

2025 HOUSE INDUSTRY, BUSINESS AND LABOR

HB 1127

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry, Business and Labor Committee Room JW327C, State Capitol

HB 1127
1/14/2025

A BILL relating to the department of financial institutions, financial institutions response to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses, revocation of licenses, and exemption from licenses.

2:33 p.m. Chairman Warrey opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Warrey, Vice Chair Ostlie, Vice Chair Johnson, Representatives Bahl, Brown, Christy, Finley-DeVille, Grindberg, Kasper, Koppelman, D. Ruby, Schatz, Schauer, Vollmer

Discussion Topics:

- Non-depository institutions
- Regulatory burden
- Model law
- Bank licenses
- Order becomes final
- Mortgages servicers clarifying definitions
- Federal Government provision orders
- IT driven entities
- Customer banking relationship
- Fraud number growing
- Second chances
- Federal Government guidelines
- Several considerations
- Safety and soundness
- Industry removal

2:34 p.m. Lisa Kruse, Commissioner, ND Department of Financial Institutions, testified in favor and submitted testimony #28812.

3:19 p.m. Rick Clayburgh, President & CEO, ND Bankers Association, testified in favor.

3:23 p.m. Chairman Warrey closed the meeting.

Diane Lillis, Committee Clerk



MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 14, 2025

TO: House Industry, Business and Labor Committee

FROM: Lise Kruse, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 1127

Chairman Warrey and members of the House Industry, Business and Labor Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 1127.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, Senate Bill No. 1127 includes amendments to several sections in chapters 6 and 13, and the creation of chapter 13-01.2 to address data security for non-depository institutions. The purpose of this bill is to update and clarify sections of the century code to ensure consistency, particularly between banks and other financial corporations. The data security section is adding a model law into state law to ensure the state has the same cyber security protection authority as the Federal government.

Section 1 of the Bill amends section 6-01-04.1 related to the removal of financial institution officers, directors, and employees. The department has authority to remove people from banking when they have violated laws and regulations, participated in unsafe and unsound practice, or there is a breach of fiduciary duties or trust. When such action takes place, there is an opportunity to appeal, pursuant to chapter 28-32. The statute allows a person to request reinstatement after 3 years; however, this determination has no appeal rights, and therefore has caused the department incessant requests when a decision to deny a request has not been accepted. Since we only remove people when they meet our high bar - when there has been embezzlement, fraud and theft, - we do not see an instance where we would re-instate someone to work in a bank. We are therefore removing the ability to ask for termination of the final order.

The second part of this section clarifies that the state banking board or commissioner can issue a prohibition order when a person has been convicted of any charge, not just a felony charge, in the instances where the individual was able to plead to a lesser charge. This authority in the proposed subsection 7 is similar to the existing authority in subsection 6 but covers situations where the department is not aware of the charges until after conviction, closing a loophole in subsection 6.

Section 2 of the Bill amends section 6-01-04.2 where we have previously missed updating this to current practice. An order can be issued against a financial institution either by the board or by the department. When a bank has entered into an order and it escalates to a cease-and-desist order, if the original order is with the department, not the state banking board, we would need to start over with the state banking board. It makes the state banking board having to be party to all actions, which is inefficient. This change brings processes and authority outlined in chapter 6 in line with comparable processes and authority outlined in chapter 13.

Section 3 of the Bill amends section 6-03-02 to reflect the ability of the commissioner, in addition to the state banking board to issue orders or rules regarding permissible activities for our banks, since not all of these need to go to the state banking board. This change increases efficiencies and timeliness for routine requests.

Section 4 of the Bill creates and enacts a new chapter, 13-01.2, to cover data security for non-depository financial corporations. Information security threats and cyberattacks are ongoing concerns to the financial system. Safeguarding customers' data is of utmost importance, which is why banks and credit unions have strict requirements to have safeguards in place to protect consumer data. We want to make sure customer data is safe also

when they are accessing financial services from our non-bank licensees. In 2023, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) finalized and issued its Safeguards Rule applicable to non-banks. This Bill will add FTC's Safeguards Rule into state statute with this model law.

The reason this is needed in state statute is due to the lack of clarity whether we as a state can enforce compliance with the federal rules directly. We may identify failures in compliance during our exams, and by adopting this model law, we are provided with enforcement authority and the ability to address specific needs such as data breach notifications.

This statute does not create any additional rules for the industry, since the companies are already subject to the requirements, however, it allows us at the state level to have the same authority as the federal government when there are data breaches. It allows us to be proactive in addressing cyber threats, aligns us with standards of other regulators, and since we are leveraging the model law, it reduces regulatory burden for the industry. It is a model law – already enacted by 6, partially enacted by one, and 3 more states in process. Using this model law rather than enacting our own requirements, makes it easier on companies that are operating nationwide. It ensures a streamlined and coordinated approach to data security regulations where we work with other regulators. Coordination results in

effective supervision and consistent standards among regulators. The objective of this law is to ensure the security and confidentiality of customer information, reducing the risk of identity theft and fraud. By adopting robust data security requirements, we continue to ensure consumers' trust and confidence in regulated financial corporations. It results in a safer, more secure and reliable financial environment for all stakeholders.

Section 5 of the Bill amends section 13-04.1-01.1 to add a definition of a loan to our money broker statute. This money broker statute applies to all non-bank lenders, other than the ones doing mortgage lending, which has a separate statute. The language is from the "loan of money definition" in 47-14-01 and includes the additional sentence about "alternative financing products". In recent years we have seen an increase in creative financing products entering the marketplace. To simplify our statute by avoiding a separate chapter for each financing product, this gives us the ability to include these products into the existing law as they are issued. It ensures that our citizens will have access to new lending products, without sacrificing safeguards.

Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 18 of the Bill amends sections in chapter 13 related to licensees' (money brokers, collection agencies, mortgage loan originators, debt settlement providers, residential mortgage lenders, and

mortgage servicers) response to department requests. Current practice is to communicate with our licensed entities electronically within our licensing system, which is more efficient for both parties. A timeline is always specified in writing for the expected response, rather than expecting our licensee to keep track of our communication date.

Section 10 of the Bill amends section 13-09.1-14 related to renewal of license for money transmitters. The language in statute was not clear as far as our authority to deny a license renewal when a company no longer meet qualifications in law. When a licensee no longer meets North Dakota legal requirements, the department should be able to deny the license renewal.

Section 11 of the Bill amends section 13-09.1-17 related to money transmitters, updating the appeals request to 20 days, which is consistent with chapter 28-32.

Section 12 of the Bill amends 13-09.1-38 related to money transmitters orders to cease and desist. When we adopted this model law in 2023, this section was not consistent with other parts of North Dakota statutes. Also, the last section stated that the order would expire unless it was appealed, which does not make sense. The order should become final if the licensee does not appeal.

Section 13 of the Bill amends 13-10-05 for mortgage loan originators clarifying licensing when an applicant has been charged with a crime, including when trial is pending, and applicant has pled to lesser charges. The underlying crime has still occurred and should prevent the lender from offering services to North Dakota citizens. This change is consistent with other statutes.

Section 16 of the Bill amends 13-13-01 for mortgage servicers, clarifying certain definitions of the law we enacted in 2023, which seemed to cause confusion in the industry.

Section 17 of the Bill amends 13-13-04 for mortgage servicers, clarifying that entities that are only doing interim servicing are exempt.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

2025 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry, Business and Labor Committee Room JW327C, State Capitol

HB 1127
2/12/2025

A BILL relating to the department of financial institutions, financial institutions response to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses, revocation of licenses, and exemption from licenses.

9:23 a.m. Chairman Warrey opened the meeting.

Members Present: Chairman Warrey, Vice Chairman Ostlie, Vice Chairman Johnson, Representatives Bahl, Brown, Christy, Finley DeVille, Grindberg, Kasper, Koppelman, D. Ruby, Schatz, Schauer, Vollmer

Member Absent: Representative Christy

Discussion Topics:

- DFI authority

9:27 a.m. Representative Schauer moved Adopt Amendment LC #25.8110.01001, #37924.

9:27 a.m. Representative Kasper seconded the motion.

Voice Vote

Motion passed

9:28 a.m. Representative Vollmer moved a Do Pass as Amended.

9:28 a.m. Representative Bahl seconded the motion.

| Representatives | Vote |
|-----------------------------------|------|
| Representative Jonathan Warrey | Y |
| Representative Mitch Ostlie | Y |
| Representative Landon Bahl | Y |
| Representative Collette Brown | Y |
| Representative Josh Christy | AB |
| Representative Lisa Finley-DeVile | Y |
| Representative Karen Grindberg | Y |
| Representative Jorin Johnson | Y |
| Representative Jim Kasper | Y |
| Representative Ben Koppelman | Y |
| Representative Dan Ruby | Y |
| Representative Mike Schatz | Y |
| Representative Austin Schauer | Y |
| Representative Daniel R. Vollmer | Y |

Motion passed 13-0-1.

9:29 a.m. Representative Vollmer will carry the bill.

9:29 a.m. Chairman Warrey closed the meeting.

Diane Lillis, Committee Clerk

February 12, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1127

Introduced by

Industry, Business and Labor Committee

(At the request of the Department of Financial Institutions)

2-12-25

JB 1027

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the financial institution data security program; and to amend and reenact sections
3 6-01-04.1 and 6-01-04.2, subsection 7 of section 6-03-02, sections 13-04.1-01.1, 13-04.1-11.1,
4 13-05-07.1, 13-08-10, 13-08-11.1, and 13-09.1-14, subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17, sections
5 13-09.1-38 and 13-10-05, subsection 1 of section 13-11-10, section 13-12-19, subsections 6,
6 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01, and sections 13-13-04 and 13-13-18 of the North Dakota
7 Century Code, relating to the department of financial institutions, financial institutions, response
8 to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses,
9 revocation of licenses, and exemptions from licenses.

