)</u> of the action by the board of directors under Section



- 2128 <u>10A-3A-1.22(a)</u> (and without giving effect to any ratification 2129 of putative membership interests that becomes effective as a 2130 result of the vote) shall neither be entitled to vote nor 2131 counted for quorum purposes in any vote to approve the 2132 ratification of any defective corporate action.
- 2133 (f) If the approval under this section of putative 2134 membership interests would result in an overissue, in addition 2135 to the approval required by Section 10A-3A-1.22, approval of an amendment to the certificate of incorporation under Article 2136 2137 9 to increase the number of membership interests of an 2138 authorized class or to authorize the creation of a class of membership interests so there would be no overissue shall also 2139 2140 be required.
- 2141 (g) If the ratification of the defective corporate 2142 action requires approval by a person or group of persons specified in the certificate of incorporation, the directors 2143 2144 shall provide that person or group of persons with (i) either 2145 a copy of the action taken by the board of directors in 2146 accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.22(a) or the information 2147 required by Section 10A-3A-1.22(a)(1) through (a)(4), and (ii) 2148 a statement that any claim that the ratification of the 2149 defective corporate action and any putative membership interest issued as a result of the defective corporate action 2150 2151 should not be effective, or should be effective only on 2152 certain conditions, shall be brought within 120 days from the 2153 applicable validation effective time.
- 2154 "\$10A-3A-1.26
- 2155 (a) If the defective corporate action ratified under



this Division B of Article 1 would have required under any 2156 2157 other section of this chapter a filing in accordance with this 2158 chapter, then, regardless of whether a filing was previously 2159 made in respect of the defective corporate action and 2160 instrument to be delivered to a filing officer for filing and 2161 either (i) the filing instrument requires any change to give 2162 effect to the defective corporate action in accordance with 2163 Division B of Article 1 (including any change to the date and 2164 time of the effectiveness of the filing instrument) or (ii) a 2165 filing instrument under any other section of this chapter was 2166 not previously delivered to a filing officer for filing in 2167 respect of the defective corporate action, then, in lieu of a 2168 filing instrument otherwise required by this chapter, the nonprofit corporation shall file deliver a certificate of 2169 2170 validation to the appropriate filing officer for filing in accordance with this section, and that certificate of 2171 2172 validation shall serve to amend or substitute for any other 2173 filing instrument with respect to the defective corporate 2174 action required by this chapter.

- (b) The certificate of validation must set forth:
- (1) the name of the nonprofit corporation;

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2177 (2) the unique identifying number or other designation 2178 as assigned by the Secretary of State;

2179 (3) the defective corporate action that is the subject
2180 of the certificate of validation (including, in the case of
2181 any defective corporate action involving the issuance of
2182 putative membership interests, the number and type of shares
2183 of putative membership interests issued and the date or dates



2184	upon which that putative membership interest was purported to
2185	have been issued);
2186	(4) the date of the defective corporate action;
2187	(5) the nature of the failure of authorization in
2188	respect of the defective corporate action;
2189	$\frac{(6)}{(3)}$ a statement that the defective corporate action
2190	was ratified in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.22, including
2191	the date on which the board of directors ratified that
2192	defective corporate action, and if applicable, the date on
2193	which the members approved the ratification of that defective
2194	corporate action, and the date on which the person or group of
2195	persons specified in the certificate of incorporation approved
2196	the ratification of that defective corporate action; and
2197	$\frac{(7)}{(4)}$ the information required by subsection (c).
2198	(c) The certificate of validation must also contain the
2199	following information:
2200	(1) if a filing was previously made in respect of the
2201	defective corporate action and no changes to that filing are
2202	required to give effect to the ratification of that defective
2203	corporate action in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.22, the
2204	certificate of validation must set forth (i) the name, title,
2205	and filing date of the filing previously made and any
2206	certificate of correction to that filing, and (ii) a statement
2207	that a copy of the filing previously made, together with any
2208	certificate of correction to that filing, is attached as an
2209	exhibit to the certificate of validation;
2210	(2)(1) if a filing instrument was previously made

delivered to a filing officer for filing in respect of the



2212 defective corporate action and that filing instrument requires 2213 any change to give effect to the ratification of that 2214 defective corporate action in accordance with Section 10A-3A-1.22, the certificate of validation must set forth (i) 2215 2216 the name, title, and filing date of the filing instrument 2217 previously made delivered to a filing officer for filing and 2218 any certificate of correction to that filing instrument, and 2219 (ii) a statement that a filing instrument containing all of 2220 the information required to be included under the applicable 2221 section or sections of this chapter to give effect to that 2222 defective corporate action is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, and (iii) the date and time that 2223 2224 filing instrument is deemed to have become effective; or (3) (2) if a filing instrument was not previously made 2225 2226 delivered to a filing officer for filing in respect of the defective corporate action and the defective corporate action 2227 2228 ratified under Section 10A-3A-1.22 would have required a 2229 filing instrument under any other section of this chapter, the 2230 certificate of validation must set forth (i) a statement that 2231 a filing instrument containing all of the information required 2232 to be included under the applicable section or sections of 2233 this chapter to give effect to that defective corporate action 2234 is attached as an exhibit to the certificate of validation, 2235 and (ii) the date and time that filing instrument is deemed to 2236 have become effective." 2237 "\$10A-3A-2.02 Section 10A-1-3.05 shall not apply to this chapter. 2238 2239 Instead:

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- 2240 (a) The certificate of incorporation must set forth: 2241 (1) a name for the nonprofit corporation that satisfies 2242 the requirements of Article 5 of Chapter 1; 2243 (2) the street and mailing address of the nonprofit 2244 corporation's initial registered office, the county within 2245 this state in which the street and mailing address is located, 2246 and the name of the nonprofit corporation's initial registered 2247 agent at that office as required by Article 5 of Chapter 1; 2248 (3) that the nonprofit corporation is incorporated 2249 under this chapter; 2250 (4) the name and address of each incorporator; and (5) (i) if the nonprofit corporation will have members, 2251 2252 a statement to that effect; or 2253 (ii) if the nonprofit corporation will not have 2254 members, a statement to that effect. (b) The certificate of incorporation may set forth: 2255 2256 (1) the names and addresses of the individuals who are 2257 to serve as the initial directors; 2258 (2) provisions not inconsistent with law regarding: 2259 (i) the purpose or purposes for which the nonprofit
- 2260 corporation is organized;
- 2261 (ii) managing the activities and regulating the affairs 2262 of the nonprofit corporation;
- 2263 (iii) defining, limiting, and regulating the powers of 2264 the nonprofit corporation, its board of directors, and the 2265 members;
- (iv) the characteristics, qualifications, rights, 2266 2267 limitations, and obligations attaching to each or any class of



2268	members;
2269	(v) subject to Section 10A-3A-4.20, limiting a member's
2270	right to inspect and copy the records of the nonprofit
2271	corporation under Section 10A-3A-4.02(b);
2272	(vi) the distribution of assets on dissolution;
2273	(vii) provisions for the election, appointment, or
2274	designation of directors;
2275	(viii) provisions granting inspection rights to a
2276	person or group of persons under Section 10A-3A-4.07; and
2277	(ix) provisions specifying a person or group of persons
2278	whose approval is required under Sections 10A-3A-9.30,
2279	10A-3A-10.04, 10A-3A-11.04, 10A-3A-12.08, or 10A-3A-13.08;
2280	(3) any provision that under this chapter is permitted
2281	to be set forth in the certificate of incorporation or
2282	required or permitted to be set forth in the bylaws;
2283	(4) a provision eliminating or limiting the liability
2284	of a director or officer to a nonprofit corporation or its
2285	members for money damages for any action taken, or any failure
2286	to take any action, as a director or officer, except liability
2287	for (i) the amount of a financial benefit received by a
2288	director or officer to which the director or officer is not
2289	entitled, (ii) an intentional infliction of harm on the
2290	nonprofit corporation or its members, (iii) in the case of a
2291	<pre>director, a violation of Section 10A-3A-8.32, or (iv) an</pre>
2292	intentional violation of criminal law; or (v) in the case of
2293	an officer, any claim by or in the right of the nonprofit
2294	corporation;

(5) a provision permitting or making obligatory

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indemnification of a director for liability as defined in Section 10A-3A-8.50 to any person for any action taken, or any failure to take any action, as a director, except liability for (i) receipt of a financial benefit to which the director is not entitled, (ii) an intentional infliction of harm on the nonprofit corporation or its members, (iii) a violation of Section 10A-3A-8.32, or (iv) an intentional violation of criminal law;

- 2304 (6) a provision limiting or eliminating any duty of a 2305 director or any other person to offer the nonprofit 2306 corporation the right to have or participate in any, or one or more classes or categories of, corporate opportunities, before 2307 2308 the pursuit or taking of the opportunity by the director or 2309 other person; provided that the application of that provision 2310 to an officer or a related person of that officer (i) also requires approval of that application by the board of 2311 2312 directors, subsequent to the effective date of the provision, 2313 by action of the disinterested or qualified directors taken in 2314 compliance with the same procedures as are set forth in 2315 Section 10A-3A-8.60, and (ii) may be limited by the 2316 authorizing action of the board of directors; and
- 2317 (7) provisions required if the nonprofit corporation is 2318 to be exempt from taxation under federal, state, or local law.
- 2319 (c) The certificate of incorporation need not set forth
 2320 any of the corporate powers enumerated in Sections 10A-1-2.11,
 2321 10A-1-2.12, and 10A-1-2.13.
- 2322 (d) Provisions of the certificate of incorporation may
 2323 be made dependent upon facts objectively ascertainable outside



- 2324 the certificate of incorporation in accordance with Section 2325 10A - 3A - 1.042326 (e) As used in this section, "related person" means: 2327 (i) the individual's spouse; (ii) a child, stepchild, 2328 grandchild, parent, stepparent, grandparent, sibling, 2329 stepsibling, half sibling, aunt, uncle, niece, or nephew (or 2330 spouse of any such person) of the individual or of the 2331 individual's spouse; (iii) a natural person living in the same home as the individual; (iv) an entity (other than the 2332 2333 nonprofit corporation or an entity controlled by the nonprofit 2334 corporation) controlled by the individual or any person specified above in this definition; (v) a domestic or foreign 2335 2336 (A) business or nonprofit corporation (other than the 2337 nonprofit corporation or an entity controlled by the nonprofit 2338 corporation) of which the individual is a director, (B) unincorporated entity of which the individual is a general 2339 2340 partner or a member of the governing authority, or (C) 2341 individual, trust or estate for whom or of which the 2342 individual is a trustee, guardian, personal representative, or 2343 like fiduciary; or (vi) a person that is, or an entity that 2344 is, controlled by, an employer of the individual. 2345 (f) The certificate of incorporation may not contain 2346 any provision that would impose liability on a member or a 2347 director for the attorney's fees or expenses of the nonprofit 2348 corporation or any other party in connection with an internal 2349 corporate claim, as defined in Section 10A-3A-2.07(d).
 - (g) The certificate of incorporation is a part of a binding contract between the nonprofit corporation and (i) the

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members in a membership nonprofit corporation and (ii) the directors in a nonmembership nonprofit corporation, subject to the provisions of this chapter.

(h) For purposes of subsection (b) (4) only, unless the 2356 certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, "officer" 2357 means an individual appointed or elected in accordance with 2358 Section 10A-3A-8.40 as (i) president, chief executive officer, 2359 chief operating officer, chief financial officer, chief legal 2360 officer, secretary, controller, treasurer, or chief accounting officer of the nonprofit corporation and (ii) any officer of 2362 the nonprofit corporation designated by resolution of the 2363 board of directors as an "officer" for purposes of subsection 2364 (b) (4). The board of directors may from time to time by resolution determine that one or more of the officers 2365 2366 designated in accordance with subsection (h)(ii) shall no 2367 longer be an "officer" for purposes of subsection (b) (4), but 2368 no such resolution shall be effective as to any such officer, 2369 or any act or omission of any such officer, prior to the adoption of such resolution.

(i) No provision in the certificate of incorporation pursuant to subsection (b)(4) shall eliminate or limit the liability of a director or officer for any act or omission occurring prior to the date when the provision in the certificate of incorporation becomes effective. Any amendment, repeal, or elimination of a provision in the certificate of incorporation pursuant to subsection (b)(4) shall not affect its application with respect to an act or omission by a director or officer occurring before the amendment, repeal, or



elimination unless the provision in the certificate of incorporation provides otherwise at the time of the act or omission."

"\$10A-3A-7.04

- (a) Unless otherwise provided in the certificate of incorporation **____ any action required or permitted by this chapter to be taken at any meeting of the members may be taken without a meeting, and without prior notice, if one or more consents in writing setting forth the action so taken are signed by the members having not less than the minimum number of votes that would be required to authorize or take the action at a meeting at which all members entitled to vote on the action were present and voted. The action must be evidenced by one or more written consents describing the action taken, signed by the members approving the action and delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation for filing by the membership nonprofit corporation with the minutes or corporate records.
- (b) If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-3A-7.07 and if prior action by the board of directors is not required respecting the action to be taken without a meeting, the record date for determining the members entitled to take action without a meeting shall be the first date on which a signed written consent signed by a member is delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation. If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-3A-7.07 and if prior action by the board of directors is required respecting the action to be taken without a meeting, the record date shall be the close of



2408 business on the day the resolution of the board of directors 2409 taking the prior action is adopted. No written consent of a 2410 member shall be effective to take the corporate action 2411 referred to therein unless, within 60 days of the earliest 2412 date on which a consent is delivered to the membership 2413 nonprofit corporation as required by this section, written 2414 consents signed by sufficient members to take the action have 2415 been delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation. Any 2416 person executing signing a consent may provide, whether 2417 through instruction to an agent or otherwise, that the consent 2418 will be effective at a future time, including a time determined upon the happening of an event, occurring not later 2419 2420 than 60 days after the instruction is given or the provision 2421 is made, if evidence of the instruction or provision is 2422 provided to the membership nonprofit corporation. A If a person signs a consent when that person is not a member, then 2423 2424 that person's consent shall not be valid unless that person is 2425 a member as of the record date for determining members 2426 entitled to consent to the action. Unless a person's written 2427 consent states that it is irrevocable, that written consent 2428 may be revoked by that person by a writing to that effect 2429 delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation before 2430 unrevoked written consents sufficient in number to take the 2431 corporate action have been delivered to the membership 2432 nonprofit corporation.

(c) A consent signed pursuant to the provisions of this section has the effect of a vote taken at a meeting and may be described as such in any document. Unless the certificate of

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- incorporation, bylaws, or a resolution of the board of directors provides for a reasonable delay to permit tabulation of written consents, the action taken by written consent shall be effective when written consents signed by sufficient members to take the action have been delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation.
- (d) If action is taken by less than unanimous written 2442 2443 consent of the voting members, the membership nonprofit 2444 corporation shall give its nonconsenting voting members 2445 written notice of the action not more than 10 days after (i) 2446 written consents sufficient to take the action have been 2447 delivered to the membership nonprofit corporation or (ii) any 2448 later date that tabulation of consents is completed pursuant 2449 to an authorization under subsection (c). The notice must 2450 reasonably describe the action taken.
- (e) The notice requirements in subsection (d) shall not 2451 2452 delay the effectiveness of actions taken by written consent, 2453 and a failure to comply with those notice requirements shall 2454 not invalidate actions taken by written consent, provided that 2455 this subsection shall not be deemed to limit judicial power to 2456 fashion any appropriate remedy in favor of a member adversely 2457 affected by a failure to give the notice within the required 2458 time period.
- 2459 "\$10A-3A-7.05

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2460 (a) A membership nonprofit corporation shall notify
2461 members of the place, if any, date, and time of each annual,
2462 regular, or special meeting of the members no fewer than 10
2463 nor more than 60 days before the meeting date. If the board of



2464 directors has authorized participation by means of remote 2465 communication pursuant to Section 10A-3A-7.09 for any class of 2466 members or voting group, the notice to that class of members 2467 or voting group must describe the means of remote 2468 communication to be used. The notice must include the record 2469 date for determining the members entitled to vote at the 2470 meeting, if that date is different from the record date for 2471 determining members entitled to notice of the meeting. Unless 2472 the certificate of incorporation requires otherwise, the 2473 membership nonprofit corporation is required to give notice 2474 only to members entitled to vote at the meeting as of the record date for determining the members entitled to notice of 2475 2476 the meeting.

- 2477 (b) Unless this chapter, the certificate of
 2478 incorporation, or the bylaws require otherwise, notice of an
 2479 annual or regular meeting of the members need not include a
 2480 description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting
 2481 is called.
- 2482 (c) Notice of a special meeting of members must include 2483 a description of the purpose or purposes for which the meeting 2484 is called.
- 2485 (d) If not otherwise fixed under Section 10A-3A-7.03 or
 2486 Section 10A-3A-7.07, the record date for determining members
 2487 entitled to notice of and to vote at an annual, regular, or
 2488 special meeting of the members is the earlier of (i) the date
 2489 of the action by the board of directors calling the meeting of
 2490 the members or (ii) the day before the first notice is
 2491 delivered to members.



- 2492 (e) Unless the certificate of incorporation or bylaws 2493 require otherwise, if an annual, regular, or special meeting 2494 of the members is adjourned to a different place, if any, 2495 date, or time (including an adjournment taken to address a 2496 technical failure to convene or continue a meeting using 2497 remote communication pursuant to Section 10A-3A-7.09), notice 2498 need not be given of the new place, if any, date, or time if 2499 the new place, if any, date, or time is (i) announced at the 2500 meeting before adjournment or (ii) displayed, during the time scheduled for the meeting, on the same electronic network used 2501 2502 to enable members and proxy holders to participate in the 2503 meeting by means of remote communication. If a new record date 2504 for the adjourned meeting is or must be fixed under Section 10A-3A-7.07, however, notice of the adjourned meeting shall be 2505 2506 given under this section to members entitled to vote at the 2507 adjourned meeting as of the record date fixed for notice of 2508 the adjourned meeting.
- 2509 "\$10A-3A-9.05

- 2510 Except as otherwise provided in the certificate of 2511 incorporation:
- (1) the board of directors of a nonmembership nonprofit corporation, or if the initial board of directors of a nonmembership nonprofit corporation is not named in the certificate of incorporation and has not yet been elected, appointed, or designated, its incorporators, may adopt amendments to the nonmembership nonprofit corporation's certificate of incorporation; and
 - (2) an amendment adopted by the board of directors



2520 under this section must also be approved by that person or 2521 group of persons, if any, whose approval is required by the 2522 certificate of incorporation in accordance with Section 2523 10A-3A-9.30. 2524 "\$10A-3A-9.07 (a) (1) A membership nonprofit corporation's board of 2525 2526 directors may restate its certificate of incorporation at any 2527 time, without member the approval of the members or any person 2528 or group of persons specified in the certificate of 2529 incorporation, to consolidate all amendments into a single 2530 document. Unless the certificate of incorporation of a membership nonprofit corporation provides otherwise, the 2531 2532 restated certificate of incorporation may amend the 2533 certificate of incorporation with those amendments that the 2534 board of directors is permitted to adopt in accordance with Sections 10A-3A-9.02 and 10A-3A-9.03(g) without the approval 2535 2536 of the members or any person or group of persons specified in 2537 the certificate of incorporation. Unless the certificate of 2538 incorporation of a membership nonprofit corporation provides 2539 otherwise, the restated certificate of incorporation of a 2540 membership nonprofit corporation may also amend the 2541 certificate of incorporation with those amendments that the 2542 member or any person or group of persons specified in the 2543 certificate of incorporation must approve in accordance with 2544 Sections 10A-3A-9.02, 10A-3A-9.03, 10A-3A-9.04, and 2545 10A-3A-9.30. (2) A nonmembership nonprofit corporation's board of 2546 2547 directors may restate its certificate of incorporation at any



2548	time without the approval of any person or group of persons
2549	specified in the certificate of incorporation to consolidate
2550	all amendments into a single document. Unless the certificate
2551	of incorporation of a nonmembership nonprofit corporation
2552	provides otherwise, the restated certificate of incorporation
2553	may amend the certificate of incorporation with those
2554	amendments that the board of directors is permitted to adopt
2555	in accordance with Section 10A-3A-9.05 without the approval of
2556	any person or group of persons specified in the certificate of
2557	incorporation. Unless the certificate of incorporation of a
2558	nonmembership nonprofit corporation provides otherwise, the
2559	restated certificate of incorporation of a nonmembership
2560	nonprofit corporation may also amend the certificate of
2561	incorporation with those amendments that any person or group
2562	of persons specified in the certificate of incorporation must
2563	approve in accordance with Sections 10A-3A-9.02, 10A-3A-9.05,
2564	and 10A-3A-9.30.
2565	(b) If the restated certificate of incorporation
2566	includes one or more new amendments, the amendments must be
2567	adopted and approved as provided in (i) Section 10A-3A-9.02,
2568	(ii) Sections $10A-3A-9.03$ and $10A-3A-9.04$, or $\frac{(ii)}{(iii)}$

- 2570 (c) A nonprofit corporation that restates its
 2571 certificate of incorporation shall deliver to the Secretary of
 2572 State for filing a certificate of restatement setting forth:
 - (1) the name of the nonprofit corporation;
- 2574 (2) the text of the restated certificate of incorporation;

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Section 10A-3A-9.05.



2576 (3) a statement that the restated certificate of 2577 incorporation consolidates all amendments into a single 2578 document; 2579 (4) if a new amendment is included in the restated 2580 certificate of incorporation, the statements required under Section 10A-3A-9.06 with respect to the new amendment; and 2581 2582 (5) the unique identifying number or other designation 2583 as assigned by the Secretary of State. 2584 (d) The duly adopted restated certificate of 2585 incorporation supersedes the original certificate of 2586 incorporation and all amendments to the certificate of incorporation. 2587 2588 (e) Unless the certificate of incorporation provides 2589 otherwise, a restated certificate of incorporation may omit 2590 the information that may be deleted pursuant to Section 10A-3A-9.03(q)."2591 "\$10A-3A-10.01 2592 2593 In a membership nonprofit corporation, no: (a) No approval of the members or any person or group 2594 2595 of persons specified in the certificate of incorporation is 2596 required, unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise 2597 provides: 2598 (a) (1) to sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose 2599 of any or all of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets 2600 in the usual and regular course of the membership nonprofit corporation's activities; 2601

2602 (b) (2) to mortgage, pledge, dedicate to the repayment of indebtedness (whether with or without recourse), or

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otherwise encumber any or all of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets, regardless of whether in the usual and regular course of its activities; or

(c) (3) to transfer any or all of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets to one or more corporations or other entities all of the memberships or interests of which are owned by the membership nonprofit corporation.

- (b) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise provides, without limiting the rights of a secured party under applicable law, no approval by members or any person or group of persons specified in the certificate of incorporation shall be required by Section 10A-3A-10.02 for a sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of any of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets if those assets are mortgaged, pledged, dedicated to the repayment of indebtedness, or otherwise encumbered for the benefit of a secured party or other creditor and either:
- 2621 (1) The secured party or other creditor exercises its 2622 rights under the law governing the mortgage, pledge, 2623 dedication, or encumbrance, or other applicable law, whether 2624 under the Uniform Commercial Code, a real property law, or 2625 other law, to effect the sale, lease, exchange, or other 2626 disposition of those assets without the consent of the 2627 corporation; or
- (2) In lieu of the secured party or other creditor 2629 exercising such rights, the board of directors of the membership nonprofit corporation authorizes an alternative sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of those assets,



2632 whether with the secured party or other creditor, that results 2633 in the reduction or elimination of the total liabilities or 2634 obligations secured by those assets, provided that (i) the 2635 value of those assets is less than or equal to the total 2636 amount of the liabilities or obligations being eliminated or 2637 reduced and (ii) the sale, lease, exchange, or other 2638 disposition of those assets is not prohibited by the law 2639 governing the mortgage, pledge, dedication, or encumbrance. 2640 The provision of consideration to the membership nonprofit corporation shall not create a presumption that the value of 2641 2642 the assets is greater than the total amount of the liabilities 2643 or obligations being eliminated or reduced. 2644 (c) A failure to satisfy the condition in subsection (b)(2)(i) shall not result in the invalidation of a sale, 2645 2646 lease, exchange, or other disposition of the membership 2647 nonprofit corporation's assets if the transferee of those assets (i) provided value therefor (which may include the 2648 2649 reduction or elimination of the total liabilities or 2650 obligations secured by those assets) and (ii) acted in good 2651 faith (as defined in Section 7-1-201(b)). The preceding 2652 sentence shall not apply to a proceeding against the 2653 membership nonprofit corporation and any other necessary 2654 parties to enjoin the sale, lease, exchange, or other 2655 disposition of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets 2656 before the consummation thereof and shall not eliminate any 2657 liability for monetary damages for any claim, including a claim in the right of the membership nonprofit corporation, 2658 2659 based upon a violation of a duty by a current or former



2660	director or officer, or other person.
2661	(d) A provision of the certificate of incorporation
2662	that requires the authorization or consent of members or any
2663	person or group of persons specified in the certificate of
2664	incorporation for a sale, lease, exchange, or other
2665	disposition of the membership nonprofit corporation's assets
2666	shall not apply to a transaction permitted by subsection (b)
2667	unless that provision expressly so requires.
2668	"\$10A-3A-10.03
2669	Except as otherwise provided in In a nonmembership
2670	nonprofit corporation:
2671	(a) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise
2672	provides:
2673	(1) a sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, or other
2674	disposition of all, or substantially all, the property and
2675	assets of the nonmembership nonprofit corporation may be
2676	approved by the board of directors; and
2677	(2) a sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge, or other
2678	disposition of all, or substantially all, of the property and
2679	assets of the nonmembership nonprofit corporation approved by
2680	the board of directors under this section must also be
2681	approved by that person or group of persons whose approval is
2682	required by the certificate of incorporation in accordance
2683	with Section 10A-3A-10.04.
2684	(b) Unless the certificate of incorporation otherwise
2685	provides, without limiting the rights of a secured party under
2686	applicable law, no approval by any person or group of persons
2687	specified in the certificate of incorporation shall be