10 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

11 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **6-01-04.1. Removal of officers, directors, and employees of financial corporations or**
14 **institutions.**

- 15 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue, upon any current or
16 former officer, director, or employee of a financial corporation, financial institution, or
17 credit union subject to its jurisdiction and upon a financial corporation, financial
18 institution, or credit union involved, an order stating:
- 19 a. That the current or former officer, director, or employee is engaging, or has
20 engaged, in any of the following conduct:

Feb 20 27

- 1 (1) Violating any law, regulation, board order, or written agreement with the
- 2 board.
- 3 (2) Engaging or participating in any unsafe or unsound practice.
- 4 (3) Performing any act of commission or omission or practice which is a breach
- 5 of trust or a breach of fiduciary duty.
- 6 b. The term of the suspension or removal from employment and participation within
- 7 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, credit
- 8 union, or any other entity licensed by the department of financial institutions.
- 9 2. The order must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
- 10 The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the
- 11 complaint is served upon the current or former officer, director, or employee of a
- 12 financial corporation, financial institution, credit union, or any other entity licensed by
- 13 the department of financial institutions. The current or former officer, director, or
- 14 employee may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
- 15 3. If no hearing is requested within twenty days of the date the order is served upon the
- 16 current or former officer, director, or employee, the order is final. If a hearing is held
- 17 and the board finds that the record so warrants, it may enter a final order. The final
- 18 order suspending or removing the current or former officer, director, or employee is
- 19 final. The current or former officer or employee may request a termination of the final
- 20 order after a period of no less than three years.
- 21 4. A contested or default suspension or removal order is effective immediately upon
- 22 issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and upon a financial
- 23 corporation, financial institution, or credit union. A consent order is effective as agreed.
- 24 5. Any current or former officer, director, or employee suspended or removed from any
- 25 position pursuant to this section is not eligible, while under suspension or removal, to
- 26 be employed or otherwise participate in the affairs of any financial corporation,
- 27 financial institution, or credit union or any other entity licensed by the department of
- 28 financial institutions until the suspension or removal is terminated by the department of
- 29 financial institutions or board.
- 30 6. When any current or former officer, director, employee, or other person participating in
- 31 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union

1 is charged with a felony in state or federal court, involving dishonesty or breach of
2 trust, the commissioner may immediately suspend the person from office or prohibit
3 the person from any further participation in a financial corporation's, financial
4 institution's, or credit union's affairs. The order is effective immediately upon issuance
5 of the order on a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and the
6 person charged, and remains in effect until the criminal charge is finally disposed of or
7 until modified by the board. If a judgment of conviction, a federal pretrial diversion,
8 conviction or agreement to plea to lesser charges, or similar state order or judgment is
9 entered, the board or commissioner may order that the suspension or prohibition be
10 made permanent. A finding of not guilty or other disposition of the charge does not
11 preclude the commissioner or the board from pursuing administrative or civil remedies.

12 7. The commissioner or board may issue upon a current or former officer, director,
13 employee, or other person participating in the conduct of the affairs of a financial
14 corporation, financial institution, or credit union an order permanently suspending and
15 prohibiting the person from participation in a financial corporation's, financial
16 institution's, or credit union's affairs if convicted of any charge involving dishonesty or
17 breach of trust in state or federal court. The suspension or removal order is effective
18 immediately upon issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and
19 upon a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union.

20 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **6-01-04.2. Cease and desist orders.**

- 23 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue and serve upon a
24 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union subject to its jurisdiction a
25 complaint stating the factual basis for the department's or board's belief that the
26 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union is engaging in any of the
27 following conduct:
- 28 a. An unsafe or unsound practice.
 - 29 b. A violation in the past or on a continuing basis of any law, regulation, ~~board~~ order,
30 or written agreement entered into with the board or department of financial
31 institutions.

Aug 4 of 27

2. The complaint must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32. The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the complaint is served upon the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. The financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
3. If the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union fails to respond to the complaint within twenty days of its service, or if a hearing is held and the board concludes that the record so warrants, the board may enter an order directing the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union to cease and desist from engaging in the conduct which was the subject of the complaint and hearing and to take corrective action.
4. The commissioner or the board may enter an emergency, temporary cease and desist order if the commissioner or the board finds the conduct described in the complaint is likely to cause insolvency, substantial dissipation of assets, earnings, or capital of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union, or substantial prejudice to the depositors, shareholders, members, or creditors of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order is effective immediately upon service on the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and remains in effect for no longer than sixty days or until the conclusion of permanent cease and desist proceedings pursuant to this section, whichever is sooner. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order may be issued without an opportunity for hearing. A bank or credit union may request a hearing before the state banking board or state credit union board within ten days of the order to review the factual basis used to issue the emergency, temporary cease and desist order. The decision made by the board during this hearing will be final. If a hearing is not requested, the initial decision of the commissioner or board will be final.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 7 of section 6-03-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7. Exercise, as determined by the board or commissioner by order or rule, all the incidental powers as are necessary to carry on the business of banking, including discounting and negotiating promissory notes, bills of exchange, drafts, and other

23 5/27

1 evidences of debt; receiving deposits; buying and selling exchange, coin, and bullion;
2 loaning money upon real or personal security, or both; soliciting and receiving deposits
3 in the nature of custodial accounts for the purpose of health savings or similar health
4 care cost funding accounts, retirement fund contracts, or pension programs, and such
5 custodial accounts are exempt from chapter 6-05; and providing services to its
6 customers involving electronic transfer of funds to the same extent that other financial
7 institutions chartered and regulated by an agency of the federal government are
8 permitted to provide those services within this state. A bank that provides electronic
9 funds transfer equipment and service to its customers, at premises separate from its
10 main banking house or duly authorized facility approved by the state banking board,
11 must make the equipment and service available for use by customers of any other
12 bank upon the request of the other bank to share its use and the agreement of the
13 other bank to share pro rata all costs incurred in connection with its installation and
14 operation, and the electronic operations are not deemed to be the establishment of a
15 branch, nor of a separate facility. The electronic operations at premises separate from
16 its banking house or duly authorized facility must be considered a customer electronic
17 funds transfer center and may be established subject to rules that the state banking
18 board adopts.

19 **SECTION 4.** Chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
20 follows:

21 **13-01.2-01. Definitions.**

22 For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- 23 1. "Authorized user" means any employee, contractor, agent, or other person who:
24 a. Participates in a financial corporation's business operations; and
25 b. Is authorized to access and use any of the financial corporation's information
26 systems and data.
27 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of financial institutions.
28 3. "Consumer":
29 a. Means an individual, or that individual's legal representative, who applies for or
30 has obtained a financial product or service from a financial corporation which is to

Ag 6 of 27

1 be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. A consumer
2 includes an individual who:

- 3 (1) Applies to a financial corporation for credit for personal, family, or household
4 purposes, regardless of whether the credit is extended.
5 (2) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation to obtain
6 a determination about whether the applicant may qualify for a loan to be
7 used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, regardless of
8 whether the loan is extended.
9 (3) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation in
10 connection with obtaining or seeking to obtain financial, investment, or
11 economic advisory services, regardless of whether the financial corporation
12 establishes a continuing advisory relationship.
13 (4) Has a loan for personal, family, or household purposes in which the financial
14 corporation has ownership or servicing rights, even if the financial
15 corporation or one or more other corporations that hold ownership or
16 servicing rights in conjunction with the financial corporation hires an agent to
17 collect on the loan.

18 b. Does not include an individual who:

- 19 (1) Uses a different financial corporation or financial institution to act solely as
20 an agent for, or provide processing or other services to, the individual
21 financial corporation or financial institution.
22 (2) Designates a financial corporation solely for the purposes to act as trustee
23 for a trust.
24 (3) Is a beneficiary of a trust for which the financial corporation is a trustee.
25 (4) Is a participant or a beneficiary of an employee benefit plan that the financial
26 corporation sponsors or for which the financial corporation acts as a trustee
27 or fiduciary.

28 4. "Continuing relationship":

29 a. Means a situation in which a consumer:

- 30 (1) Has a credit or investment account with a financial corporation;
31 (2) Obtains a loan from a financial corporation;

JB 70827

- 1 (3) Purchases an insurance product from a financial corporation;
- 2 (4) Holds an investment product through a financial corporation, including when
- 3 a financial corporation acts as a custodian for securities or for assets in an
- 4 individual retirement arrangement;
- 5 (5) Enters into an agreement or understanding with a financial corporation in
- 6 which the financial corporation undertakes to arrange or broker a home
- 7 mortgage loan, or credit to purchase a vehicle, for the consumer;
- 8 (6) Enters into a lease of personal property on a nonoperating basis with a
- 9 financial corporation;
- 10 (7) Obtains financial, investment, or economic advisory services from a
- 11 financial corporation for a fee;
- 12 (8) Becomes a financial corporation's client for the purpose of obtaining tax
- 13 preparation or credit counseling services from the financial corporation;
- 14 (9) Obtains career counseling while:
- 15 (a) Seeking employment with a financial corporation or the finance,
- 16 accounting, or audit department of any company; or
- 17 (b) Employed by a financial corporation or department of any company;
- 18 (10) Is obligated on an account that a financial corporation purchases from
- 19 another financial corporation, regardless of whether the account is in default
- 20 when purchased, unless the financial corporation does not locate the
- 21 consumer or attempt to collect any amount from the consumer on the
- 22 account;
- 23 (11) Obtains real estate settlement services from a financial corporation; or
- 24 (12) Has a loan for which a financial corporation owns the servicing rights.
- 25 b. Does not include a situation in which:
- 26 (1) The consumer obtains a financial product or service from a financial
- 27 corporation only in isolated transactions, including:
- 28 (a) A financial corporation's automated teller machine to withdraw cash
- 29 from an account at another financial institution;
- 30 (b) Purchasing a money order from a financial corporation;
- 31 (c) Cashing a check with a financial corporation; or

July 8, 2027

- 1 (d) Making a wire transfer through a financial corporation;
- 2 (2) A financial corporation sells the consumer's loan and does not retain the
- 3 rights to service that loan;
- 4 (3) A financial corporation sells the consumer an airline ticket, travel insurance,
- 5 or a traveler's check in isolated transactions;
- 6 (4) The consumer obtains one-time personal or real property appraisal services
- 7 from a financial corporation; or
- 8 (5) The consumer purchases checks for a personal checking account from a
- 9 financial corporation.
- 10 5. "Customer" means a consumer who has a customer relationship with a financial
- 11 corporation.
- 12 6. "Customer information" means any record containing nonpublic personal information
- 13 about a customer of a financial corporation, whether in paper, electronic, or other form,
- 14 which is handled or maintained by or on behalf of the financial corporation or the
- 15 financial corporation's affiliates.
- 16 7. "Customer relationship" means a continuing relationship between a consumer and a
- 17 financial corporation under which the financial corporation provides one or more
- 18 financial products or services to the consumer that are used primarily for personal,
- 19 family, or household purposes.
- 20 8. "Encryption" means the transformation of data into a form that results in a low
- 21 probability of assigning meaning without the use of a protective process or key,
- 22 consistent with current cryptographic standards and accompanied by appropriate
- 23 safeguards for cryptographic key material.
- 24 9. "Financial corporation" means all entities regulated by the department of financial
- 25 institutions, excluding financial institutions and credit unions.
- 26 10. "Financial institution" means any bank, industrial loan company, or savings and loan
- 27 association organized under the laws of this state or of the United States.
- 28 11. "Financial product or service" means any product or service that a financial holding
- 29 company could offer by engaging in a financial activity under the federal Bank Holding
- 30 Company Act of 1956 [12 U.S.C. 1843 section 4(k)]. The term includes a financial
- 31 corporation's evaluation or brokerage of information that a financial corporation

Feb 9th 27

1 collects in connection with a request or an application from a consumer for a financial
2 product or service.

3 12. "Information security program" means the administrative, technical, or physical
4 safeguards a financial corporation uses to access, collect, distribute, process, protect,
5 store, use, transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information.

6 13. "Information system" means a discrete set of electronic information resources
7 organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or
8 disposition of electronic information, as well as any specialized system, including
9 industrial process controls systems, telephone switching and private branch exchange
10 systems, and environmental controls systems that contain customer information or
11 that is connected to a system that contains customer information.

12 14. "Multifactor authentication" means authentication through verification of at least two of
13 the following types of authentication factors:

- 14 a. Knowledge factors, including a password;
15 b. Possession factors, including a token; or
16 c. Inherence factors, including biometric characteristics.