2688	required by this section for a sale, lease, exchange, or other
2689	disposition of any of the nonmembership nonprofit
2690	corporation's assets if those assets are mortgaged, pledged,
2691	dedicated to the repayment of indebtedness, or otherwise
2692	encumbered for the benefit of a secured party or other
2693	<pre>creditor and either:</pre>
2694	(1) The secured party or other creditor exercises its
2695	rights under the law governing the mortgage, pledge,
2696	dedication, or encumbrance, or other applicable law, whether
2697	under the Uniform Commercial Code, a real property law, or
2698	other law, to effect the sale, lease, exchange, or other
2699	disposition of those assets without the consent of the
2700	nonmembership nonprofit corporation; or
2701	(2) In lieu of the secured party or other creditor
2702	exercising such rights, the board of directors of the
2703	nonmembership nonprofit corporation authorizes an alternative
2704	sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of those assets,
2705	whether with the secured party or other creditor, that results
2706	in the reduction or elimination of the total liabilities or
2707	obligations secured by those assets, provided that (i) the
2708	value of those assets is less than or equal to the total
2709	amount of the liabilities or obligations being eliminated or
2710	reduced and (ii) the sale, lease, exchange, or other
2711	disposition of those assets is not prohibited by the law
2712	governing the mortgage, pledge, dedication, or encumbrance.
2713	The provision of consideration to the nonmembership nonprofit
2714	corporation shall not create a presumption that the value of

the assets is greater than the total amount of the liabilities

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2716 or obligations being eliminated or reduced. 2717 (c) A failure to satisfy the condition in subsection 2718 (b)(2)(i) shall not result in the invalidation of a sale, 2719 lease, exchange, or other disposition of the nonmembership 2720 nonprofit corporation's assets if the transferee of those 2721 assets (i) provided value therefor (which may include the 2722 reduction or elimination of the total liabilities or 2723 obligations secured by those assets) and (ii) acted in good 2724 faith (as defined in Section 7-1-201(b)). The preceding 2725 sentence shall not apply to a proceeding against the 2726 nonmembership nonprofit corporation and any other necessary 2727 parties to enjoin the sale, lease, exchange, or other 2728 disposition of the nonmembership nonprofit corporation's assets before the consummation thereof and shall not eliminate 2729 2730 any liability for monetary damages for any claim, including a claim in the right of the nonmembership nonprofit corporation, 2731 based upon a violation of a duty by a current or former 2732 2733 director or officer, or other person. 2734 (d) A provision of the certificate of incorporation 2735 that requires the authorization or consent of any person or 2736 group of persons specified in the certificate of incorporation 2737 for a sale, lease, exchange, or other disposition of the 2738 nonmembership nonprofit corporation's assets shall not apply to a transaction permitted by subsection (b) unless that 2739 2740 provision expressly so requires. 2741 "\$10A-3A-10.04 (a) The certificate of incorporation of a membership 2742 2743 nonprofit corporation may require that a disposition of assets



- 2744 under either or both Section 10A-3A-10.01 and Section
- 2745 10A-3A-10.02 be approved in writing by a specified person or
- 2746 group of persons in addition to the board of directors and
- members.
- 2748 (b) The certificate of incorporation of a nonmembership
- 2749 nonprofit corporation may require that a disposition of assets
- 2750 under Section 10A-3A-10.03 be approved in writing by a
- 2751 specified person or group of persons in addition to the board
- 2752 of directors.
- 2753 (c) A requirement in the certificate of incorporation
- 2754 described in subsection (a) or (b) may only be approved by the
- 2755 written approval of the specified person or group of persons."
- 2756 "\$10A-3A-11.07
- 2757 (a) A dissolved nonprofit corporation continues its
- 2758 existence as a nonprofit corporation but may not carry on any
- 2759 activity except as is appropriate to wind up and liquidate its
- 2760 activities and affairs, including:
- 2761 (1) collecting its assets;
- 2762 (2) disposing of its properties that will not be
- 2763 distributed in kind;
- 2764 (3) discharging or making provisions for discharging
- 2765 its liabilities;
- 2766 (4) distributing its remaining property as required by
- 2767 law, its certificate of incorporation, bylaws, and as approved
- 2768 when the dissolution was authorized; and
- 2769 (5) doing every other act necessary to wind up and
- 2770 liquidate its activities and affairs.
- (b) In winding up its activities and affairs, a



- 2772 dissolved nonprofit corporation may:
- 2773 (1) preserve the nonprofit corporation's activities and 2774 affairs and property as a going concern for a reasonable time;
- 2775 (2) prosecute, defend, or settle actions or proceedings 2776 whether civil, criminal, or administrative;
 - (3) transfer the nonprofit corporation's assets;
 - (4) resolve disputes by mediation or arbitration; and
- 2779 (5) merge or convert in accordance with Article 12 or 2780 13 of this chapter or Article 8 of Chapter 1.
- 2781 (c) Dissolution of a nonprofit corporation does not:
- 2782 (1) transfer title to the nonprofit corporation's
- 2783 property;

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- 2784 (2) subject its directors or officers to standards of conduct different from those prescribed in Article 8 of this
- 2786 <u>chapter</u>;
- 2787 (3) change:
- 2788 (i) quorum or voting requirements for its board of directors or members;
- 2790 (ii) provisions for selection, resignation, or removal 2791 of its directors or officers or both; or
- 2792 (iii) provisions for amending its bylaws;
- 2793 (4) prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against 2794 the nonprofit corporation in its corporate name;
- 2795 (5) abate or suspend a proceeding pending by or against 2796 the nonprofit corporation on the effective date of
- 2797 dissolution; or
- 2798 (6) terminate the authority of the registered agent of the nonprofit corporation.



- 2800 (d) A distribution in liquidation under this section 2801 may only be made by a dissolved nonprofit corporation.
- 2802 "\$10A-4-1.03
- As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires, the term:
- 2805 (1) DISQUALIFIED PERSON. Any person who is not a qualified person.
- 2807 (2) DOMESTIC PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION. A <u>business</u>
 2808 <u>professional</u> corporation <u>for profit</u> or nonprofit <u>professional</u>
 2809 <u>corporation</u> organized pursuant to <u>the provisions of</u> this
 2810 chapter.
- 2811 (3) FOREIGN PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION. A corporation or unincorporated association, for profit or nonprofit, organized for the purpose of rendering professional services under a law other than the law of Alabama this state.
- 2815 (4) LICENSING AUTHORITY. As defined in Section 2816 $\frac{10A-1-1.03(49)}{10A-1-1.03}$
- 2817 (5) PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. As defined in Section 2818 $\frac{10A-1-1.03(80)}{10A-1-1.03}$
- 2819 (6) QUALIFIED PERSON. With respect to any domestic professional corporation:
- a. An individual who is authorized by law of Alabama

 this state or of any qualified state to render a professional service permitted by the certificate of formation
- 2824 <u>incorporation</u> of the professional corporation;
- b. A general partnership in which all the partners are qualified persons with respect to the professional corporation; and



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- c. A professional corporation, domestic or foreign, in which all the <u>shareholders</u> <u>stockholders</u> are qualified persons with respect to the professional corporation.
- d. A limited liability company in which all the members are qualified persons with respect to the professional corporation.

"Qualified person" does not include any person during any period in which the person's authorization to render professional services has been completely terminated or suspended.

(7) QUALIFIED STATE. Any state, other than Alabama this state, or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia which allows individuals authorized to render professional services in Alabama this state and not in the other state, or partnerships of the individuals, or domestic professional corporations or professional associations owned by the individuals to own shares of stock in professional corporations or to be members of professional associations organized under its laws."

"\$10A-4-2.01

Domestic A domestic professional corporations

corporation may be organized under this chapter only for the purpose of rendering professional services and services ancillary thereto within a single profession, except that the same professional corporation or nonprofit professional corporation may render medical, dental, and other health related services for the purpose of, and shall have the power to render, professional services if the domestic professional



corporation complies with the rules of the licensing authority for such profession; provided that in the case of a professional corporation, at least one shareholder stockholder of the professional corporation is duly licensed to provide each professional service for which the professional corporation is organized, or, in the case of a nonprofit professional corporation, all of the professional services rendered by the professional corporation are rendered by persons duly licensed to render the professional service."

"\$10A-4-2.02

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- (a) Any corporation whose certificate of <u>formation</u> <u>incorporation</u> includes as a stated purpose the performance of professional services may be incorporated under this chapter by stating in its certificate of <u>formation</u> <u>incorporation</u> that it is incorporated under this chapter.
- (b) A domestic professional business corporation, other 2871 2872 than that is not a nonprofit professional corporation, which 2873 is subject to this chapter shall cease being governed by this 2874 chapter and shall be governed by the Alabama Business 2875 Corporation Law, if it is a domestic corporation, if it amends 2876 its certificate of formation incorporation to delete the 2877 statement that it is organized under this chapter, and 2878 conforms its articles certificate of incorporation to the Alabama Business Corporation Law and, if it is a foreign 2879 2880 corporation, complies with the provisions of this title 2881 applicable to foreign entities. A domestic nonprofit professional corporation which is subject to this chapter 2882 2883 shall cease being governed by this chapter and shall be



governed by the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law, if it is a

domestic corporation, if it amends its certificate of

formation incorporation to delete the statement that it is

organized under this chapter, and conforms its certificate of

incorporation to the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law and, if

it is a foreign corporation, complies with the provisions of

this title applicable to foreign entities.

- (c) Any corporation which is not subject to this chapter may become subject to this chapter, if it is a domestic corporation, by conforming its articles certificate of incorporation to this chapter.
- 2895 (d) Any foreign professional corporation which renders
 2896 professional services in Alabama this state shall be subject
 2897 to this chapter."

2898 "\$10A-4-2.03

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- 2899 (a) Subject to Section 10A-4-5.07, a domestic
 2900 professional corporation, including a professional corporation
 2901 that is a nonprofit corporation, shall have all the powers
 2902 necessary or convenient to effectuate its purposes, including
 2903 those enumerated in Sections 10A-1-2.11, 10A-1-2.12, and
 2904 10A-1-2.13.
- 2905 (b) A domestic professional corporation shall not
 2906 engage in any profession other than the profession or
 2907 professions permitted by its certificate of formation
 2908 incorporation, except that a domestic professional corporation
 2909 may invest its funds in real estate, mortgages, stocks, bonds,
 2910 or any other type investment."
- 2911 "\$10A-4-2.04



A professional corporation, domestic or foreign, may render professional services in Alabama this state only through individuals permitted to render the services in Alabama this state; but nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require that any individual who is employed by a professional corporation be licensed to perform services for which no license is otherwise required or to prohibit the rendering of professional services by a licensed individual acting in his or her that person's individual capacity, notwithstanding the individual may be a shareholder stockholder, member, director, officer, employee, or agent of a professional corporation, domestic or foreign."

2924 "\$10A-4-3.01

- (a) A domestic professional corporation may issue shares, fractional shares stock, fractions of a share of
 stock, and rights or options to purchase stock only to
 qualified persons.
- (b) Where deemed necessary by the licensing authority for any profession in order to prevent violations of the ethical standards of the profession, the licensing authority may, within its rule-making power, by rule further restrict, condition, or abridge the authority of domestic professional corporations to issue shares stock, but no rule shall, of itself, have the effect of causing a shareholder stockholder of a professional corporation at the time the rule becomes effective to become a disqualified person unless and to the extent specified by the licensing authority.
 - (c) A shareholder stockholder of a domestic



professional corporation may transfer or pledge shares,

fractional shares stock, fractions of a share of stock, and

rights or options to purchase shares stock of the professional

corporation only to qualified persons.

- (d) Any issuance or transfer of shares stock in violation of this section shall be void, however, nothing contained herein shall prohibit the transfer of shares stock of a domestic professional corporation by operation of law or court decree.
- 2949 (e) Nothing in this section shall require domestic 2950 nonprofit professional corporations to issue shares stock. The Domestic nonprofit professional corporations may have members 2951 2952 and all members must be qualified persons. A licensing 2953 authority may, within its rule-making power, by rule further 2954 restrict, condition, or abridge membership in domestic nonprofit corporations, but no rule shall, of itself, have the 2955 2956 effect of causing a member of a domestic nonprofit 2957 professional corporation at the time the rule becomes 2958 effective to become a disqualified person unless and to the 2959 extent specified by the licensing authority."

2960 "\$10A-4-3.02

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(a) Upon the death of a <u>shareholder</u> stockholder of a domestic professional corporation, or if a <u>shareholder</u> stockholder of a domestic professional corporation becomes a disqualified person, or if <u>shares</u> stock of a domestic professional corporation <u>are is</u> transferred by operation of law or court decree to a disqualified person, the <u>shares of</u> stock owned by the deceased <u>shareholder</u> stockholder or <u>of</u> the

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disqualified person may be transferred to a qualified person and, if not so transferred, shall be purchased or redeemed by the domestic professional corporation to the extent of funds which may be legally made available for the purchase.