17 15. "Nonpublic personal information":

18 a. Means:

- 19 (1) Personally identifiable financial information; and
20 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
21 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived using
22 personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly available,
23 including account numbers.

24 b. Does not include:

- 25 (1) Publicly available information, except as included on a list described in
26 paragraph 2 of subdivision a;
27 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
28 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived without
29 using any personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly
30 available; or

Feb 10 09 27

1 (3) Any list of individuals' names and addresses that contains only publicly
2 available information, is not derived, in whole or in part, using personally
3 identifiable financial information that is not publicly available, and is not
4 disclosed in a manner that indicates that any individual on the list is the
5 financial corporation's consumer.

6 16. "Notification event" means the acquisition of unencrypted customer information without
7 the authorization of the individual to which the information pertains. Customer
8 information is considered unencrypted for purposes of this subsection if the encryption
9 key was accessed by an unauthorized person. Unauthorized acquisition is presumed
10 to include unauthorized access to unencrypted customer information unless the
11 financial corporation has reliable evidence showing there has not been, or could not
12 reasonably have been, unauthorized acquisition of customer information.

13 17. "Penetration testing" means a test methodology in which assessors attempt to
14 circumvent or defeat the security features of an information system by attempting to
15 penetrate databases or controls from outside or inside a financial corporation's
16 information systems.

17 18. "Personally identifiable financial information":

18 a. Means any information:

19 (1) A consumer provides to a financial corporation to obtain a financial product
20 or service;

21 (2) About a consumer resulting from any transaction involving a financial
22 product or service between a financial corporation and a consumer; or

23 (3) A financial corporation otherwise obtains about a consumer in connection
24 with providing a financial product or service to that consumer.

25 b. Includes:

26 (1) Information a consumer provides to a financial corporation on an application
27 to obtain a loan, credit card, or other financial product or service;

28 (2) Account balance information, payment history, overdraft history, and credit
29 or debit card purchase information;

30 (3) An individual that is or has been a financial corporation's customer or has
31 obtained a financial product or service from the financial corporation;

83 11 of 27

- 1 (4) Any information about a financial corporation's consumer if it is disclosed in
- 2 a manner that indicates the individual is or has been a financial
- 3 corporation's consumer;
- 4 (5) Any information a consumer provides to a financial corporation or which a
- 5 financial corporation or a financial corporation's agent otherwise obtains in
- 6 connection with collecting on, or servicing, a credit account;
- 7 (6) Any information a financial corporation collects through an information
- 8 collecting device from a web server; and
- 9 (7) Information from a consumer report.
- 10 c. Does not include:
- 11 (1) A list of names and addresses of customers of an entity that is not a
- 12 financial corporation; and
- 13 (2) Information that does not identify a consumer, such as aggregate
- 14 information or blind data that does not contain personal identifiers such as
- 15 account numbers, names, or addresses.
- 16 19. a. "Publicly available information":
- 17 (1) Means any information that a financial corporation has a reasonable basis
- 18 to believe is lawfully made available to the general public from:
- 19 (a) Federal, state, or local government records;
- 20 (b) Widely distributed media; or
- 21 (c) Disclosures to the general public which are required under federal,
- 22 state, or local law.
- 23 (2) Includes information:
- 24 (a) In government real estate records and security interest filings; or
- 25 (b) From widely distributed media, a telephone book, a television or radio
- 26 program, a newspaper, or a website that is available to the general
- 27 public on an unrestricted basis. A website is not restricted because an
- 28 internet service provider or a site operator requires a fee or a
- 29 password, provided access is available to the general public.

JB 120627

1 b. For purposes of this subsection, a financial corporation has a reasonable basis to
2 believe information is lawfully made available to the general public if the financial
3 corporation has taken steps to determine:

4 (1) The information is of the type available to the general public; and

5 (2) Whether an individual can direct that the information not be made available
6 to the general public and, if so, that the financial corporation's consumer has
7 not done so. A financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe
8 mortgage information is lawfully made available to the general public if the
9 financial corporation determines the information is of the type included on
10 the public record in the jurisdiction where the mortgage is recorded. A
11 financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe an individual's
12 telephone number is lawfully made available to the general public if the
13 financial corporation has located the telephone number in the telephone
14 book or the consumer has informed the financial corporation the telephone
15 number is not unlisted.

16 20. "Qualified individual" means the individual designated by a financial institution to
17 oversee, implement, and enforce the financial institution's information security
18 program.

19 21. "Security event" means an event resulting in unauthorized access to, or disruption or
20 misuse of:

21 a. An information system or information stored on an information system; or

22 b. Customer information held in physical form.

23 22. "Service provider" means any person or entity that receives, maintains, processes, or
24 otherwise is permitted access to customer information through its provision of services
25 directly to a financial corporation that is subject to this chapter.

26 **13-01.2-02. Standards for safeguarding customer information.**

27 1. A financial corporation shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive
28 information security program.

29 2. The information security program must:

30 a. Be written in one or more readily accessible parts; and

Jan 13 of 27

1 b. Maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that are appropriate
2 to the financial corporation's size and complexity, the nature and scope of the
3 financial corporation's activities, and the sensitivity of any customer information at
4 issue.

5 3. The financial corporation shall develop a security program that:

6 a. Ensures the security and confidentiality of customer information;

7 b. Protects against any anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of
8 such information; and

9 c. Protects against unauthorized access to or use of such information that could
10 result in substantial harm or inconvenience to any customer.

11 **13-01.2-03. Elements of a security program.**

12 1. A financial corporation's information security program must denote a designation of a
13 qualified individual responsible for overseeing and implementing the financial
14 corporation's information security program and enforcing the financial corporation's
15 information security program. The qualified individual may be employed by the
16 financial corporation, an affiliate, or a service provider.

17 2. If a financial corporation designates an individual employed by an affiliate or service
18 provider as the qualified individual, the financial corporation shall:

19 a. Retain responsibility for compliance with this chapter;

20 b. Designate a senior member of the financial corporation's personnel to be
21 responsible for directing and overseeing the qualified individual; and

22 c. Require the service provider or affiliate to maintain an information security
23 program that protects the financial corporation in accordance with the
24 requirements of this chapter.

25 3. A financial corporation shall base the financial corporation's information security
26 program on a risk assessment that:

27 a. Identifies reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the security,
28 confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could result in the
29 unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other compromise of
30 customer information;

8/3 14/08/27

- 1 b. Assesses the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control the risks in
- 2 subdivision a; and
- 3 c. Includes additional periodic risk assessments that:
- 4 (1) Re-examine the reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the
- 5 security, confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could
- 6 result in the unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other
- 7 compromise of such information; and
- 8 (2) Reassess the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control these risks;
- 9 4. The risk assessment must be in writing and include:
- 10 a. Criteria to evaluate and categorize identified security risks or threats the financial
- 11 corporation faces;
- 12 b. Criteria for the assessment of the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the
- 13 financial corporation's information systems and customer information, including
- 14 the adequacy of the existing controls in the context of the identified risks or
- 15 threats the financial corporation faces; and
- 16 c. Requirements describing how:
- 17 (1) Identified risks will be mitigated or accepted based on the risk assessment;
- 18 and
- 19 (2) The information security program will address the risks.
- 20 5. A financial corporation shall design and implement safeguards to control the risks the
- 21 financial corporation identifies through the risk assessment in subsection 4, which
- 22 include:
- 23 a. Implementing and periodically reviewing access controls, including technical and
- 24 as appropriate, physical controls to:
- 25 (1) Authenticate and permit access only to authorized users to protect against
- 26 the unauthorized acquisition of customer information; and
- 27 (2) Limit an authorized user's access to only customer information the
- 28 authorized user needs to perform the authorized user's duties and functions,
- 29 or in the case of a customer, to access the customer's own information.
- 30 b. Identifying and managing data, personnel, devices, systems, and facilities that
- 31 enable the financial corporation to achieve business purposes in accordance with

15/01/27

- 1 the business purpose's relative importance to business objectives and the
2 financial corporation's risk strategy.
- 3 c. Protecting by encryption all customer information held or transmitted by the
4 financial corporation both in transit over external networks and at rest. To the
5 extent a financial corporation determines that encryption of customer information,
6 either in transit over external networks or at rest, is infeasible, the financial
7 corporation may secure customer information using effective alternative
8 compensating controls reviewed and approved by the financial corporation's
9 qualified individual.
- 10 d. Adopting secure development practices for in-house developed applications
11 utilized by the financial corporation for transmitting, accessing, or storing
12 customer information and procedures for evaluating, assessing, or testing the
13 security of externally developed applications the financial corporation utilizes to
14 transmit, access, or store customer information.
- 15 e. Implementing multifactor authentication for any individual accessing any
16 information system, unless the financial corporation's qualified individual has
17 approved in writing the use of a reasonably equivalent or more secure access
18 control.
- 19 f. Developing, implementing, and maintaining procedures to securely dispose of
20 customer information, in any format, no later than two years after the last date the
21 information is used in connection with providing a product or service to the
22 customer which it relates, unless:
- 23 (1) The information is necessary for business operations or for other legitimate
24 business purposes;
- 25 (2) Is otherwise required to be retained by law or regulation; or
- 26 (3) Where targeted disposal is not reasonably feasible due to the manner in
27 which the information is maintained.
- 28 g. Periodically reviewing the financial corporation's data retention policy to minimize
29 unnecessary retention of data.
- 30 h. Adopting procedures for change management.
- 31 i. Implementing policies, procedures and controls designed to:

Ag 16 of 27

- 1 (1) Monitor and log the activity of authorized users; and
- 2 (2) Detect unauthorized access to, use of, or tampering with customer
- 3 information by authorized users.
- 4 6. a. A financial corporation shall regularly test or otherwise monitor the effectiveness
- 5 of the safeguards' key controls, systems, and procedures, including the controls,
- 6 systems, and procedures to detect actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions
- 7 into, information systems.
- 8 b. Information systems monitoring and testing must include continuous monitoring
- 9 or periodic penetration testing, and vulnerability assessments. Without effective
- 10 continuous monitoring or other systems to detect, on an ongoing basis, changes
- 11 in information systems that may create vulnerabilities, a financial corporation
- 12 shall conduct:
- 13 (1) Annual penetration testing of the financial corporation's information systems
- 14 based on relevant identified risks in accordance with the risk assessment;
- 15 and
- 16 (2) Vulnerability assessments, including systemic scans or information systems
- 17 reviews that are reasonably designed to identify publicly known security
- 18 vulnerabilities in the financial corporation's information systems based on
- 19 the risk assessment, at least every six months; whenever there are material
- 20 changes to the financial corporation's operations or business arrangements;
- 21 and whenever there are circumstances the financial corporation knows or
- 22 has reason to know may have a material impact on the financial
- 23 corporation's information security program.
- 24 7. A financial corporation shall implement policies and procedures to ensure the financial
- 25 corporation's personnel are able to enact the financial corporation's information
- 26 security program by:
- 27 a. Providing the financial corporation's personnel with security awareness training
- 28 that is updated as necessary to reflect risks identified by the risk assessment;
- 29 b. Utilizing qualified information security personnel employed by the financial
- 30 corporation or an affiliate or service provider sufficient to manage the financial

2023 19 of 27

- 1 corporation's information security risks and to perform or oversee the information
- 2 security program;
- 3 c. Providing information security personnel with security updates and training
- 4 sufficient to address relevant security risks; and
- 5 d. Verifying that key information security personnel take steps to maintain current
- 6 knowledge of changing information security threats and countermeasures.
- 7 8. A financial corporation shall oversee service providers by:
- 8 a. Taking reasonable steps to select and retain service providers capable of
- 9 maintaining appropriate safeguards for customer information;
- 10 b. Requiring, by contract, the financial corporation's service providers implement
- 11 and maintain appropriate safeguards; and
- 12 c. Periodically assessing the financial corporation's service providers based on the
- 13 risk they present, and the continued adequacy of the service providers'
- 14 safeguards.
- 15 9. A financial corporation shall evaluate and adjust the financial corporation's information
- 16 security program by incorporating:
- 17 a. The results of the testing and monitoring required under subsection 5;
- 18 b. Any material changes to the financial corporation's operations or business
- 19 arrangements;
- 20 c. The results of risk assessments performed under subsection 3; or
- 21 d. Any other circumstances that the financial corporation knows or has reason to
- 22 know may have a material impact on the financial corporation's information
- 23 security program.
- 24 10. A financial corporation shall establish a written incident response plan designed to
- 25 promptly respond to, and recover from, any security event materially affecting the
- 26 confidentiality, integrity, or availability of customer information the financial corporation
- 27 controls. The plan must address:
- 28 a. The goals of the incident response plan;
- 29 b. The internal processes for responding to a security event;
- 30 c. Clear roles, responsibilities, and levels of decisionmaking authority;
- 31 d. External and internal communications and information sharing;

14 of 27

- 1 e. Requirements for the remediation of any identified weaknesses in information
- 2 systems and associated controls;
- 3 f. Documentation and reporting regarding security events and related incident
- 4 response activities; and
- 5 g. The evaluation and revision of the incident response plan, as necessary, after a
- 6 security event.
- 7 11. A financial corporation shall require the financial corporation's qualified individual to
- 8 report in writing, at least annually, to the financial corporation's board of directors or
- 9 equivalent governing body. If no board of directors or equivalent governing body
- 10 exists, the report shall be timely presented to a senior officer responsible for the
- 11 financial corporation's information security program. The report must include:
- 12 a. The overall status of the information security program, and the financial
- 13 corporation's compliance with this chapter and associated rules; and
- 14 b. Material matters related to the information security program, addressing issues
- 15 including risk assessment, risk management and control decisions, service
- 16 provider arrangements, results of testing, security events or violations and
- 17 management's responses thereto, and recommendations for changes in the
- 18 information security program.
- 19 12. a. A financial corporation shall notify the commissioner about notification events.
- 20 b. After discovery of a notification event described in subdivision c, if the notification
- 21 event involves the information of at least five hundred consumers, the financial
- 22 corporation shall notify the commissioner as soon as possible, and no later than
- 23 forty-five days after the event is discovered. The notice must be made in a format
- 24 specified by the commissioner and include:
- 25 (1) The name and contact information of the reporting financial corporation;
- 26 (2) A description of the types of information involved in the notification event;
- 27 (3) The date or date range of the notification event, if the information is possible
- 28 to determine;
- 29 (4) The number of consumers affected or potentially affected by the notification
- 30 event;
- 31 (5) A general description of the notification event; and

JB 19 of 27

1 (6) A statement whether any law enforcement official has provided the financial
2 corporation with a written determination that notifying the public of the
3 breach would impede a criminal investigation or cause damage to national
4 security, and a means for the commissioner to contact the law enforcement
5 official. A law enforcement official may request an initial delay of up to
6 forty-five days following the date when notice was provided to the
7 commissioner. The delay may be extended for an additional period of up to
8 sixty days if the law enforcement official seeks an extension in writing.

9 c. A notification event must be treated as discovered on the first day when the event
10 is known to the financial corporation. A financial corporation is deemed to have
11 knowledge of a notification event if the event is known to any employee, officer,
12 or other agent of the financial corporation, other than the person committing the
13 breach.

14 13. A financial corporation shall establish a written plan addressing business continuity
15 and disaster recovery.

16 **13-01.2-04. Exemptions.**

17 Subsection 4, subdivision b of subsection 6, and subsections 10 and 11 of section
18 13-01.2-03 do not apply to financial institutions that maintain customer information concerning
19 fewer than five thousand consumers.

20 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **13-04.1-01.1. Definitions.**

23 As used in this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- 24 1. "Borrower" means a person or entity that seeks out, or is solicited by a money broker
25 for the purpose of money brokering.
- 26 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial institutions.
- 27 3. "Loan" means a contract by which one delivers a sum of money to another and the
28 latter agrees to return at a future time a sum equivalent to that which the person
29 borrowed. This includes alternative financing products as identified by the
30 commissioner through the issuance of an order.

AB 20127

1 4. "Money broker" means a person or entity who, in the ordinary course of business,
2 engages in money brokering.

3 4-5. "Money brokering" means the act of arranging or providing loans or leases as a form
4 of financing, or advertising or soliciting either in print, by letter, in person, or otherwise,
5 the right to find lenders or provide loans or leases for persons or businesses desirous
6 of obtaining funds for any purposes.

7 5-6. "Net branch" means an office at which a licensed money broker allows a separate
8 person that does not hold a valid North Dakota money brokers license to originate
9 loans under the license of the money broker.

10 6-7. "Net branch arrangement" means an arrangement under which a licensed money
11 broker enters an agreement whereby its designated branch manager has the
12 appearance of ownership of the licensee by, among other things, sharing in the profits
13 or losses, establishing, leasing, or renting the branch premises, entering other
14 contractual relationships with vendors such as for telephones, utilities, and advertising,
15 having control of a corporate checkbook, or exercising control of personnel through
16 the power to hire or fire such individuals. A person may be considered to be utilizing a
17 net branch if the net branch agreement requires the branch manager to indemnify the
18 licensee for damages from any apparent, express, or implied agency representation
19 by or through the branch's actions or if the agreement requires the branch manager to
20 issue a personal check to cover operating expenses whether or not funds are
21 available from an operating account of the licensee.

22 7-8. "Precomputed loan" means a loan that is expressed as a sum comprising the principal
23 and the amount of the loan finance charge computed in advance.

24 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-04.1-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the mailing of the request by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

JB 2/10/27

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-05-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-05-07.1. Response to department requests.**

6 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
7 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
8 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
9 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
10 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
11 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
12 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

13 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **13-08-10. Regulations - Examinations.**

16 The commissioner may adopt rules for the implementation and enforcement of this chapter.
17 ~~A copy of a rule adopted by the commissioner must be mailed to each licensee at least thirty~~
18 ~~days before the date the rule takes effect.~~ To assure compliance with this chapter, the
19 commissioner may examine the relevant business, books, and records of any licensee. The
20 licensee shall pay an examination or visitation fee, and the commissioner shall charge the
21 licensee for the actual cost of the examination or visitation at an hourly rate set by the
22 commissioner which is sufficient to cover all reasonable expenses associated with the
23 examination or visitation.

24 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-08-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

JB 22027

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-09.1-14. Renewal of license.**

6 1. A license under this chapter must be renewed annually.

7 a. An annual nonrefundable renewal fee must be paid by December thirty-first. The
8 fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of one percent of the money
9 transmission dollar volume in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
10 thirtieth, whichever is greater. For the transmission of virtual currency as defined
11 in section 13-09.1-44, the fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of
12 one percent of the average United States dollar equivalent market value of the
13 virtual currency transmitted in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
14 thirtieth, whichever is greater. The fee may not exceed two thousand five hundred
15 dollars.

16 b. The renewal term must be for a period of one year and begins on January first of
17 each year after the initial license term and expires on December thirty-first of the
18 year the renewal term begins.

19 2. A licensee shall submit a renewal report with the renewal fee, in a form and in a
20 medium prescribed by the commissioner. The renewal report must state or contain a
21 description of each material change in information submitted by the licensee in its
22 original license application which has not been reported to the commissioner.

23 3. The commissioner for good cause may grant an extension of the renewal date.

24 4. The commissioner may utilize the nationwide system to process license renewals
25 provided that such functionality is consistent with this section.

26 5. A licensee may renew an expired license no later than January thirty-first subject to a
27 late fee of fifty dollars.

28 6. The commissioner may deny an application to renew a license if the licensee no
29 longer meets the criteria for licensure or otherwise fails to comply with this chapter.

30 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17 of the North Dakota
31 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

Feb 23 of 27

- 1 3. A notice of disapproval must contain a statement of the basis for disapproval and must
2 be sent to the licensee and the disapproved individual. A licensee may appeal a notice
3 of disapproval by requesting a hearing before the commissioner within ~~thirty~~twenty
4 days after receipt of notice of disapproval in accordance with chapter 28-32.

5 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **13-09.1-38. Orders to cease and desist.**

- 8 1. If the commissioner determines that a violation of this chapter or of a rule adopted or
9 an order issued under this chapter by a licensee or authorized delegate is likely to
10 cause immediate and irreparable harm to the licensee, its customers, or the public as
11 a result of the violation, or cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets of the
12 licensee, the commissioner may issue an order requiring the licensee or authorized
13 delegate to cease and desist from the violation. The order becomes effective upon
14 issuance.
- 15 2. The commissioner may issue an order against a licensee to cease and desist from
16 providing money transmission through an authorized delegate that is the subject of a
17 separate order by the commissioner.
- 18 3. An order to cease and desist ~~remains effective and enforceable pending the~~
19 ~~completion of an administrative proceeding~~must contain a notice of opportunity for a
20 hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
- 21 4. ~~An order to cease and desist expires unless the commissioner commences an~~
22 ~~administrative proceeding pursuant to chapter 28-32 within ten days after it is issued~~If
23 the company or individual subject to an order to cease and desist fails to request a
24 hearing in writing to the commissioner within twenty days of issuance, or if a hearing is
25 held and the commissioner concludes the record so warrants, the order to cease and
26 desist becomes final.

27 **SECTION 13. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-10-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
28 amended and reenacted as follows:

29 **13-10-05. Issuance of license.**

- 30 The commissioner shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license unless the
31 commissioner makes at a minimum the following findings:

Job 240627

- 1 1. The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any
2 governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal vacation of such revocation
3 shall not be deemed a revocation.
- 4 2. The applicant has not been charged pending trial, convicted of, or pled guilty, pled to
5 lesser charges, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign, or military
6 court:
 - 7 a. During the seven-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing
8 and registration; or
 - 9 b. At any time preceding such date of application, if such felony involved an act of
10 fraud, dishonesty, or a breach of trust, or money laundering;
 - 11 c. Provided that any pardon of a conviction shall not be a conviction for purposes of
12 this subsection.
- 13 3. a. The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general
14 fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a
15 determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and
16 efficiently within the purposes of this chapter.
- 17 b. For purposes of this subsection, a person has shown that that person is not
18 financially responsible when that person has shown a disregard in the
19 management of that person's own financial condition. A determination that an
20 individual has not shown financial responsibility may include:
 - 21 (1) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments solely as a result of
22 medical expenses;
 - 23 (2) Current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings;
 - 24 (3) Foreclosures within the past three years; and
 - 25 (4) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within the past three years.
- 26 4. The applicant has completed the prelicensing education requirement described in
27 section 13-10-06.
- 28 5. The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in
29 section 13-10-07.
- 30 6. The applicant has met the net worth and surety bond requirements under section
31 13-10-13.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 13-11-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. If the commissioner has reason to believe that grounds for revocation of a license exist, the commissioner may ~~send by certified mail to~~ notify the licensee with a notice of hearing stating the contemplated action and in general the grounds thereof and setting the time and place for a hearing thereon. Grounds for revocation of a license include:

- a. Any debt-settlement provider has failed to pay the annual license fee or to maintain in effect the bond required under this chapter;
- b. The debt-settlement provider has violated this chapter or any rule lawfully made by the commissioner implementing this chapter;
- c. Any fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the time of the original application for a license, would have warranted the commissioner in refusing its issuance; or
- d. Any applicant has made any false statement or representation to the commissioner in applying for a license under this chapter.