- 2972 (b) If the price for the shares stock is not fixed by 2973 the governing documents of the domestic professional 2974 corporation or by private agreement, the domestic professional 2975 corporation, within six months after the death or 30 days after the disqualification or transfer, as the case may be, 2976 2977 shall make a written offer to pay for the shares stock at a 2978 specified price deemed by the domestic professional corporation to be the fair value thereof as of the date of the 2979 2980 death, disqualification, or transfer. The offer shall be given 2981 to the executor or administrator of the estate of a deceased 2982 shareholder or to the disqualified shareholder 2983 person or transferee and shall be accompanied by a balance 2984 sheet of the domestic professional corporation, as of the 2985 latest available date and not more than 12 months prior to the 2986 making of the offer, and a profit and loss statement of the 2987 domestic professional corporation for the 12 months' period 2988 ended on the date of the balance sheet.
 - (c) If within 30 days after the date of the written offer from the domestic professional corporation the fair value of the shares stock is agreed upon between the disqualified person and the domestic professional corporation, payment therefor shall be made within 90 days, or other period as the parties may fix by agreement, after the date of the offer, upon surrender of the certificate or certificates

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representing the shares. Upon payment of the agreed value the disqualified persons shall cease to have any interest in the shares stock.

2999 (d) If within 30 days from the date of the written 3000 offer from the domestic professional corporation, the 3001 disqualified person and the domestic professional corporation 3002 do not so agree, then either party may commence a civil action 3003 in the designated court, and if none, in the circuit court for the county in which the domestic professional corporation's 3004 3005 principal office is located in this state, and if none in this 3006 state, in the circuit court for the county in which the domestic professional corporation's most recent registered 3007 3008 office is located requesting that the fair value of the shares 3009 stock be found and determined. The disqualified person, 3010 wherever residing, shall be made a party to the proceeding as an action against his or her shares the disqualified person's 3011 3012 stock quasi in rem. Service shall be made in accordance with 3013 the rules of civil procedure. The disqualified person shall be 3014 entitled to judgment against the domestic professional 3015 corporation for the amount of the fair value of his or her 3016 shares the disqualified person's stock as of the date of 3017 death, disqualification, or transfer upon surrender to the 3018 domestic professional corporation of the certificate or 3019 certificates representing the shares stock. The court may, in 3020 its discretion, order that the judgment be paid in installments and with interest and on terms as the court may 3021 determine. The court may, if it so elects, appoint one or more 3022 3023 persons as appraisers to receive evidence and recommend a

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decision on the question of fair value. The appraisers shall have the power and authority as shall be specified in the order of their appointment or an amendment thereof.

- (e) The judgment shall include an allowance for interest at the rate the court finds to be fair and equitable in all the circumstances, from the date of death, disqualification, or transfer.
- 3031 (f) The costs and expenses of any proceeding shall be 3032 determined by the court and shall be assessed against the 3033 domestic professional corporation, but all or any part of the 3034 costs and expenses may be apportioned and assessed as the court may deem equitable against the disqualified person if 3035 3036 the court shall find that the action of the disqualified 3037 person in failing to accept the offer was arbitrary or 3038 vexatious or not in good faith. The expenses shall include reasonable compensation for and reasonable expenses of the 3039 3040 appraisers and a reasonable attorney's fee but shall exclude 3041 the fees and expenses of counsel for and of experts employed 3042 by any party; but if the fair value of the shares stock as 3043 determined materially exceeds the amount which the domestic 3044 professional corporation offered to pay therefor, or if no 3045 offer was made, the court in its discretion may award to the 3046 disqualified person the sum the court determines to be 3047 reasonable compensation to any expert or experts employed by 3048 the disqualified person in the proceeding.
 - (g) If a purchase, redemption, or transfer of the shares stock of a deceased stockholder or disqualified
 shareholder person or of a transferee who is a disqualified



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person is not completed within 12 months after the death of the deceased shareholder stockholder or 12 months after the disqualification or transfer, as the case may be, the domestic professional corporation shall forthwith cancel the shares stock on its books and the disqualified person shall have no further interest as a shareholder stockholder in the domestic professional corporation other than his or her the disqualified person's right to payment for the shares stock under this section.

- (h) Shares acquired by a domestic professional corporation pursuant to payment of the agreed value therefor or to payment of the judgment entered therefor, as in this section provided, may be held, cancelled, or disposed of by the domestic professional corporation as in the case of other treasury shares. (1) A professional corporation may acquire its own stock, and, the stock so acquired shall constitute authorized but unissued stock, provided however:
- (A) the certificate of incorporation may provide that the acquired stock shall constitute authorized, issued, but not outstanding stock;
- (B) the certificate of incorporation may prohibit the reissue of the acquired stock, in which case, the number of authorized shares of stock is reduced by the number of shares of stock acquired; or
- (C) if the certificate incorporation does not (i)

 provide that the acquired stock shall constitute authorized

 but unissued stock, (ii) prohibit the reissuance of the

 acquired stock, or (iii) provide that the acquired stock shall



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constitute authorized, issued, but not outstanding stock, then
the board of directors may determine, at or prior to the time
of the acquisition, that the acquired stock will constitute
authorized, issued, but not outstanding stock.

- (2) If the board of directors determines that any acquired stock was to be authorized, issued, but not outstanding in accordance with subsection (h)(1)(C), then the board of directors may thereafter determine that the acquired stock shall be converted to stock that is authorized but not issued.
- (i) This section shall not be deemed to require the purchase of stock of a disqualified person where the period of the disqualification is for less than 12 months from the date of disqualification or transfer.
- (j) Any provision regarding purchase, redemption, or transfer of shares stock of a domestic professional corporation contained in the certificate of formation incorporation, bylaws, or any private agreement shall be specifically enforceable in the courts of Alabama this state.
 - (k) Nothing herein contained shall prevent or relieve a domestic professional corporation from paying pension benefits or other deferred compensation for services rendered to or on behalf of a former shareholder stockholder as otherwise permitted by law.
- (1) A domestic professional corporation may purchase its own—<u>shares stock</u> from a disqualified person without regard to the availability of capital or surplus for the purchase; however, no purchase of or payment for the <u>shares</u> stock shall



be made at a time when the domestic professional corporation is insolvent or when the purchase or payment would make it insolvent.

- (m) The foregoing provisions of this section shall not apply to a domestic nonprofit professional corporation. Any member of a corporation who becomes a disqualified person must cease being a member not more than 12 months after the date of disqualification if he or she is then a disqualified person."
 - "\$10A-4-3.03

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- 3117 (a) Every individual who renders professional services
 3118 as an employee of a domestic or professional corporation shall
 3119 be liable for any negligent or wrongful act or omission in
 3120 which he or she that individual personally participates to the
 3121 same extent as if he or she that individual rendered the
 3122 services as a sole practitioner.
- (b) The Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), 3123 3124 the personal liability of a shareholder stockholder, employee, 3125 director, or officer of a domestic professional corporation, 3126 other than a domestic nonprofit professional corporation, 3127 shall be no greater in any respect than that of a shareholder 3128 stockholder, employee, director, or officer of a corporation 3129 organized under governed by the Alabama Business Corporation 3130 Law.
- 3131 (c) The Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a),
 3132 the personal liability of a member, employee, director, or
 3133 officer of a domestic nonprofit professional corporation shall
 3134 be no greater in any respect than that of a member, employee,
 3135 director, or officer of a corporation organized under governed



3136 by the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law.

(d) The Except as otherwise provided in subsection (a), the personal liability of a shareholder stockholder, member, employee, director, or officer of a foreign professional corporation shall be determined under the law of the jurisdiction in which it is organized."

"\$10A-4-3.05

A voting trust with respect to shares stock of a domestic professional corporation shall not be valid unless all the trustees and beneficiaries thereof are qualified persons, except that a voting trust may be validly continued for a period of 12 months after the death of a deceased beneficiary or after a beneficiary has become a disqualified person."

3150 "\$10A-4-3.06

At least one director of a domestic professional corporation and the president of a domestic professional corporation shall be qualified persons with respect to the domestic professional corporation; provided, however, that the foregoing restriction shall not apply for a period of 12 months after the death of the sole shareholder stockholder of a domestic professional corporation."

3158 "\$10A-4-4.01

Administrators, executors, guardians, conservators, or receivers of the estates of shareholders stockholders of a domestic professional corporation who hold all of the outstanding shares stock of the domestic professional corporation may amend the certificate of formation



incorporation by signing a written consent to the certificate
of amendment and delivering the certificate of amendment for
filing to the Secretary of State. The certificate of amendment
shall set forth, in addition to the information required to be
included in the certificate of amendment by the Alabama
Business Corporation Law, a statement that the administrators,
executors, guardians, conservators, or receivers own all the
outstanding shares stock."

"\$10A-4-4.02

- (a) A domestic professional corporation may convert to or merge with another corporation, professional corporation, or another type of entity, domestic or foreign, if permitted under the Alabama Business Corporation Law, the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law, or may merge with or convert to another type of entity as permitted by Article 8 of Chapter 1. Upon the merger, consolidation, or conversion, if the surviving or new corporation or converted entity, as the case may be, is to render professional services in Alabama this state, it shall comply with the provisions of this chapter.
- 3183 (b) An unincorporated professional association
 3184 organized under Article 1 of Chapter 30 may merge—or
 3185 consolidate with a domestic professional corporation—organized
 3186 under this chapter. In the merger, the unincorporated
 3187 professional association shall follow the procedure specified
 3188 in the Alabama Business Corporation Law shall apply, provided
 3189 that:
- 3190 (1) The surviving corporation shall be a domestic 3191 professional corporation,



3192 (2) The following terms, when used in the Alabama 3193 Business Corporation Law to refer to an unincorporated 3194 professional association, shall have the following meanings: 3195 a. "Board of directors" shall mean BOARD OF DIRECTORS 3196 means "board of governors". b. "Corporation" shall mean CORPORATION means 3197 3198 "unincorporated association,". c. "Shares or securities" STOCK or SECURITIES in the 3199 3200 case of an unincorporated professional association which is a nonstock organization, shall mean means the undivided 3201 3202 interests of the members in the assets of the association $_{T}$. d. "Shareholder" STOCKHOLDER in the case of an 3203 3204 unincorporated association which is a nonstock organization, shall mean means "member." 3205 3206 (3) The plan of merger or plan of conversion shall be approved by a vote of two thirds two-thirds of the members of 3207 3208 the professional association." 3209 "\$10A-4-5.01 3210 The Attorney General may institute proceedings to 3211 involuntarily dissolve a domestic professional corporation-or 3212 a domestic nonprofit professional corporation. A licensing 3213 authority may request that the Attorney General institute such the proceedings." 3214 "\$10A-4-5.02 3215 3216 (a) A foreign professional corporation shall be 3217 entitled to register under Article 7 of Chapter 1 for authority to render professional services in Alabama this 3218

3219 <u>state</u> only if:



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- (1) A domestic professional corporation incorporated under this chapter would be allowed to register or procure a certificate of authority or equivalent authorization to render professional services in the state under whose laws the foreign professional corporation is organized;
- (2) The foreign professional corporation meets the requirements of Section 10A-4-2.01;
- (3) The foreign professional corporation designates the Alabama licensed individual or individuals through whom it will render professional services in Alabama this state and the individual or individuals are not, at the time of the designation, so designated by any other foreign professional corporation;
- (4) The name of the foreign professional corporation meets the requirements of Section 10A-1-5.08, provided that the foreign professional corporation can meet the requirements of Section 10A-1-5.08 by adding at the end of its name, for use in Alabama this state, the words "professional corporation" or the abbreviation "P.C."; and
- (5) All the shareholders stockholders, or all the members, in the case of a nonprofit professional corporation which has members, at least one director, and the president of the foreign professional corporation are licensed in at least one state or territory of the United States or the District of Columbia to render the professional services which the foreign professional corporation would render in Alabama this state.
- (6) The foreign professional corporation includes in its application a statement acknowledging that it will be



subject to the jurisdiction of the Alabama regulatory and licensing authorities with respect to any professional services rendered to clients or patients in Alabama this state.

(b) No foreign professional corporation shall maintain an office in Alabama this state for the conduct of business or professional practice until it has obtained a certificate of authority to render professional services in Alabama this state."