SECTION 15. AMENDMENT. Section 13-12-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-12-19. Response to department requests.

An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

SECTION 16. AMENDMENT. Subsections 6, 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01 of the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

6. "~~Interim serviced prior to sale~~ mortgage servicing" means the activity of collecting a limited number of contractual mortgage payments immediately after origination on loans held for sale but prior to the loans being sold into the secondary market.

Aug 26/27

21. "Service or servicing a loan" means ~~on behalf of the lender or investor of a residential mortgage loan:~~

- a. Collecting or receiving payments on existing obligations due and owing to the lender or investor, including payments of principal, interest, escrow amounts, and other amounts due;
- b. Collecting fees due to the servicer;
- c. Working with the borrower and the licensed lender or servicer to collect data and make decisions necessary to modify certain terms of those obligations either temporarily or permanently;
- d. Otherwise finalizing collection through the foreclosure process; or
- e. Servicing a reverse mortgage loan.

22. "Servicer" means the entity performing the routine administration of residential mortgage loans ~~on behalf of the owner or owners of the related mortgages under the terms of a servicing contract.~~

SECTION 17. AMENDMENT. Section 13-13-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-13-04. Entities exempted from licensing requirements.

This chapter does not apply to:

1. Banks;
2. Credit unions;
3. Savings and loan associations;
4. State or federal housing finance agencies;
5. Institutions chartered by the farm credit administration; ~~or~~
6. Not-for-profit mortgage servicers; or
7. Entities solely performing interim mortgage servicing.

SECTION 18. AMENDMENT. Section 13-13-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-13-18. Response to department requests.

An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if

JK 27 Oct 27

- 1 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the~~ request by the department of
- 2 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
- 3 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
- 4 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
HB 1127**

Industry, Business and Labor Committee (Rep. Warrey, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.8110.01001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (13 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1127 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

25.8110.01001
Title.02000

Adopted by the Industry, Business and
Labor Committee
February 12, 2025

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO

HOUSE BILL NO. 1127

Introduced by

Industry, Business and Labor Committee

(At the request of the Department of Financial Institutions)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the financial institution data security program; and to amend and reenact sections
3 6-01-04.1 and 6-01-04.2, subsection 7 of section 6-03-02, sections 13-04.1-01.1, 13-04.1-11.1,
4 13-05-07.1, 13-08-10, 13-08-11.1, and 13-09.1-14, subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17, sections
5 13-09.1-38 and 13-10-05, subsection 1 of section 13-11-10, section 13-12-19, subsections 6,
6 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01, and sections 13-13-04 and 13-13-18 of the North Dakota
7 Century Code, relating to the department of financial institutions, financial institutions, response
8 to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses,
9 revocation of licenses, and exemptions from licenses.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

11 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **6-01-04.1. Removal of officers, directors, and employees of financial corporations or** 14 **institutions.**

- 15 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue, upon any current or
16 former officer, director, or employee of a financial corporation, financial institution, or
17 credit union subject to its jurisdiction and upon a financial corporation, financial
18 institution, or credit union involved, an order stating:
- 19 a. That the current or former officer, director, or employee is engaging, or has
20 engaged, in any of the following conduct:

- 1 (1) Violating any law, regulation, board order, or written agreement with the
2 board.
- 3 (2) Engaging or participating in any unsafe or unsound practice.
- 4 (3) Performing any act of commission or omission or practice which is a breach
5 of trust or a breach of fiduciary duty.
- 6 b. The term of the suspension or removal from employment and participation within
7 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, credit
8 union, or any other entity licensed by the department of financial institutions.
- 9 2. The order must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
10 The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the
11 complaint is served upon the current or former officer, director, or employee of a
12 financial corporation, financial institution, credit union, or any other entity licensed by
13 the department of financial institutions. The current or former officer, director, or
14 employee may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
- 15 3. If no hearing is requested within twenty days of the date the order is served upon the
16 current or former officer, director, or employee, the order is final. If a hearing is held
17 and the board finds that the record so warrants, it may enter a final order. The final
18 order suspending or removing the current or former officer, director, or employee is
19 final. The current or former officer or employee may request a termination of the final
20 order after a period of no less than three years.
- 21 4. A contested or default suspension or removal order is effective immediately upon
22 issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and upon a financial
23 corporation, financial institution, or credit union. A consent order is effective as agreed.
- 24 5. Any current or former officer, director, or employee suspended or removed from any
25 position pursuant to this section is not eligible, while under suspension or removal, to
26 be employed or otherwise participate in the affairs of any financial corporation,
27 financial institution, or credit union or any other entity licensed by the department of
28 financial institutions until the suspension or removal is terminated by the department of
29 financial institutions or board.
- 30 6. When any current or former officer, director, employee, or other person participating in
31 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union

1 is charged with a felony in state or federal court, involving dishonesty or breach of
2 trust, the commissioner may immediately suspend the person from office or prohibit
3 the person from any further participation in a financial corporation's, financial
4 institution's, or credit union's affairs. The order is effective immediately upon issuance
5 of the order on a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and the
6 person charged, and remains in effect until the criminal charge is finally disposed of or
7 until modified by the board. If a judgment of conviction, a federal pretrial diversion,
8 conviction or agreement to plea to lesser charges, or similar state order or judgment is
9 entered, the board or commissioner may order that the suspension or prohibition be
10 made permanent. A finding of not guilty or other disposition of the charge does not
11 preclude the commissioner or the board from pursuing administrative or civil remedies.

12 7. The commissioner or board may issue upon a current or former officer, director,
13 employee, or other person participating in the conduct of the affairs of a financial
14 corporation, financial institution, or credit union an order permanently suspending and
15 prohibiting the person from participation in a financial corporation's, financial
16 institution's, or credit union's affairs if convicted of any charge involving dishonesty or
17 breach of trust in state or federal court. The suspension or removal order is effective
18 immediately upon issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and
19 upon a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union.

20 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **6-01-04.2. Cease and desist orders.**

- 23 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue and serve upon a
24 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union subject to its jurisdiction a
25 complaint stating the factual basis for the department's or board's belief that the
26 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union is engaging in any of the
27 following conduct:
- 28 a. An unsafe or unsound practice.
 - 29 b. A violation in the past or on a continuing basis of any law, regulation, ~~board~~ order,
30 or written agreement entered into with the board or department of financial
31 institutions.

2. The complaint must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32. The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the complaint is served upon the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. The financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
3. If the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union fails to respond to the complaint within twenty days of its service, or if a hearing is held and the board concludes that the record so warrants, the board may enter an order directing the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union to cease and desist from engaging in the conduct which was the subject of the complaint and hearing and to take corrective action.
4. The commissioner or the board may enter an emergency, temporary cease and desist order if the commissioner or the board finds the conduct described in the complaint is likely to cause insolvency, substantial dissipation of assets, earnings, or capital of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union, or substantial prejudice to the depositors, shareholders, members, or creditors of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order is effective immediately upon service on the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and remains in effect for no longer than sixty days or until the conclusion of permanent cease and desist proceedings pursuant to this section, whichever is sooner. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order may be issued without an opportunity for hearing. A bank or credit union may request a hearing before the state banking board or state credit union board within ten days of the order to review the factual basis used to issue the emergency, temporary cease and desist order. The decision made by the board during this hearing will be final. If a hearing is not requested, the initial decision of the commissioner or board will be final.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 7 of section 6-03-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7. Exercise, as determined by the board or commissioner by order or rule, all the incidental powers as are necessary to carry on the business of banking, including discounting and negotiating promissory notes, bills of exchange, drafts, and other

1 evidences of debt; receiving deposits; buying and selling exchange, coin, and bullion;
2 loaning money upon real or personal security, or both; soliciting and receiving deposits
3 in the nature of custodial accounts for the purpose of health savings or similar health
4 care cost funding accounts, retirement fund contracts, or pension programs, and such
5 custodial accounts are exempt from chapter 6-05; and providing services to its
6 customers involving electronic transfer of funds to the same extent that other financial
7 institutions chartered and regulated by an agency of the federal government are
8 permitted to provide those services within this state. A bank that provides electronic
9 funds transfer equipment and service to its customers, at premises separate from its
10 main banking house or duly authorized facility approved by the state banking board,
11 must make the equipment and service available for use by customers of any other
12 bank upon the request of the other bank to share its use and the agreement of the
13 other bank to share pro rata all costs incurred in connection with its installation and
14 operation, and the electronic operations are not deemed to be the establishment of a
15 branch, nor of a separate facility. The electronic operations at premises separate from
16 its banking house or duly authorized facility must be considered a customer electronic
17 funds transfer center and may be established subject to rules that the state banking
18 board adopts.

19 **SECTION 4.** Chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
20 follows:

21 **13-01.2-01. Definitions.**

22 For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

- 23 1. "Authorized user" means any employee, contractor, agent, or other person who:
24 a. Participates in a financial corporation's business operations; and
25 b. Is authorized to access and use any of the financial corporation's information
26 systems and data.
- 27 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of financial institutions.
- 28 3. "Consumer":
29 a. Means an individual, or that individual's legal representative, who applies for or
30 has obtained a financial product or service from a financial corporation which is to

1 be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. A consumer
2 includes an individual who:

- 3 (1) Applies to a financial corporation for credit for personal, family, or household
4 purposes, regardless of whether the credit is extended.
5 (2) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation to obtain
6 a determination about whether the applicant may qualify for a loan to be
7 used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, regardless of
8 whether the loan is extended.
9 (3) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation in
10 connection with obtaining or seeking to obtain financial, investment, or
11 economic advisory services, regardless of whether the financial corporation
12 establishes a continuing advisory relationship.
13 (4) Has a loan for personal, family, or household purposes in which the financial
14 corporation has ownership or servicing rights, even if the financial
15 corporation or one or more other corporations that hold ownership or
16 servicing rights in conjunction with the financial corporation hires an agent to
17 collect on the loan.

18 b. Does not include an individual who:

- 19 (1) Uses a different financial corporation or financial institution to act solely as
20 an agent for, or provide processing or other services to, the individual
21 financial corporation or financial institution.
22 (2) Designates a financial corporation solely for the purposes to act as trustee
23 for a trust.
24 (3) Is a beneficiary of a trust for which the financial corporation is a trustee.
25 (4) Is a participant or a beneficiary of an employee benefit plan that the financial
26 corporation sponsors or for which the financial corporation acts as a trustee
27 or fiduciary.