"\$10A-4-5.03

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The certificate of authority of a foreign professional corporation may be revoked by the Secretary of State if the foreign professional corporation fails to comply with any provision of this chapter applicable to it the foreign professional corporation. Each licensing authority in Alabama this state shall certify to the Secretary of State, from time to time, the names of all foreign professional corporations which have given cause for revocation as provided in this chapter, together with the facts pertinent thereto. Whenever a licensing authority shall certify the name of a foreign professional corporation to the Secretary of State as having given cause for revocation, the licensing authority shall concurrently mail to the foreign professional corporation at its registered office in Alabama this state notice that the certification has been made. No certificate of authority of a foreign professional corporation shall be revoked by the Secretary of State unless he or she the Secretary of State shall have given the foreign professional corporation not less



- than 60 days' notice thereof and the <u>foreign professional</u>

 corporation shall fail prior to revocation to correct the

 noncompliance."
- 3279 "\$10A-4-5.04

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- (a) Every <u>business</u> professional corporation, domestic or foreign, is required to file an annual report under the Alabama Business Corporation Law, and shall include in the annual report, in addition to the items required by the Alabama Business Corporation Law:
 - (1) A statement that all the <u>shareholders</u> <u>stockholders</u>, at least one director, and the president of the corporation are qualified persons with respect to the corporation, and
 - (2) In the case of a foreign professional corporation, the name or names of the Alabama licensed professional or professionals through whom the foreign professional corporation will render professional services in Alabama this state.
- 3293 (b) Financial information contained in the annual report of a professional corporation, other than the amount of 3294 3295 stated capital of the corporation, shall not be open to public 3296 inspection nor shall the licensing authority disclose any 3297 facts or information obtained therefrom except insofar as its 3298 official duty may require the same to be made public or in the 3299 event the information is required for evidence in any criminal 3300 proceedings or in any other action by the State of Alabama."
- 3301 "\$10A-4-5.05
- 3302 (a) Each licensing authority of <u>Alabama</u> this state may propound to any professional corporation, domestic or foreign,

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organized to practice a profession within the jurisdiction of the licensing authority, and to any officer or director thereof, the interrogatories as may be reasonably necessary and proper to enable the licensing authority to ascertain whether the professional corporation has complied with all the provisions of this chapter applicable to the professional corporation. The interrogatories shall be answered within 30 days after the mailing thereof, or within the additional time as shall be fixed by the licensing authority, and the answers thereto shall be full and complete and shall be made in writing and under oath. If the interrogatories be directed to an individual they shall be answered by him or her, and if directed to a professional corporation they shall be answered by the president, vice president, secretary, or assistant secretary thereof. The licensing authority shall certify to the Attorney General, for such action as the Attorney General may deem appropriate, all interrogatories and answers thereto which disclosed a violation of any of the provisions of this chapter.

(b) Interrogatories propounded by a licensing authority and the answers thereto shall not be open to public inspection nor shall the licensing authority disclose any facts or information obtained therefrom except insofar as its official duty may require the same to be made public or in the event the interrogatories or the answers thereto are required for evidence in any criminal proceedings or in any other action by

the State of Alabama this state." 3330

3331 "\$10A-4-5.06



- (a) Each officer and director of a professional corporation, domestic or foreign, who signs any articles certificate, statement, report, application, answer to an interrogatory, or other document filed pursuant to this article with the licensing authority having jurisdiction which is known to the officer or director to be false in any material respect, shall be deemed to be guilty of a Class C misdemeanor.
- (b) If any professional corporation, domestic or
 foreign, or individual shall fail to answer interrogatories
 directed to the professional corporation or to the individual
 under Section 10A-4-5.05, the licensing authority which
 propounded the interrogatories may seek an order from the a
 circuit court compelling with competent jurisdiction to compel
 an answer."

3347 "\$10A-4-5.08

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(a) The provisions of this chapter shall apply to all 3348 3349 existing corporations organized under the statute formerly 3350 codified as Article 11 of Chapter 4, Title 10 and repealed by Acts 1983, No. 83-514, effective January 1, 1984; provided, 3351 3352 that any professional corporation, or nonprofit corporation, 3353 in existence on December 31, 1983, in which duly licensed 3354 medical and dental professionals are shareholders 3355 stockholders, or in the case of a nonprofit professional 3356 corporation, render medical and dental services, shall be 3357 deemed to be in compliance with Sections 10A-4-2.01 and 10A-4-2.03, as amended, and other applicable provisions of 3358 3359 this chapter. The repeal of a prior act by this chapter shall



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not impair, or otherwise affect, the organization or continued existence of an existing domestic professional corporation nor the right of any foreign professional corporation presently qualified to render professional services in Alabama this state to continue to do so without again qualifying to render professional services in Alabama this state.

- (b) Any unincorporated professional association organized under Section 10A-30-1.01 Article 1 of Chapter 30 may become subject to the provisions of this chapter by amending its certificate of association as a certificate of formation incorporation in compliance with this chapter, and delivering its certificate of formation incorporation to the Secretary of State for filing.
- (c) Any domestic nonprofit corporation rendering professional services may become subject to the provisions of this chapter by amending its certificate of <u>formation</u> incorporation in compliance with this chapter and delivering the amendment to its certificate of <u>formation</u> incorporation to the Secretary of State for filing.
- (d) The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any unincorporated professional association now in existence under Section 10A-30-1.01, or to any domestic nonprofit corporation rendering professional services unless the association or nonprofit corporation voluntarily becomes subject to this chapter as herein provided, and nothing contained in this chapter shall alter or affect any existing or future right or privilege permitting or not prohibiting performance of professional services through the use of any



3388 other form of business organization."

3389 "\$10A-5A-1.08

- 3390 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (b) and 3391 (c):
- 3392 (1) the limited liability company agreement governs
 3393 relations among the members as members and between the members
 3394 and the limited liability company; and
- 3395 (2) to the extent the limited liability company
 3396 agreement does not otherwise provide for a matter described in
 3397 subsection (a)(1), this chapter governs the matter.
- 3398 (b) (1) To the extent that, at law or in equity, a member or other person has duties, including fiduciary duties, 3399 to the limited liability company, or to another member or to 3400 3401 another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a 3402 limited liability company agreement, the member's or other person's duties may be expanded or restricted or eliminated by 3403 a written limited liability company agreement, but the implied 3404 3405 contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing may not be 3406 eliminated.
- 3407 (2) A written limited liability company agreement may 3408 provide for the limitation or elimination of any and all 3409 liabilities for breach of contract and breach of duties, 3410 including fiduciary duties, of a member or other person to a 3411 limited liability company or to another member or to another 3412 person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a limited 3413 liability company agreement, but a limited liability company agreement may not limit or eliminate liability for any act or 3414 3415 omission that constitutes a bad faith violation of the implied

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3416 contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing.

- 3417 (3) A member or other person shall not be liable to a
 3418 limited liability company or to another member or to another
 3419 person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a limited
 3420 liability company agreement for breach of fiduciary duty for
 3421 the member's or other person's good faith reliance on the
 3422 limited liability company agreement.
 - (4) A limited liability company agreement may provide that any or all of the following:
 - (A) a member, dissociated member, or transferee who fails to perform in accordance with, or to comply with the terms and conditions of, the limited liability company agreement shall be subject to specified penalties or specified consequences; and
 - (B) at the time or upon the happening of events specified in the limited liability company agreement, a member, dissociated member, or transferee may be subject to specified penalties or specified consequences.; and
 - (C) subject to Section 10A-5A-1.08(c), an act or transaction under the limited liability company agreement by the limited liability company, a member, dissociated member, or transferee is void or voidable.
- 3438 (5) A penalty or consequence that may be specified
 3439 under paragraph (4) of this subsection may include and take
 3440 the form of reducing or eliminating the defaulting member's or
 3441 transferee's proportionate interest in a limited liability
 3442 company, subordinating the member's or transferee's
 3443 transferable interest to that of non-defaulting members or



- 3444 transferees, forcing a sale of that transferable interest, 3445 forfeiting the defaulting member's or transferee's 3446 transferable interest, the lending by other members or 3447 transferees of the amount necessary to meet the defaulting 3448 member's or transferee's commitment, a fixing of the value of 3449 the defaulting member's or transferee's transferable interest 3450 by appraisal or by formula and redemption or sale of the 3451 transferable interest at that value, or other penalty or 3452 consequence.
- 3453 (6) A written limited liability company agreement may 3454 supersede, in whole or in part, the provisions of Division C 3455 of Article 3 of Chapter 1.
 - (c) A limited liability company agreement may not:
- 3457 (1) vary the nature of the limited liability company as a separate legal entity under Section 10A-5A-1.04(a);
 - (2) vary the law applicable under Section 10A-5A-1.05;
- 3460 (3) restrict the rights under this chapter of a person 3461 other than a member, dissociated member, or transferee;
- 3462 (4) vary the power of the court under Section
- 3463 10A-5A-2.05;

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- 3464 (5) eliminate the implied contractual covenant of good 3465 faith and fair dealing as provided under Section
- 3466 10A-5A-1.08(b)(1);
- (6) eliminate or limit the liability of a member or other person for any act or omission that constitutes a bad faith violation of the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing as provided under Section
- 3471 10A-5A-1.08(b)(2);



3472 (7) waive the requirements of Section 10A-5A-4.04(c); 3473 (8) vary the law applicable under Section 3474 10A-5A-4.06(c);3475 (9) reduce the limitations period specified under 3476 Section 10A-5A-4.06(d) for an action commenced under other 3477 applicable law; 3478 (10) waive the prohibition on issuance of a certificate 3479 of a transferable interest in bearer form under Section 3480 10A-5A-5.02(c);(11) vary the power of a court to decree dissolution in 3481 3482 the circumstances specified in Section 10A-5A-7.01(d) or in Section 10A-5A-11.09(e); 3483 3484 (12) vary the requirement to wind up a limited 3485 liability company's activities and affairs as specified in 3486 Section 10A-5A-7.02(a); (13) vary the provisions of Section 10A-5A-8.01; 3487 3488 (14) vary the right of a member under Section 3489 10A-5A-10.09; or 3490 (15) waive the requirements of Section 3491 10A-5A-11.02(b) -; or 3492 (16) vary the provisions of Section 10A-5A-1.11(c), 3493 (d), or (e)." 3494 "\$10A-5A-2.01 3495 (a) In order to form a limited liability company, one 3496 or more organizers must execute a certificate of formation and 3497 deliver it for filing to the filing officer provided for in subsection (e). Section 10A-1-3.05 shall not apply to this 3498

chapter. Instead, the certificate of formation shall set



- 3500 forth:
- 3501 (1) the name of the limited liability company, which
- 3502 must comply with Article 5 of Chapter 1;
- 3503 (2) the street address in this state, including the
- 3504 county, of the registered office required by Article 5 of
- 3505 Chapter 1;
- 3506 (3) the name of the registered agent at the registered
- 3507 office required by Article 5 of Chapter 1;
- 3508 (4) a statement that there is at least one member of
- 3509 the limited liability company;
- 3510 (5) if applicable, a statement as provided in Section
- 3511 10A-5A-11.02(b)(3); and
- 3512 (6) any other matters the members determine to include
- 3513 therein.
- 3514 (b) A limited liability company is formed when its
- 3515 certificate of formation becomes effective in accordance with
- 3516 Article 4 of Chapter 1.
- 3517 (c) The fact that a certificate of formation has been
- 3518 filed and is effective in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter
- 3519 1 is notice of the matters required to be included by
- 3520 subsections (a) (1), (a) (2), (a) (3), and (a) (4) and if
- applicable, (a) (5), but is not notice of any other fact.
- 3522 (d) A limited liability company agreement shall be
- 3523 entered into either before, after, or at the time of the
- 3524 filing of the certificate of formation and, whether entered
- into before, after, or at the time of the filing, may be made
- 3526 effective as of the filing of the certificate of formation or
- 3527 at any other time or date provided in the limited liability



- 3528 company agreement.

 3529 (e) A certificate of formation shall be delivered for

 3530 filing to the Secretary of State."
- 3531 "\$10A-5A-2.02
- 3532 Division B of Article 3 of Chapter 1 shall not apply to 3533 this chapter. Instead:
- 3534 (a) A certificate of formation may be amended at any 3535 time.
- 3536 (b) A certificate of formation may be restated with or without amendment at any time.
- 3538 (c) To amend its certificate of formation, a limited
 3539 liability company must deliver a certificate of amendment for
 3540 filing to the Secretary of State which certificate of
 3541 amendment shall state:
- 3542 (1) the name of the limited liability company;
- 3543 (2) the unique identifying number or other designation 3544 as assigned by the Secretary of State; and
- 3545 (3) the changes the amendment makes to the certificate of formation as most recently amended or restated.
- 3547 (d) To restate its certificate of formation, a limited 3548 liability company must deliver a restated certificate of 3549 formation for filing to the Secretary of State. A restated 3550 certificate of formation must:
- 3551 (1) be designated as such in the heading;
- 3552 (2) state the limited liability company's name;
- 3553 (3) state the unique identifying number or other 3554 designation as assigned by the Secretary of State; and
- 3555 (4) set forth any amendment or change effected in

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connection with the restatement of the certificate of formation.

Any such restatement that effects an amendment shall be subject to any other provision of this chapter, not inconsistent with this section, which would apply if a separate certificate of amendment were filed to effect the amendment or change.