28 4. "Continuing relationship":

29 a. Means a situation in which a consumer:

- 30 (1) Has a credit or investment account with a financial corporation;
31 (2) Obtains a loan from a financial corporation;

- 1 (3) Purchases an insurance product from a financial corporation;
- 2 (4) Holds an investment product through a financial corporation, including when
- 3 a financial corporation acts as a custodian for securities or for assets in an
- 4 individual retirement arrangement;
- 5 (5) Enters into an agreement or understanding with a financial corporation in
- 6 which the financial corporation undertakes to arrange or broker a home
- 7 mortgage loan, or credit to purchase a vehicle, for the consumer;
- 8 (6) Enters into a lease of personal property on a nonoperating basis with a
- 9 financial corporation;
- 10 (7) Obtains financial, investment, or economic advisory services from a
- 11 financial corporation for a fee;
- 12 (8) Becomes a financial corporation's client for the purpose of obtaining tax
- 13 preparation or credit counseling services from the financial corporation;
- 14 (9) Obtains career counseling while:
- 15 (a) Seeking employment with a financial corporation or the finance,
- 16 accounting, or audit department of any company; or
- 17 (b) Employed by a financial corporation or department of any company;
- 18 (10) Is obligated on an account that a financial corporation purchases from
- 19 another financial corporation, regardless of whether the account is in default
- 20 when purchased, unless the financial corporation does not locate the
- 21 consumer or attempt to collect any amount from the consumer on the
- 22 account;
- 23 (11) Obtains real estate settlement services from a financial corporation; or
- 24 (12) Has a loan for which a financial corporation owns the servicing rights.
- 25 b. Does not include a situation in which:
- 26 (1) The consumer obtains a financial product or service from a financial
- 27 corporation only in isolated transactions, including:
- 28 (a) A financial corporation's automated teller machine to withdraw cash
- 29 from an account at another financial institution;
- 30 (b) Purchasing a money order from a financial corporation;
- 31 (c) Cashing a check with a financial corporation; or

- 1 (d) Making a wire transfer through a financial corporation;
- 2 (2) A financial corporation sells the consumer's loan and does not retain the
- 3 rights to service that loan;
- 4 (3) A financial corporation sells the consumer an airline ticket, travel insurance,
- 5 or a traveler's check in isolated transactions;
- 6 (4) The consumer obtains one-time personal or real property appraisal services
- 7 from a financial corporation; or
- 8 (5) The consumer purchases checks for a personal checking account from a
- 9 financial corporation.
- 10 5. "Customer" means a consumer who has a customer relationship with a financial
- 11 corporation.
- 12 6. "Customer information" means any record containing nonpublic personal information
- 13 about a customer of a financial corporation, whether in paper, electronic, or other form,
- 14 which is handled or maintained by or on behalf of the financial corporation or the
- 15 financial corporation's affiliates.
- 16 7. "Customer relationship" means a continuing relationship between a consumer and a
- 17 financial corporation under which the financial corporation provides one or more
- 18 financial products or services to the consumer that are used primarily for personal,
- 19 family, or household purposes.
- 20 8. "Encryption" means the transformation of data into a form that results in a low
- 21 probability of assigning meaning without the use of a protective process or key,
- 22 consistent with current cryptographic standards and accompanied by appropriate
- 23 safeguards for cryptographic key material.
- 24 9. "Financial corporation" means all entities regulated by the department of financial
- 25 institutions, excluding financial institutions and credit unions.
- 26 10. "Financial institution" means any bank, industrial loan company, or savings and loan
- 27 association organized under the laws of this state or of the United States.
- 28 11. "Financial product or service" means any product or service that a financial holding
- 29 company could offer by engaging in a financial activity under the federal Bank Holding
- 30 Company Act of 1956 [12 U.S.C. 1843 section 4(k)]. The term includes a financial
- 31 corporation's evaluation or brokerage of information that a financial corporation

1 collects in connection with a request or an application from a consumer for a financial
2 product or service.

3 12. "Information security program" means the administrative, technical, or physical
4 safeguards a financial corporation uses to access, collect, distribute, process, protect,
5 store, use, transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information.

6 13. "Information system" means a discrete set of electronic information resources
7 organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or
8 disposition of electronic information, as well as any specialized system, including
9 industrial process controls systems, telephone switching and private branch exchange
10 systems, and environmental controls systems that contain customer information or
11 that is connected to a system that contains customer information.

12 14. "Multifactor authentication" means authentication through verification of at least two of
13 the following types of authentication factors:

- 14 a. Knowledge factors, including a password;
15 b. Possession factors, including a token; or
16 c. Inherence factors, including biometric characteristics.

17 15. "Nonpublic personal information":

18 a. Means:

- 19 (1) Personally identifiable financial information; and
20 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
21 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived using
22 personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly available,
23 including account numbers.

24 b. Does not include:

- 25 (1) Publicly available information, except as included on a list described in
26 paragraph 2 of subdivision a;
27 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
28 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived without
29 using any personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly
30 available; or

- 1 (3) Any list of individuals' names and addresses that contains only publicly
2 available information, is not derived, in whole or in part, using personally
3 identifiable financial information that is not publicly available, and is not
4 disclosed in a manner that indicates that any individual on the list is the
5 financial corporation's consumer.
- 6 16. "Notification event" means the acquisition of unencrypted customer information without
7 the authorization of the individual to which the information pertains. Customer
8 information is considered unencrypted for purposes of this subsection if the encryption
9 key was accessed by an unauthorized person. Unauthorized acquisition is presumed
10 to include unauthorized access to unencrypted customer information unless the
11 financial corporation has reliable evidence showing there has not been, or could not
12 reasonably have been, unauthorized acquisition of customer information.
- 13 17. "Penetration testing" means a test methodology in which assessors attempt to
14 circumvent or defeat the security features of an information system by attempting to
15 penetrate databases or controls from outside or inside a financial corporation's
16 information systems.
- 17 18. "Personally identifiable financial information":
- 18 a. Means any information:
- 19 (1) A consumer provides to a financial corporation to obtain a financial product
20 or service;
- 21 (2) About a consumer resulting from any transaction involving a financial
22 product or service between a financial corporation and a consumer; or
- 23 (3) A financial corporation otherwise obtains about a consumer in connection
24 with providing a financial product or service to that consumer.
- 25 b. Includes:
- 26 (1) Information a consumer provides to a financial corporation on an application
27 to obtain a loan, credit card, or other financial product or service;
- 28 (2) Account balance information, payment history, overdraft history, and credit
29 or debit card purchase information;
- 30 (3) An individual that is or has been a financial corporation's customer or has
31 obtained a financial product or service from the financial corporation;

- 1 (4) Any information about a financial corporation's consumer if it is disclosed in
- 2 a manner that indicates the individual is or has been a financial
- 3 corporation's consumer;
- 4 (5) Any information a consumer provides to a financial corporation or which a
- 5 financial corporation or a financial corporation's agent otherwise obtains in
- 6 connection with collecting on, or servicing, a credit account;
- 7 (6) Any information a financial corporation collects through an information
- 8 collecting device from a web server; and
- 9 (7) Information from a consumer report.
- 10 c. Does not include:
- 11 (1) A list of names and addresses of customers of an entity that is not a
- 12 financial corporation; and
- 13 (2) Information that does not identify a consumer, such as aggregate
- 14 information or blind data that does not contain personal identifiers such as
- 15 account numbers, names, or addresses.
- 16 19. a. "Publicly available information":
- 17 (1) Means any information that a financial corporation has a reasonable basis
- 18 to believe is lawfully made available to the general public from:
- 19 (a) Federal, state, or local government records;
- 20 (b) Widely distributed media; or
- 21 (c) Disclosures to the general public which are required under federal,
- 22 state, or local law.
- 23 (2) Includes information:
- 24 (a) In government real estate records and security interest filings; or
- 25 (b) From widely distributed media, a telephone book, a television or radio
- 26 program, a newspaper, or a website that is available to the general
- 27 public on an unrestricted basis. A website is not restricted because an
- 28 internet service provider or a site operator requires a fee or a
- 29 password, provided access is available to the general public.

1 b. For purposes of this subsection, a financial corporation has a reasonable basis to
2 believe information is lawfully made available to the general public if the financial
3 corporation has taken steps to determine:

4 (1) The information is of the type available to the general public; and

5 (2) Whether an individual can direct that the information not be made available
6 to the general public and, if so, that the financial corporation's consumer has
7 not done so. A financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe
8 mortgage information is lawfully made available to the general public if the
9 financial corporation determines the information is of the type included on
10 the public record in the jurisdiction where the mortgage is recorded. A
11 financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe an individual's
12 telephone number is lawfully made available to the general public if the
13 financial corporation has located the telephone number in the telephone
14 book or the consumer has informed the financial corporation the telephone
15 number is not unlisted.

16 20. "Qualified individual" means the individual designated by a financial institution to
17 oversee, implement, and enforce the financial institution's information security
18 program.

19 21. "Security event" means an event resulting in unauthorized access to, or disruption or
20 misuse of:

21 a. An information system or information stored on an information system; or

22 b. Customer information held in physical form.

23 22. "Service provider" means any person or entity that receives, maintains, processes, or
24 otherwise is permitted access to customer information through its provision of services
25 directly to a financial corporation that is subject to this chapter.

26 **13-01.2-02. Standards for safeguarding customer information.**

27 1. A financial corporation shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive
28 information security program.

29 2. The information security program must:

30 a. Be written in one or more readily accessible parts; and

1 b. Maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that are appropriate
2 to the financial corporation's size and complexity, the nature and scope of the
3 financial corporation's activities, and the sensitivity of any customer information at
4 issue.

5 3. The financial corporation shall develop a security program that:

6 a. Ensures the security and confidentiality of customer information;

7 b. Protects against any anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of
8 such information; and

9 c. Protects against unauthorized access to or use of such information that could
10 result in substantial harm or inconvenience to any customer.

11 **13-01.2-03. Elements of a security program.**

12 1. A financial corporation's information security program must denote a designation of a
13 qualified individual responsible for overseeing and implementing the financial
14 corporation's information security program and enforcing the financial corporation's
15 information security program. The qualified individual may be employed by the
16 financial corporation, an affiliate, or a service provider.

17 2. If a financial corporation designates an individual employed by an affiliate or service
18 provider as the qualified individual, the financial corporation shall:

19 a. Retain responsibility for compliance with this chapter;

20 b. Designate a senior member of the financial corporation's personnel to be
21 responsible for directing and overseeing the qualified individual; and

22 c. Require the service provider or affiliate to maintain an information security
23 program that protects the financial corporation in accordance with the
24 requirements of this chapter.

25 3. A financial corporation shall base the financial corporation's information security
26 program on a risk assessment that:

27 a. Identifies reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the security,
28 confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could result in the
29 unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other compromise of
30 customer information;

- 1 b. Assesses the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control the risks in
2 subdivision a; and
- 3 c. Includes additional periodic risk assessments that:
4 (1) Re-examine the reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the
5 security, confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could
6 result in the unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other
7 compromise of such information; and
8 (2) Reassess the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control these risks.
- 9 4. The risk assessment must be in writing and include:
- 10 a. Criteria to evaluate and categorize identified security risks or threats the financial
11 corporation faces;
- 12 b. Criteria for the assessment of the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the
13 financial corporation's information systems and customer information, including
14 the adequacy of the existing controls in the context of the identified risks or
15 threats the financial corporation faces; and
- 16 c. Requirements describing how:
17 (1) Identified risks will be mitigated or accepted based on the risk assessment;
18 and
19 (2) The information security program will address the risks.
- 20 5. A financial corporation shall design and implement safeguards to control the risks the
21 financial corporation identifies through the risk assessment in subsection 4, which
22 include:
- 23 a. Implementing and periodically reviewing access controls, including technical and
24 as appropriate, physical controls to:
25 (1) Authenticate and permit access only to authorized users to protect against
26 the unauthorized acquisition of customer information; and
27 (2) Limit an authorized user's access to only customer information the
28 authorized user needs to perform the authorized user's duties and functions,
29 or in the case of a customer, to access the customer's own information.
- 30 b. Identifying and managing data, personnel, devices, systems, and facilities that
31 enable the financial corporation to achieve business purposes in accordance with

- 1 the business purpose's relative importance to business objectives and the
2 financial corporation's risk strategy.
- 3 c. Protecting by encryption all customer information held or transmitted by the
4 financial corporation both in transit over external networks and at rest. To the
5 extent a financial corporation determines that encryption of customer information,
6 either in transit over external networks or at rest, is infeasible, the financial
7 corporation may secure customer information using effective alternative
8 compensating controls reviewed and approved by the financial corporation's
9 qualified individual.
- 10 d. Adopting secure development practices for in-house developed applications
11 utilized by the financial corporation for transmitting, accessing, or storing
12 customer information and procedures for evaluating, assessing, or testing the
13 security of externally developed applications the financial corporation utilizes to
14 transmit, access, or store customer information.
- 15 e. Implementing multifactor authentication for any individual accessing any
16 information system, unless the financial corporation's qualified individual has
17 approved in writing the use of a reasonably equivalent or more secure access
18 control.
- 19 f. Developing, implementing, and maintaining procedures to securely dispose of
20 customer information, in any format, no later than two years after the last date the
21 information is used in connection with providing a product or service to the
22 customer which it relates, unless:
- 23 (1) The information is necessary for business operations or for other legitimate
24 business purposes;
- 25 (2) Is otherwise required to be retained by law or regulation; or
- 26 (3) Where targeted disposal is not reasonably feasible due to the manner in
27 which the information is maintained.
- 28 g. Periodically reviewing the financial corporation's data retention policy to minimize
29 unnecessary retention of data.
- 30 h. Adopting procedures for change management.
- 31 i. Implementing policies, procedures and controls designed to:

- 1 (1) Monitor and log the activity of authorized users; and
- 2 (2) Detect unauthorized access to, use of, or tampering with customer
- 3 information by authorized users.
- 4 6. a. A financial corporation shall regularly test or otherwise monitor the effectiveness
- 5 of the safeguards' key controls, systems, and procedures, including the controls,
- 6 systems, and procedures to detect actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions
- 7 into, information systems.
- 8 b. Information systems monitoring and testing must include continuous monitoring
- 9 or periodic penetration testing, and vulnerability assessments. Without effective
- 10 continuous monitoring or other systems to detect, on an ongoing basis, changes
- 11 in information systems that may create vulnerabilities, a financial corporation
- 12 shall conduct:
- 13 (1) Annual penetration testing of the financial corporation's information systems
- 14 based on relevant identified risks in accordance with the risk assessment;
- 15 and
- 16 (2) Vulnerability assessments, including systemic scans or information systems
- 17 reviews that are reasonably designed to identify publicly known security
- 18 vulnerabilities in the financial corporation's information systems based on
- 19 the risk assessment, at least every six months; whenever there are material
- 20 changes to the financial corporation's operations or business arrangements;
- 21 and whenever there are circumstances the financial corporation knows or
- 22 has reason to know may have a material impact on the financial
- 23 corporation's information security program.
- 24 7. A financial corporation shall implement policies and procedures to ensure the financial
- 25 corporation's personnel are able to enact the financial corporation's information
- 26 security program by:
- 27 a. Providing the financial corporation's personnel with security awareness training
- 28 that is updated as necessary to reflect risks identified by the risk assessment;
- 29 b. Utilizing qualified information security personnel employed by the financial
- 30 corporation or an affiliate or service provider sufficient to manage the financial

- 1 corporation's information security risks and to perform or oversee the information
2 security program;
- 3 c. Providing information security personnel with security updates and training
4 sufficient to address relevant security risks; and
- 5 d. Verifying that key information security personnel take steps to maintain current
6 knowledge of changing information security threats and countermeasures.
- 7 8. A financial corporation shall oversee service providers by:
- 8 a. Taking reasonable steps to select and retain service providers capable of
9 maintaining appropriate safeguards for customer information;
- 10 b. Requiring, by contract, the financial corporation's service providers implement
11 and maintain appropriate safeguards; and
- 12 c. Periodically assessing the financial corporation's service providers based on the
13 risk they present, and the continued adequacy of the service providers'
14 safeguards.
- 15 9. A financial corporation shall evaluate and adjust the financial corporation's information
16 security program by incorporating:
- 17 a. The results of the testing and monitoring required under subsection 5;
- 18 b. Any material changes to the financial corporation's operations or business
19 arrangements;
- 20 c. The results of risk assessments performed under subsection 3; or
- 21 d. Any other circumstances that the financial corporation knows or has reason to
22 know may have a material impact on the financial corporation's information
23 security program.
- 24 10. A financial corporation shall establish a written incident response plan designed to
25 promptly respond to, and recover from, any security event materially affecting the
26 confidentiality, integrity, or availability of customer information the financial corporation
27 controls. The plan must address:
- 28 a. The goals of the incident response plan;
- 29 b. The internal processes for responding to a security event;
- 30 c. Clear roles, responsibilities, and levels of decisionmaking authority;
- 31 d. External and internal communications and information sharing;

- 1 e. Requirements for the remediation of any identified weaknesses in information
- 2 systems and associated controls;
- 3 f. Documentation and reporting regarding security events and related incident
- 4 response activities; and
- 5 g. The evaluation and revision of the incident response plan, as necessary, after a
- 6 security event.
- 7 11. A financial corporation shall require the financial corporation's qualified individual to
- 8 report in writing, at least annually, to the financial corporation's board of directors or
- 9 equivalent governing body. If no board of directors or equivalent governing body
- 10 exists, the report shall be timely presented to a senior officer responsible for the
- 11 financial corporation's information security program. The report must include:
- 12 a. The overall status of the information security program, and the financial
- 13 corporation's compliance with this chapter and associated rules; and
- 14 b. Material matters related to the information security program, addressing issues
- 15 including risk assessment, risk management and control decisions, service
- 16 provider arrangements, results of testing, security events or violations and
- 17 management's responses thereto, and recommendations for changes in the
- 18 information security program.
- 19 12. a. A financial corporation shall notify the commissioner about notification events.
- 20 b. After discovery of a notification event described in subdivision c, if the notification
- 21 event involves the information of at least five hundred consumers, the financial
- 22 corporation shall notify the commissioner as soon as possible, and no later than
- 23 forty-five days after the event is discovered. The notice must be made in a format
- 24 specified by the commissioner and include:
- 25 (1) The name and contact information of the reporting financial corporation;
- 26 (2) A description of the types of information involved in the notification event;
- 27 (3) The date or date range of the notification event, if the information is possible
- 28 to determine;
- 29 (4) The number of consumers affected or potentially affected by the notification
- 30 event;
- 31 (5) A general description of the notification event; and

1 (6) A statement whether any law enforcement official has provided the financial
2 corporation with a written determination that notifying the public of the
3 breach would impede a criminal investigation or cause damage to national
4 security, and a means for the commissioner to contact the law enforcement
5 official. A law enforcement official may request an initial delay of up to
6 forty-five days following the date when notice was provided to the
7 commissioner. The delay may be extended for an additional period of up to
8 sixty days if the law enforcement official seeks an extension in writing.

9 c. A notification event must be treated as discovered on the first day when the event
10 is known to the financial corporation. A financial corporation is deemed to have
11 knowledge of a notification event if the event is known to any employee, officer,
12 or other agent of the financial corporation, other than the person committing the
13 breach.

14 13. A financial corporation shall establish a written plan addressing business continuity
15 and disaster recovery.

16 **13-01.2-04. Exemptions.**

17 Subsection 4, subdivision b of subsection 6, and subsections 10 and 11 of section
18 13-01.2-03 do not apply to financial institutions that maintain customer information concerning
19 fewer than five thousand consumers.

20 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **13-04.1-01.1. Definitions.**

23 As used in this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- 24 1. "Borrower" means a person or entity that seeks out, or is solicited by a money broker
25 for the purpose of money brokering.
- 26 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial institutions.
- 27 3. "Loan" means a contract by which one delivers a sum of money to another and the
28 latter agrees to return at a future time a sum equivalent to that which the person
29 borrowed. This includes alternative financing products as identified by the
30 commissioner through the issuance of an order.

1 4. "Money broker" means a person or entity who, in the ordinary course of business,
2 engages in money brokering.

3 4-5. "Money brokering" means the act of arranging or providing loans or leases as a form
4 of financing, or advertising or soliciting either in print, by letter, in person, or otherwise,
5 the right to find lenders or provide loans or leases for persons or businesses desirous
6 of obtaining funds for any purposes.

7 5-6. "Net branch" means an office at which a licensed money broker allows a separate
8 person that does not hold a valid North Dakota money brokers license to originate
9 loans under the license of the money broker.

10 6-7. "Net branch arrangement" means an arrangement under which a licensed money
11 broker enters an agreement whereby its designated branch manager has the
12 appearance of ownership of the licensee by, among other things, sharing in the profits
13 or losses, establishing, leasing, or renting the branch premises, entering other
14 contractual relationships with vendors such as for telephones, utilities, and advertising,
15 having control of a corporate checkbook, or exercising control of personnel through
16 the power to hire or fire such individuals. A person may be considered to be utilizing a
17 net branch if the net branch agreement requires the branch manager to indemnify the
18 licensee for damages from any apparent, express, or implied agency representation
19 by or through the branch's actions or if the agreement requires the branch manager to
20 issue a personal check to cover operating expenses whether or not funds are
21 available from an operating account of the licensee.

22 7-8. "Precomputed loan" means a loan that is expressed as a sum comprising the principal
23 and the amount of the loan finance charge computed in advance.

24 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-04.1-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the mailing of the request by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-05-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-05-07.1. Response to department requests.**

6 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
7 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
8 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
9 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
10 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
11 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
12 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

13 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **13-08-10. Regulations - Examinations.**

16 The commissioner may adopt rules for the implementation and enforcement of this chapter.
17 ~~A copy of a rule adopted by the commissioner must be mailed to each licensee at least thirty~~
18 ~~days before the date the rule takes effect.~~ To assure compliance with this chapter, the
19 commissioner may examine the relevant business, books, and records of any licensee. The
20 licensee shall pay an examination or visitation fee, and the commissioner shall charge the
21 licensee for the actual cost of the examination or visitation at an hourly rate set by the
22 commissioner which is sufficient to cover all reasonable expenses associated with the
23 examination or visitation.