- (e) The original certificate of formation, as theretofore amended, shall be superseded by the restated certificate of formation and thenceforth, the restated certificate of formation, including any further amendment or changes made thereby, shall be the certificate of formation of the limited liability company, but the original effective date of formation shall remain unchanged.
- 3570 (f) An amended or restated certificate of formation may
 3571 contain only provisions that would be permitted at the time of
 3572 the amendment if the amended or restated certificate of
 3573 formation were a newly filed original certificate of
 3574 formation.
- 3575 (g) A restated certificate of formation may omit any 3576 information that is not required to be in the certificate of 3577 formation under this chapter, including the name and address 3578 of the initial registered agent or registered office, if a statement of change is on file with the Secretary of State. 3579 3580 Any omission other than the initial registered agent, shall be 3581 an amendment to the certificate of formation, which amendment must be approved in accordance with the limited liability 3582 3583 company agreement, and if the limited liability company



- agreement does not state the approval required for an

 amendment of the certificate of formation, then the amendment

 must be approved by all of the members."
- 3587 "\$10A-5A-3.02

No person shall have the power to bind the limited liability company, or a series thereof, except:

- 3590 (a) to the extent the person is authorized to act as
 3591 the agent of the limited liability company or a series thereof
 3592 under or pursuant to the limited liability company agreement;
- 3593 (b) to the extent the person is authorized to act as
 3594 the agent of the limited liability company or a series thereof
 3595 pursuant to in accordance with Sections 10A-5A-4.07,
- 3596 10A-5A-7.03, or 10A-5A-11.11; or
- 3597 (c) to the extent provided by law other than this 3598 chapter."
- 3599 "\$10A-5A-8.01
- 3600 (a) A limited liability company shall have the power to 3601 render professional services if it complies with the rules of 3602 the licensing authority for such profession.
- 3603 (b) Every individual who renders professional services
 3604 as a member or as an employee of a limited liability company
 3605 shall be liable for any negligent or wrongful act or omission
 3606 in which the individual personally participates to the same
 3607 extent the individual would be liable if the individual
 3608 rendered the services as a sole practitioner.
- 3609 (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the
 3610 personal liability of a member of any limited liability
 3611 company engaged in providing professional services shall be



3612 governed by Section 10A-5A-3.01.

- 3613 (d) The Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b),
 3614 the personal liability of a member, manager, or employee of a
 3615 foreign limited liability company engaged in providing
 3616 professional services shall be determined under the law of the
 3617 jurisdiction in which the foreign limited liability company is
 3618 organized.
 - (e) Nothing in this article shall restrict or limit in any manner the authority or duty of a licensing authority with respect to individuals rendering a professional service within the jurisdiction of the licensing authority. Nothing in this article shall restrict or limit any law, rule, or regulation pertaining to standards of professional conduct.
 - (f) Nothing in this article shall limit the authority of a licensing authority to impose requirements in addition to those stated in this chapter on any limited liability company or foreign limited liability company rendering professional services within the jurisdiction of the licensing authority.
 - (g) A member's transferrable interest in a limited liability company organized to render professional services may be voluntarily transferred only to a qualified person."
- 3633 "\$10A-8A-1.08

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- 3634 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (b) and 3635 (c):
- 3636 (1) the partnership agreement governs relations among
 3637 the partners as partners and between the partners and the
 3638 partnership; and
- 3639 (2) to the extent the partnership agreement does not



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otherwise provide for a matter described in subsection (a)(1), this chapter governs the matter.

- (b) (1) To the extent that, at law or in equity, a partner or other person has duties, including fiduciary duties, to a partnership or to another partner or to another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a partnership agreement, the partner's or other person's duties may be expanded or restricted or eliminated by provisions in a written partnership agreement, but the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing may not be eliminated.
- (2) A written partnership agreement may provide for the limitation or elimination of any and all liabilities for breach of contract and breach of duties, including fiduciary duties, of a partner or other person to a partnership or to another partner or to another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a partnership agreement, but a partnership agreement may not limit or eliminate liability for any act or omission that constitutes a bad faith violation of the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing.
- (3) A partner or other person shall not be liable to a partnership or to another partner or to another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a partnership agreement for breach of fiduciary duty for the partner's or other person's good faith reliance on the partnership agreement.
 - (4) A partnership agreement may provide that:
- (A) a partner, dissociated partner, or transferee who fails to perform in accordance with, or to comply with the terms and conditions of, the partnership agreement shall be

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subject to specified penalties or specified consequences; and

- (B) at the time or upon the happening of events specified in the partnership agreement, a partner, dissociated partner, or transferee may be subject to specified penalties or specified consequences; and
- 3673 (C) subject to Section 10A-8A-1.08(c), an act or

 transaction under the partnership agreement by the

 partnership, a partner, a dissociated partner, or a transferee

 is void or voidable.
- 3677 (5) A penalty or consequence that may be specified 3678 under paragraph (4) of this subsection may include and take the form of reducing or eliminating the defaulting partner's 3679 3680 or transferee's proportionate transferable interest in a 3681 partnership, subordinating the partner's or transferee's 3682 transferable interest to that of non-defaulting partners or transferees, forcing a sale of that transferable interest, 3683 forfeiting the defaulting partner's or transferee's 3684 3685 transferable interest, the lending by other partners or 3686 transferees of the amount necessary to meet the defaulting 3687 partner's or transferee's commitment, a fixing of the value of 3688 the defaulting partner's or transferee's transferable interest 3689 by appraisal or by formula and redemption or sale of the 3690 transferable interest at that value, or other penalty or 3691 consequence.
- 3692 (6) A written partnership agreement may supersede, in 3693 whole or in part, the provisions of Division C and Division D 3694 of Article 3 of Chapter 1.
 - (c) A partnership agreement may not:



3696 (1) vary the nature of the partnership as a separate 3697 legal entity under Section 10A-8A-1.04(a); 3698 (2) vary a partnership's power under Section 3699 10A-8A-1.05 to sue, be sued, and defend in its own name; 3700 (3) vary the law applicable to a limited liability 3701 partnership under Section 10A-8A-1.06; 3702 (4) restrict rights under this chapter of a person 3703 other than a partner, a dissociated partner, or a transferee; 3704 (5) vary the requirements of Section 10A-8A-2.03; 3705 (6) unreasonably restrict the right of access to books 3706 and records under Section 10A-8A-4.10, but the partnership agreement may impose reasonable restrictions on the 3707 3708 availability and use of information obtained under those 3709 sections and may define appropriate remedies, including 3710 liquidated damages, for a breach of any reasonable restriction 3711 on use; (7) eliminate the implied contractual covenant of good 3712 3713 faith and fair dealing as provided under Section 3714 10A-8A-1.08(b)(1);3715 (8) eliminate or limit the liability of a partner or 3716 other person for any act or omission that constitutes a bad 3717 faith violation of the implied contractual covenant of good 3718 faith and fair dealing as provided under Section 3719 10A-8A-1.08 (b) (2); 3720 (9) waive the requirements of Section 10A-8A-4.04(e); (10) reduce the limitations period specified under 3721 Section 10A-8A-4.09(e) for an action commenced under other 3722

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applicable law;



- 3724 (11) waive the prohibition on issuance of a certificate 3725 of a transferable interest in bearer form under Section 3726 10A-8A-5.02(c);3727 (12) vary the power of a person to dissociate as a 3728 partner under Section 10A-8A-6.02(a) except that the 3729 partnership agreement may require that the notice under 3730 Section 10A-8A-6.01(1) be in a writing or in a specific form 3731 thereof; 3732 (13) vary the right of a court to expel a partner in the events specified in Section 10A-8A-6.01(5); 3733 3734 (14) vary the power of a court to decree dissolution in the circumstances specified in Section 10A-8A-8.01(4) or (5); 3735 3736 (15) vary the requirement to wind up the partnership's 3737 business or not for profit activity as specified in Section 3738 10A-8A-8.01(4), (5), (6), or (7); (16) vary the right of a partner to approve or consent 3739 3740 to the cancellation of a statement of limited liability 3741 partnership as specified in Section 10A-8A-10.01(m); or 3742 (17) vary the rights of a partner under Section 3743 10A-8A-9.10-; or 3744 (18) vary the provisions of Section 10A-8A-1.14(c), 3745 (d), or (e)." 3746 "\$10A-8A-10.02 3747 (a) A limited liability partnership shall have the power to render professional services if it complies with the 3748 3749 rules of the licensing authority for such profession.
- 3750 (b) Every individual who renders professional services 3751 as a partner or as an employee of a limited liability

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- partnership shall be liable for any negligent or wrongful act or omission in which the individual personally participates to the same extent the individual would be liable if the individual rendered the services as a sole practitioner.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b), the personal liability of a partner of any limited liability partnership engaged in providing professional services shall be governed by Section 10A-8A-3.06.
- 3760 (d) The Except as otherwise provided in subsection (b),
 3761 the personal liability of a partner or employee of a foreign
 3762 limited liability partnership engaged in providing
 3763 professional services shall be determined under the law of the
 3764 jurisdiction which governs the foreign limited liability
 3765 partnership.
- 3766 (e) Nothing in this article shall restrict or limit in
 3767 any manner the authority or duty of a licensing authority with
 3768 respect to individuals rendering a professional service within
 3769 the jurisdiction of the licensing authority. Nothing in this
 3770 article shall restrict or limit any law, rule, or regulation
 3771 pertaining to standards of professional conduct.
- 3772 (f) Nothing in this article shall limit the authority
 3773 of a licensing authority to impose requirements in addition to
 3774 those stated in this chapter on any limited liability
 3775 partnership or foreign limited liability partnership rendering
 3776 professional services within the jurisdiction of the licensing
 3777 authority.
- 3778 (g) A partner's transferable interest in a limited 3779 liability partnership organized to render professional



3780 services may be voluntarily transferred only to a qualified person."

3782 "\$10A-9A-1.08

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- 3783 (a) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (b) and 3784 (c):
- 3785 (1) the partnership agreement governs relations among
 3786 the partners as partners and between the partners and the
 3787 partnership; and
 - (2) to the extent the partnership agreement does not otherwise provide for a matter described in subsection (a)(1), this chapter governs the matter.
- (b) (1) To the extent that, at law or in equity, a 3791 3792 partner or other person has duties, including fiduciary 3793 duties, to a limited partnership or to another partner or to 3794 another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a 3795 partnership agreement, the partner's or other person's duties 3796 may be expanded or restricted or eliminated by provisions in a 3797 written partnership agreement, but the implied contractual 3798 covenant of good faith and fair dealing may not be eliminated.
- 3799 (2) A written partnership agreement may provide for the 3800 limitation or elimination of any and all liabilities for 3801 breach of contract and breach of duties, including fiduciary 3802 duties, of a partner or other person to a limited partnership 3803 or to another partner or to another person that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a partnership agreement, but a 3804 3805 partnership agreement may not limit or eliminate liability for any act or omission that constitutes a bad faith violation of 3806 3807 the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair



3808 dealing.

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- 3809 (3) A partner or other person shall not be liable to a
 3810 limited partnership or to another partner or to another person
 3811 that is a party to or is otherwise bound by a partnership
 3812 agreement for breach of fiduciary duty for the partner's or
 3813 other person's good faith reliance on the partnership
 3814 agreement.
- 3815 (4) A partnership agreement may provide that any of the following:
 - (A) a partner, dissociated partner, or transferee who fails to perform in accordance with, or to comply with the terms and conditions of, the partnership agreement shall be subject to specified penalties or specified consequences; and
 - (B) at the time or upon the happening of events specified in the partnership agreement, a partner, dissociated partner, or transferee may be subject to specified penalties or specified consequences; and
 - (C) subject to Section 10A-9A-1.08(c), an act or transaction under the partnership agreement by the partnership, a partner, a dissociated partner, or a transferee is void or voidable.
- (5) A penalty or consequence that may be specified under paragraph (4) of this subsection may include and take the form of reducing or eliminating the defaulting partner's or transferee's proportionate interest in a limited partnership, subordinating the partner's or transferee's transferable interest to that of non-defaulting partners or transferees, forcing a sale of that transferable interest,



3836 forfeiting the defaulting partner's or transferee's 3837 transferable interest, the lending by other partners or 3838 transferees of the amount necessary to meet the defaulting 3839 partner's or transferee's commitment, a fixing of the value of 3840 the defaulting partner's or transferee's transferable interest 3841 by appraisal or by formula and redemption or sale of the 3842 transferable interest at that value, or other penalty or 3843 consequence.

- 3844 (6) A written partnership agreement may supersede, in 3845 whole or in part, the provisions of Division C and Division D 3846 of Article 3 of Chapter 1.
 - (c) A partnership agreement may not:

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- 3848 (1) vary the nature of the limited partnership as a separate legal entity under Section 10A-9A-1.04(a);
- 3850 (2) vary a limited partnership's power under Section 3851 10A-9A-1.05 to sue, be sued, and defend in its own name;
- 3852 (3) vary the law applicable to a limited partnership under Section 10A-9A-1.06;
 - (4) restrict rights under this chapter of a person other than a partner, a dissociated partner, or a transferee;
 - (5) vary the requirements of Section 10A-9A-2.03;
- (6) vary the information required under Section

 10A-9A-1.11 or unreasonably restrict the right to information

 under Sections 10A-9A-3.04 or 10A-9A-4.07, but the partnership

 agreement may impose reasonable restrictions on the

 availability and use of information obtained under those

 sections and may define appropriate remedies, including

 liquidated damages, for a breach of any reasonable restriction



- 3864 on use; 3865 (7) vary the power of the court under Section 3866 10A-9A-2.04; 3867 (8) eliminate the implied contractual covenant of good 3868 faith and fair dealing as provided under Section 3869 10A - 9A - 1.08 (b) (1); 3870 (9) eliminate or limit the liability of a partner or 3871 other person for any act or omission that constitutes a bad 3872 faith violation of the implied contractual covenant of good faith and fair dealing as provided under Section 3873 3874 10A-9A-1.08(b)(2);(10) waive the requirements of Section 10A-9A-5.02(e); 3875 3876 (11) reduce the limitations period specified under 3877 Section 10A-9A-5.08(d) for an action commenced under other 3878 applicable law; (12) waive the prohibition on issuance of a certificate 3879 3880 of a transferable interest in bearer form under Section 3881 10A-9A-7.02(c);3882 (13) vary the power of a person to dissociate as a 3883 general partner under Section 10A-9A-6.04(a) except that the 3884 partnership agreement may require that the notice under 3885 Section 10A-9A-6.03(1) be in a writing or in a specific form 3886 thereof; 3887 (14) vary the power of a court to decree dissolution in 3888 the circumstances specified in Section 10A-9A-8.01(f); 3889 (15) vary the requirement to wind up the partnership's activities and affairs as specified in Section 10A-9A-8.02; or 3890

(16) vary the rights of a partner under Section



- 3892 10A-9A-10.10-; or 3893 (17) vary the provisions of Section 10A-9A-1.15(c), 3894 (d), or (e)" "\$10A-9A-2.01 3895 3896 (a) In order to form a limited partnership, a person 3897 must deliver a certificate of formation for filing to the 3898 Secretary of State. Section 10A-1-3.05 shall not apply to this 3899 chapter. Instead, the certificate of formation shall set 3900 forth: 3901 (1) the name of the limited partnership, which must 3902 comply with Article 5 of Chapter 1; (2) the street address in this state, including the 3903 3904 county, of the registered office required by Article 5 of 3905 Chapter 1; 3906 (3) the name of the registered agent at the registered office as required by Article 5 of Chapter 1; 3907 (4) the name and the street and mailing address of each 3908 3909 general partner; 3910 (5) whether the limited partnership is a limited 3911 liability limited partnership; 3912 (6) any additional information required by Article 8 of 3913 Chapter 1 or by Article 10 of this chapter; and 3914 (7) any other matters the partners determine to include 3915 therein which comply with Section 10A-9A-1.08. 3916 (b) A limited partnership is formed when the 3917 certificate of formation becomes effective in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter 1. 3918
 - (c) The fact that a certificate of formation has been



- filed and is effective in accordance with Article 4 of Chapter

 1 is notice of the matters required to be included by
- 3922 subsections (a) (1), (a) (2), (a) (3), (a) (4), if applicable,
- (a) (b), and (a) (b), but is not notice of any other fact.
- 3924 (d) A partnership agreement shall be entered into
- 3925 either before, after, or at the time of filing the certificate
- 3926 of formation and, whether entered into before, after, or at
- 3927 the time of filing, may be made effective as of the filing of
- 3928 the certificate of formation or at any other time or date
- 3929 provided in the partnership agreement."
- 3930 "\$10A-9A-2.02
- 3931 Division B of Article 3 of Chapter 1 shall not apply to
- 3932 this chapter. Instead:
- 3933 (a) A certificate of formation may be amended at any
- 3934 time.
- 3935 (b) A certificate of formation may be restated with or
- 3936 without amendment at any time.
- 3937 (c) To amend its certificate of formation, a limited
- 3938 partnership must deliver a certificate of amendment for filing
- 3939 to the Secretary of State which certificate of amendment shall
- 3940 state:
- 3941 (1) the name of the limited partnership;
- 3942 (2) the unique identifying number or other designation
- 3943 as assigned by the Secretary of State; and
- 3944 (3) the changes the amendment makes to the certificate
- 3945 of formation as most recently amended or restated.
- 3946 (d) Prior to a statement of dissolution being delivered
- 3947 to the Secretary of State for filing, a limited partnership

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3948 shall promptly deliver a certificate of amendment for filing 3949 with the Secretary of State to reflect:

- (1) the admission of a new general partner; or
- (2) the dissociation of a person as a general partner.
- 3952 (e) Prior to a statement of dissolution being delivered 3953 to the Secretary of State for filing, if a general partner 3954 knows that any information in a filed certificate of formation 3955 was inaccurate when the certificate of formation was filed or 3956 has become inaccurate due to changed circumstances and if such 3957 the information is required to be set forth in a newly filed 3958 certificate of formation under this chapter, the general 3959 partner shall promptly:
- 3960 (1) cause the certificate of formation to be amended; 3961 or
- 3962 (2) if appropriate, deliver for filing with the 3963 Secretary of State a certificate of correction in accordance 3964 with Chapter 1.
- (f) A certificate of formation may be amended at any time pursuant to this section for any other proper purpose as determined by the limited partnership. A certificate of formation may also be amended in a statement of merger pursuant to Article 8 of Chapter 1 or Article 10 of this chapter.
- 3971 (g) In order to restate its certificate of formation, a 3972 limited partnership must deliver a restated certificate of 3973 formation for filing with the Secretary of State. A restated 3974 certificate of formation must:
 - (1) be designated as such in the heading;

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- (2) state the name of the limited partnership;
- 3977 (3) state the unique identifying number or other 3978 designation as assigned by the Secretary of State;
- 3979 (4) set forth any amendment or change effected in
 3980 connection with the restatement of the certificate of
 3981 formation. Any such restatement that effects an amendment
 3982 shall be subject to any other provision of this chapter not
 3983 inconsistent with this section, which would apply if a
 3984 separate certificate of amendment were filed to effect the
 3985 amendment or change;
- 3986 (5) set forth the text of the restated certificate of 3987 formation; and
 - (6) state that the restated certificate of formation consolidates all amendments into a single document.
- 3990 (h) The original certificate of formation, as
 3991 theretofore amended, shall be superseded by the restated
 3992 certificate of formation and thenceforth, the restated
 3993 certificate of formation, including any further amendment or
 3994 changes made thereby, shall be the certificate of formation of
 3995 the limited partnership, but the original effective date of
 3996 formation shall remain unchanged.
- (i) An amended or restated certificate of formation may contain only the provisions that would be permitted at the time of the amendment if the amended or restated certificate of formation were a newly filed original certificate of formation.
- 4002 (j)(1) An amendment to a certificate of formation takes
 4003 effect when the filing of the certificate of amendment takes



- 4004 effect as provided by Article 4 of Chapter 1.
- 4005 (2) An amendment to a certificate of formation does not 4006 affect:
- 4007 (i) an existing cause of action in favor of or against
 4008 the limited partnership for which the certificate of amendment
 4009 is sought;
- 4010 (ii) a pending suit to which the limited partnership is 4011 a party; or
- 4012 (iii) an existing right of a person other than an existing partner.

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- (3) If the name of a limited partnership is changed by amendment, an action brought by or against the limited partnership in the former name of that limited partnership does not abate because of the name change.
- (k)(1) A restated certificate of formation takes effect when the filing of the restated certificate of formation takes effect as provided by Article 4 of Chapter 1.
- (2) On the date and time the restated certificate of formation takes effect, the original certificate of formation and each prior amendment or restatement of the certificate of formation is superseded and the restated certificate of formation is the effective certificate of formation.
- (3) Subsections (j)(2) and $\frac{(3)}{(j)(3)}$ apply to an amendment effected by a restated certificate of formation.
- (1) A restated certificate of formation may omit any
 information that is not required to be in the certificate of
 formation under this chapter, including the name and address
 of the initial registered agent or registered office, if a



Any omission other than the initial registered agent, shall be an amendment to the certificate of formation, which amendment must be approved in accordance with the partnership agreement, and if the partnership agreement does not state the approval required for an amendment of the certificate of formation, then the amendment must be approved by all of the partners."

Section 2. Sections 10A-5A-1.11, 10A-8A-1.14, and 10A-9A-1.15, are added to the Code of Alabama 1975 to read as follows:

\$10A-5A-1.11

- (a) If a limited liability company agreement provides that an act or transaction is void or voidable when taken, then that act or transaction may be ratified or waived by:
- 4046 (1) the members or other persons entitled to ratify or
 4047 waive that act or transaction under the limited liability
 4048 company agreement;
 - (2) if the limited liability company agreement does not specify the approval required for the ratification or waiver, then those members or other persons entitled to approve the amendment of the limited liability company agreement; or
 - (3) if the limited liability company agreement does not specify the approval required for the amendment of the limited liability company agreement, then all of the members.
 - (b) If the void or voidable act or transaction was the issuance or transfer of any transferable interest, then for purposes of determining who may ratify or waive any act or transaction, the transferable interest purportedly issued or

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transferred shall be deemed not to have been issued or transferred.

- (c) Any act or transaction ratified, or with respect to which the failure to comply with any requirements of the limited liability company agreement is waived, pursuant to this section shall be deemed validly taken at the time of the act or transaction.
- 4067 (d) Upon application of the limited liability company, 4068 any member, or any person claiming to be substantially and 4069 adversely affected by a ratification or waiver pursuant to 4070 this section, the designated court, and if none, the circuit court for the county in which the limited liability company's 4071 4072 principal office is located in this state, and if none in this 4073 state, in the circuit court for the county in which the 4074 limited liability company's most recent registered office is located, may hear and determine the validity and effectiveness 4075 of the ratification of, or waiver with respect to, any void or 4076 4077 voidable act or transaction effectuated pursuant to this 4078 section, and in any such application, the limited liability 4079 company shall be named as a party and service of the 4080 application upon the registered agent of the limited liability 4081 company shall be deemed to be service upon the limited 4082 liability company, and no other party need be joined in order 4083 for the court to adjudicate the validity and effectiveness of 4084 the ratification or waiver, and the court may make such order 4085 respecting further or other notice of the application as the court deems proper under the circumstances; provided, that 4086 4087 nothing herein limits or affects the right to serve process in



- any other manner now or hereafter provided by law, and this sentence is an extension of and not a limitation upon the right otherwise existing of service of legal process upon nonresidents.
- 4092 (e) The provisions of this section shall not be
 4093 construed to limit the accomplishment of a ratification or
 4094 waiver of a void or voidable act or transaction by other means
 4095 permitted by law.

\$10A-8A-1.14

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- (a) If a partnership agreement provides that an act or transaction is void or voidable when taken, then that act or transaction may be ratified or waived by:
 - (1) the partners or other persons entitled to ratify or waive that act or transaction under the partnership agreement;
- 4102 (2) if the partnership agreement does not specify the 4103 approval required for the ratification or waiver, then those 4104 partners or other persons entitled to approve the amendment of 4105 the partnership agreement; or
 - (3) if the partnership agreement does not specify the approval required for the amendment of the partnership agreement, then all of the partners.
- (b) If the void or voidable act or transaction was the issuance or transfer of any transferable interest, then for purposes of determining who may ratify or waive any act or transaction, the transferable interest purportedly issued or transferred shall be deemed not to have been issued or transferred.
- 4115 (c) Any act or transaction ratified, or with respect to

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which the failure to comply with any requirements of the partnership agreement is waived, pursuant to this section shall be deemed validly taken at the time of the act or transaction.

4120 (d) Upon application of the partnership, any partner, or any person claiming to be substantially and adversely 4121 4122 affected by a ratification or waiver pursuant to this section, 4123 the designated court, and if none, the circuit court for the 4124 county in which the partnership's principal office is located in this state, and if none in this state, in the circuit court 4125 4126 for the county in which the partnership's most recent registered office is located, may hear and determine the 4127 4128 validity and effectiveness of the ratification of, or waiver 4129 with respect to, any void or voidable act or transaction 4130 effectuated pursuant to this section, and in any such 4131 application, the partnership shall be named as a party and 4132 service of the application upon the registered agent of the 4133 partnership shall be deemed to be service upon the 4134 partnership, and no other party need be joined in order for 4135 the court to adjudicate the validity and effectiveness of the 4136 ratification or waiver, and the court may make such order 4137 respecting further or other notice of the application as the 4138 court deems proper under the circumstances; provided, that 4139 nothing herein limits or affects the right to serve process in 4140 any other manner now or hereafter provided by law, and this sentence is an extension of and not a limitation upon the 4141 right otherwise existing of service of legal process upon 4142 4143 nonresidents.



- 4144 (e) The provisions of this section shall not be
 4145 construed to limit the accomplishment of a ratification or
 4146 waiver of a void or voidable act or transaction by other means
 4147 permitted by law.
- 4148 \$10A-9A-1.15

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- 4149 (a) If a partnership agreement provides that an act or 4150 transaction is void or voidable when taken, then that act or 4151 transaction may be ratified or waived by:
 - (1) the partners or other persons entitled to ratify or waive that act or transaction under the partnership agreement;
 - (2) if the partnership agreement does not specify the approval required for the ratification or waiver, then those partners or other persons entitled to approve the amendment of the partnership agreement; or
- 4158 (3) if the partnership agreement does not specify the
 4159 approval required for the amendment of the partnership
 4160 agreement, then all of the partners.
- 4161 (b) If the void or voidable act or transaction was the
 4162 issuance or transfer of any transferable interest, then for
 4163 purposes of determining who may ratify or waive any act or
 4164 transaction, the transferable interest purportedly issued or
 4165 transferred shall be deemed not to have been issued or
 4166 transferred.
- 4167 (c) Any act or transaction ratified, or with respect to
 4168 which the failure to comply with any requirements of the
 4169 partnership agreement is waived, pursuant to this section
 4170 shall be deemed validly taken at the time of the act or
 4171 transaction.



4172 (d) Upon application of the partnership, any partner, 4173 or any person claiming to be substantially and adversely 4174 affected by a ratification or waiver pursuant to this section, the designated court, and if none, the circuit court for the 4175 4176 county in which the partnership's principal office is located 4177 in this state, and if none in this state, in the circuit court 4178 for the county in which the partnership's most recent 4179 registered office is located, may hear and determine the 4180 validity and effectiveness of the ratification of, or waiver with respect to, any void or voidable act or transaction 4181 4182 effectuated pursuant to this section, and in any such application, the partnership shall be named as a party and 4183 4184 service of the application upon the registered agent of the 4185 partnership shall be deemed to be service upon the 4186 partnership, and no other party need be joined in order for the court to adjudicate the validity and effectiveness of the 4187 ratification or waiver, and the court may make such order 4188 4189 respecting further or other notice of the application as the 4190 court deems proper under the circumstances; provided, that 4191 nothing herein limits or affects the right to serve process in 4192 any other manner now or hereafter provided by law, and this 4193 sentence is an extension of and not a limitation upon the right otherwise existing of service of legal process upon 4194 4195 nonresidents.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not be construed to limit the accomplishment of a ratification or waiver of a void or voidable act or transaction by other means permitted by law.

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- Section 3. Chapter 18 is added to Title 10A of the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:
- 4202 CHAPTER 18. Alabama Statewide Trade Associations.
- 4203 \$10A-18-1.01. Short title.
- This chapter and the provisions of Chapter 1, to the
 extent applicable to Alabama statewide trade associations, may
- 4206 be cited as the Alabama Statewide Trade Association Law.
- 4207 §10A-18-1.02. Applicability of Alabama Nonprofit
- 4208 Corporation Law.
- The provisions of the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law
- shall apply to Alabama statewide trade associations, except to
- the extent they are inconsistent with the provisions of this
- 4212 chapter.
- 4213 \$10A-18-1.03. Definitions.
- As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise
- 4215 requires, the term:
- 4216 (a) Alabama statewide trade association means a
- 4217 domestic entity that is formed under or is governed by the
- 4218 Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law and that:
- 4219 (1) is a membership nonprofit corporation as defined in
- 4220 the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law;
- 4221 (2) was formed on or before January 1, 2024, and is in
- 4222 existence as of January 1, 2024;
- 4223 (3) has its principal office or other headquarters in
- 4224 this state;
- 4225 (4) represents or promotes the common business,
- 4226 professional, or industry interests of its members on a
- 4227 statewide basis;



- (5) has elected to be governed by this chapter on or before December 31, 2024, by amending its certificate of incorporation in accordance with Section 10A-18-1.09(a); and (6) has not ceased to be governed by this chapter in accordance with Section 10A-18-1.09(b) or Section 10A-18-1.09(c).
- 4234 (b) Policies and procedures means guidelines that 4235 provide detailed instructions on how specific tasks, 4236 activities, or situations should be handled within an Alabama statewide trade association, including areas such as 4237 4238 membership application and renewal processes, event planning and execution, code of conduct and ethics, financial 4239 management and reporting, dispute resolution, communication 4240 4241 protocols, and operational aspects relevant to the Alabama 4242 statewide trade association's functioning.
- \$10A-18-1.04. Alabama statewide trade association records.
- 4245 (a) In lieu of any records required to be maintained by
 4246 a membership nonprofit corporation under the Alabama Nonprofit
 4247 Corporation Law, a statewide trade association must maintain
 4248 the following records:
- 4249 (1) its certificate of incorporation as currently in 4250 effect;
- 4251 (2) its bylaws as currently in effect;
- 4252 (3) its policies and procedures as currently in effect;
- 4253 (4) minutes of all meetings of its board of directors 4254 and its members;
- 4255 (5) a list of the names and business addresses of its



4256 current directors and officers;

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- 4257 (6) its annual financial statements, annual audits, and 4258 annual federal and state income tax returns for its last three 4259 fiscal years (or such shorter period of existence); and
 - (7) a list of its current members in alphabetical order by class of membership showing the address for each member to which notices and other communications from the Alabama statewide trade association are to be sent.
- 4264 (b) An Alabama statewide trade association shall maintain its books and records for its last three fiscal years 4265 4266 (or such shorter period of existence) in a form that permits preparation of the financial statements in accordance with 4267 4268 generally accepted accounting principles as applied to 4269 nonprofit corporations. Financial statements shall mean 4270 balance sheets, income statements, statements of activities, 4271 notes to financial statements, statements of financial 4272 position, and any investment summaries.
- 4273 (c) An Alabama statewide trade association shall have
 4274 an annual audit of its financial statements. The audit shall
 4275 be conducted by an independent certified public accounting
 4276 firm that regularly audits nonprofit entities. The independent
 4277 certified public accounting firm shall be appointed annually
 4278 by the board of directors.
- 4279 \$10A-18-1.05. Inspection rights of members.
- In lieu of any inspection rights of the members of a membership nonprofit corporation under the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law:
- 4283 (a) A member of an Alabama statewide trade association



- 4284 is entitled to inspect the records required to be maintained 4285 by the Alabama statewide trade association under Sections 4286 10A-18-1.04(a)(1)through (6) during regular business hours at 4287 the principal office of the Alabama statewide trade 4288 association provided that the member gives the Alabama 4289 statewide trade association written notice of the member's 4290 demand at least five business days before the date on which 4291 the member wishes to inspect.
- 4292 (b) A member may inspect the records Sections
 4293 10A-18-1.04(a)(1) through (6) only if:
- 4294 (1) the member's request is made in good faith and for 4295 a proper purpose;
- 4296 (2) the member's request describes with reasonable
 4297 particularity the member's purpose and the records the member
 4298 desires to inspect; and
- 4299 (3) the records are directly connected with the 4300 member's purpose.
- 4301 (c) An Alabama statewide trade association may impose 4302 reasonable restrictions and conditions on access to and use of 4303 the records to be inspected under subsection (a), including 4304 designating information confidential and imposing 4305 nondisclosure and safeguarding, and may further keep 4306 confidential from its members and other persons, for a period 4307 of time as the Alabama statewide trade association deems 4308 reasonable, any information that the Alabama statewide trade association reasonably believes to be in the nature of a trade 4309 secret or other information the disclosure of which the 4310 4311 Alabama statewide trade association in good faith believes is



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not in the best interest of the Alabama statewide trade association or could damage the Alabama statewide trade association or its activities or affairs or that the Alabama statewide trade association is required by law or by agreement with a third party to keep confidential. In any dispute concerning the reasonableness of a restriction under this subsection, the Alabama statewide trade association has the burden of proving reasonableness.

(d) This section does not limit the power of a court, upon showing of good cause, to compel the production of the books and records of an Alabama statewide trade association, including records not set forth in Section 10A-18-1.04, to the court for examination by a court appointed professional and to impose reasonable restrictions on the use of those books and records by that court appointed professional.

\$10A-18-1.06. Court ordered action.

- (a) If an Alabama statewide trade association does not, within the time period set forth in Section 10A-18-1.05, allow a member who complies with Section 10A-18-1.05 to inspect the records required to be maintained by Sections 10A-18-1.04(a)(1) through (6), a member may petition the Montgomery County Circuit Court, and the court may summarily order inspection of the records demanded at the Alabama statewide trade association's expense upon application of the member.
- 4337 (b) If the court orders inspection of the records
 4338 demanded under Section 10A-18-1.05, it shall impose reasonable
 4339 restrictions on the confidentiality, use, or distribution of

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the records by the demanding member and the court shall also order the Alabama statewide trade association to pay the member's expenses incurred to obtain the order, unless the Alabama statewide trade association establishes that it refused inspection in good faith because the Alabama statewide trade association had:

- (1) a reasonable basis for doubt about the right of the member to inspect the records demanded; or
- 4348 (2) required reasonable restrictions on the
 4349 confidentiality, use, or distribution of the records demanded
 4350 to which the demanding member had been unwilling to agree.

4351 \$10A-18-1.07. Financial review.

- 4352 (a) If a member of an Alabama statewide trade 4353 association has a reasonable belief that financial fraud or 4354 malfeasance has occurred or is occurring at the Alabama 4355 statewide trade association, that member may petition the 4356 Montgomery County Circuit Court for an independent audit of 4357 the financial statements of the Alabama statewide trade 4358 association. For good cause shown, the court may order an 4359 independent audit of the financial statements of the Alabama 4360 statewide trade association with that independent audit report 4361 to be made to the court. If the court does not find good 4362 cause, the court costs shall be assessed to the petitioning 4363 member. If the court does find good cause, the court costs and 4364 the cost of the audit shall be assessed to the Alabama statewide trade association. 4365
 - (b) In making its determination, the court may review among other matters, whether the Alabama statewide trade

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4368 association (i) prepared its annual financial statements for 4369 its last three fiscal years (or such shorter period of 4370 existence), (ii) had an independent audit of its financial 4371 statements for its last three fiscal years (or such shorter 4372 period of existence), (iii) timely filed its federal or state 4373 income tax returns for its last three fiscal years (or such 4374 shorter period of existence), or (iv) incurred negative 4375 financial performance without a reasonable basis and/or board 4376 approval.

§10A-18-1.08. Limitations on use of membership list.

In addition to the restrictions on the use of membership lists under the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law:

- (a) In an effort to prevent cybercrime, identity fraud,
 and financial crimes, an Alabama statewide trade association
 shall take reasonable precautions to safeguard member data,
 information, and contact information, including membership
 lists.
- 4385 (b) An Alabama statewide trade association's
 4386 certificate of incorporation may provide that the Alabama
 4387 statewide trade association may not disclose member lists and
 4388 member data.
- 4389 (c) The membership list of an Alabama statewide trade
 4390 association is the property of the Alabama statewide trade
 4391 association and shall be used solely for official use of the
 4392 Alabama statewide trade association. The Alabama statewide
 4393 trade association may provide member mailing lists for
 4394 official business purposes consistent with its purpose and its
 4395 certificate of incorporation.



- 4396 (d) Electronic mail addresses and other electronic
 4397 transmission information for members may be used in the
 4398 historical and routine business of an Alabama statewide trade
 4399 association and shall not be rented, sold, or otherwise
 4400 provided to any other individual or organization for any other
 4401 purpose unless authorized by the board of directors.
- 4402 (e) Unless otherwise permitted by the certificate of 4403 incorporation or bylaws of an Alabama statewide trade 4404 association, a membership list or any part thereof may not be 4405 obtained or used by a member or members of the Alabama 4406 statewide trade association for any purpose unrelated to the 4407 interest of that member or members with respect to the 4408 member's capacity as a member of the Alabama statewide trade 4409 association without the consent of the board of directors, 4410 including without limitation:
- 4411 (1) to solicit money or property unless the money or
 4412 property will be used solely to solicit the votes of the
 4413 members in an election to be held by the Alabama statewide
 4414 trade association;
 - (2) for any commercial purpose; or

- 4416 (3) to be sold to, or purchased by, any person.
 4417 §10A-18-1.09. Required statement in certificate of formation.
- (a) A membership nonprofit corporation formed under or governed by the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law that elects to be governed by this chapter shall amend its certificate of incorporation by setting forth in its certificate of incorporation a statement that it is an Alabama statewide trade association as defined in Sections 10A-18-1.03(a)(1)

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through (6) and that it elects to be governed by this chapter.

- (b) An Alabama statewide trade association shall cease to be governed by this chapter if it amends its certificate of incorporation by removing the statement required in Section 10A-18-1.09(a) and shall thereafter be governed solely by the Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law, with no right to elect to be governed by this chapter thereafter.
- 4431 (c) An Alabama statewide trade association shall cease 4432 to be governed by this chapter if it no longer meets the 4433 definition of an Alabama statewide trade association as set 4434 forth in Section 10A-18-1.03. If an Alabama statewide trade association ceases to be governed by this chapter in 4435 4436 accordance with this section, then that Alabama statewide 4437 trade association shall thereafter be governed solely by the 4438 Alabama Nonprofit Corporation Law, with no right to elect to 4439 be governed by this chapter thereafter.

Section 4. Although this bill would have as its purpose or effect the requirement of a new or increased expenditure of local funds, the bill is excluded from further requirements and application under Section 111.05 of the Constitution of Alabama of 2022, because the bill defines a new crime or amends the definition of an existing crime.

section 5. Section 3 and Section 4 shall become

effective on June 1, 2024; Section 1 and Section 2, with the

exception of Sections 10A-1-1.03, 10A-1-1.08, and 10A-1-3.32,

Code of Alabama 1975, as amended by Section 1 of this act,

shall become effective on August 1, 2024; and Sections

10A-1-1.03, 10A-1-1.08, and 10A-1-3.32, Code of Alabama 1975,



as amended by Section 1 of this act, shall become effective January 1, 2025.