24 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-08-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-09.1-14. Renewal of license.**

6 1. A license under this chapter must be renewed annually.

7 a. An annual nonrefundable renewal fee must be paid by December thirty-first. The
8 fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of one percent of the money
9 transmission dollar volume in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
10 thirtieth, whichever is greater. For the transmission of virtual currency as defined
11 in section 13-09.1-44, the fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of
12 one percent of the average United States dollar equivalent market value of the
13 virtual currency transmitted in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
14 thirtieth, whichever is greater. The fee may not exceed two thousand five hundred
15 dollars.

16 b. The renewal term must be for a period of one year and begins on January first of
17 each year after the initial license term and expires on December thirty-first of the
18 year the renewal term begins.

19 2. A licensee shall submit a renewal report with the renewal fee, in a form and in a
20 medium prescribed by the commissioner. The renewal report must state or contain a
21 description of each material change in information submitted by the licensee in its
22 original license application which has not been reported to the commissioner.

23 3. The commissioner for good cause may grant an extension of the renewal date.

24 4. The commissioner may utilize the nationwide system to process license renewals
25 provided that such functionality is consistent with this section.

26 5. A licensee may renew an expired license no later than January thirty-first subject to a
27 late fee of fifty dollars.

28 6. The commissioner may deny an application to renew a license if the licensee no
29 longer meets the criteria for licensure or otherwise fails to comply with this chapter.

30 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17 of the North Dakota
31 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 1 3. A notice of disapproval must contain a statement of the basis for disapproval and must
2 be sent to the licensee and the disapproved individual. A licensee may appeal a notice
3 of disapproval by requesting a hearing before the commissioner within ~~thirty~~twenty
4 days after receipt of notice of disapproval in accordance with chapter 28-32.

5 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **13-09.1-38. Orders to cease and desist.**

- 8 1. If the commissioner determines that a violation of this chapter or of a rule adopted or
9 an order issued under this chapter by a licensee or authorized delegate is likely to
10 cause immediate and irreparable harm to the licensee, its customers, or the public as
11 a result of the violation, or cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets of the
12 licensee, the commissioner may issue an order requiring the licensee or authorized
13 delegate to cease and desist from the violation. The order becomes effective upon
14 issuance.
- 15 2. The commissioner may issue an order against a licensee to cease and desist from
16 providing money transmission through an authorized delegate that is the subject of a
17 separate order by the commissioner.
- 18 3. An order to cease and desist ~~remains effective and enforceable pending the~~
19 ~~completion of an administrative proceeding~~must contain a notice of opportunity for a
20 hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
- 21 4. ~~An order to cease and desist expires unless the commissioner commences an~~
22 ~~administrative proceeding pursuant to chapter 28-32 within ten days after it is issued~~If
23 the company or individual subject to an order to cease and desist fails to request a
24 hearing in writing to the commissioner within twenty days of issuance, or if a hearing is
25 held and the commissioner concludes the record so warrants, the order to cease and
26 desist becomes final.

27 **SECTION 13. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-10-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
28 amended and reenacted as follows:

29 **13-10-05. Issuance of license.**

- 30 The commissioner shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license unless the
31 commissioner makes at a minimum the following findings:

- 1 1. The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any
2 governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal vacation of such revocation
3 shall not be deemed a revocation.
- 4 2. The applicant has not been charged pending trial, convicted of, or pled guilty, pled to
5 lesser charges, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign, or military
6 court:
 - 7 a. During the seven-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing
8 and registration; or
 - 9 b. At any time preceding such date of application, if such felony involved an act of
10 fraud, dishonesty, or a breach of trust, or money laundering;
 - 11 c. Provided that any pardon of a conviction shall not be a conviction for purposes of
12 this subsection.
- 13 3. a. The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general
14 fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a
15 determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and
16 efficiently within the purposes of this chapter.
 - 17 b. For purposes of this subsection, a person has shown that that person is not
18 financially responsible when that person has shown a disregard in the
19 management of that person's own financial condition. A determination that an
20 individual has not shown financial responsibility may include:
 - 21 (1) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments solely as a result of
22 medical expenses;
 - 23 (2) Current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings;
 - 24 (3) Foreclosures within the past three years; and
 - 25 (4) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within the past three years.
- 26 4. The applicant has completed the prelicensing education requirement described in
27 section 13-10-06.
- 28 5. The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in
29 section 13-10-07.
- 30 6. The applicant has met the net worth and surety bond requirements under section
31 13-10-13.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 13-11-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. If the commissioner has reason to believe that grounds for revocation of a license exist, the commissioner may ~~send by certified mail to~~ notify the licensee with a notice of hearing stating the contemplated action and in general the grounds thereof and setting the time and place for a hearing thereon. Grounds for revocation of a license include:
 - a. Any debt-settlement provider has failed to pay the annual license fee or to maintain in effect the bond required under this chapter;
 - b. The debt-settlement provider has violated this chapter or any rule lawfully made by the commissioner implementing this chapter;
 - c. Any fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the time of the original application for a license, would have warranted the commissioner in refusing its issuance; or
 - d. Any applicant has made any false statement or representation to the commissioner in applying for a license under this chapter.

SECTION 15. AMENDMENT. Section 13-12-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-12-19. Response to department requests.

An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request by the department of~~ financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within thirty days of the mailing of the request,~~ the department may deny the application.

SECTION 16. AMENDMENT. Subsections 6, 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01 of the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

6. "~~Interim serviced prior to sale~~ mortgage servicing" means the activity of collecting a limited number of contractual mortgage payments immediately after origination on loans held for sale but prior to the loans being sold into the secondary market.

21. ~~"Service or servicing a loan" means on behalf of the lender or investor of a residential mortgage loan:~~

- a. Collecting or receiving payments on existing obligations due and owing to the lender or investor, including payments of principal, interest, escrow amounts, and other amounts due;
- b. Collecting fees due to the servicer;
- c. Working with the borrower and the licensed lender or servicer to collect data and make decisions necessary to modify certain terms of those obligations either temporarily or permanently;
- d. Otherwise finalizing collection through the foreclosure process; or
- e. Servicing a reverse mortgage loan.

22. ~~"Servicer" means the entity performing the routine administration of residential mortgage loans on behalf of the owner or owners of the related mortgages under the terms of a servicing contract.~~

SECTION 17. AMENDMENT. Section 13-13-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-13-04. Entities exempted from licensing requirements.

This chapter does not apply to:

1. Banks;
2. Credit unions;
3. Savings and loan associations;
4. State or federal housing finance agencies;
5. Institutions chartered by the farm credit administration; ~~or~~
6. Not-for-profit mortgage servicers; or
7. Entities solely performing interim mortgage servicing.

SECTION 18. AMENDMENT. Section 13-13-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-13-18. Response to department requests.

An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if

- 1 no time is specified, within thirty days of the mailing of the request by the department of
- 2 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
- 3 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
- 4 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

2025 SENATE INDUSTRY AND BUSINESS

HB 1127

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry and Business Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1127
3/10/2025

A bill relating to the department of financial institutions, response to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses, revocation of licenses, and exemptions from licenses.

9:30 a.m. Chairman Barta called the meeting to order.

Members present: Chairman Barta, Vice-Chair Boehm, Senator Klein, Senator Kessel, Senator Enget

Discussion Topics:

- Data security for non-depository institutions
- State and federal cyber-security protection authority
- Removal of financial officers, directors, and employees
- State banking board and inefficiencies
- Crypto currency as a commodity, fraud, and regulation
- Financial expansion
- Consumer data confidentiality and security
- Federal Trade Commission's Safeguards Rule
- Federal rule compliance enforcement
- Model laws and companies operating nationwide
- Mortgage servicers definition clarification
- Definition of a loan to a money-broker statute
- Alternative financing products
- FDIC Insurance and stability

9:31 a.m. Lise Kruse, ND Department of Financial Institutions, testified in favor and submitted testimony #39802.

9:56 a.m. Rick Clayburgh, President and CEO of the ND Bankers Association, testified in favor.

10:03 a.m. John Alexander, Director of Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Dakota Credit Union Association (DakCU) testified in favor.

10:04 a.m. Chairman Barta closed the hearing.

Audrey Oswald, Committee Clerk



MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 10, 2025

TO: Senate Industry and Business Committee

FROM: Lise Kruse, Commissioner

SUBJECT: Testimony in Support of House Bill No. 1127

Chairman Barta and members of the Senate Industry and Business Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill No. 1127.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, Senate Bill No. 1127 includes amendments to several sections in chapters 6 and 13, and the creation of chapter 13-01.2 to address data security for non-depository institutions. The purpose of this bill is to update and clarify sections of the century code to ensure consistency, particularly between banks and other financial corporations. The data security section is adding a model law into state law to ensure the state has the same cyber security protection authority as the Federal government.

Section 1 of the Bill amends section 6-01-04.1 related to the removal of financial institution officers, directors, and employees. The department has authority to remove people from banking when they have violated laws and regulations, participated in unsafe and unsound practice, or there is a breach of fiduciary duties or trust. When such action takes place, there is an opportunity to appeal, pursuant to chapter 28-32. The House made an amendment to this section. We had initially asked to strike lines 17 and 18 on page 2 removing the ability to ask for termination of the final prohibition order. The statute allows a person to request reinstatement after 3 years; however, this determination has no appeal rights and therefore has caused the department incessant requests when a decision to deny a request has not been accepted. Since we have only removed people when there has been embezzlement, fraud, and theft, we do not see an instance where we would re-instate someone to work in a bank. We had therefore proposed to remove the ability to ask for termination of the final order. The House objected to that change due to the desire to give people a second chance. Although I agree in second chances, I am concerned when that second chance is in a financial institution handling customer money and having access to customer personal information. We accepted the amendment, leaving the language in, since there are more significant parts of this Bill we

would like to have passed. We will continue to make decisions on a case-by-case basis, working with our federal partners in keeping our financial system safe.

In the amended Bill, the second part to this section of the century code that was approved by the House is on page 3, starting in line 10. It clarifies that the state banking board or commissioner can issue a prohibition order when a person has been convicted of any charge, not just a felony charge, in the instances where the individual was able to plead to a lesser charge. This authority in the proposed subsection 7 is similar to the existing authority in subsection 6 but covers situations where the department is not aware of the charges until after conviction, closing a loophole in subsection 6.

Section 2 of the Bill amends section 6-01-04.2 where we have previously missed updating this to current practice. An order can be issued against a financial institution either by the board or by the department. When a bank has entered into an order and it escalates to a cease-and-desist order, if the original order is with the department, not the state banking board, we would need to start over with the state banking board. It makes the state banking board having to be party to all actions, which is inefficient. This change brings processes and authority outlined in chapter 6 in line with comparable processes and authority outlined in chapter 13.

Section 3 of the Bill amends section 6-03-02 to reflect the ability of the commissioner, in addition to the state banking board to issue orders or rules regarding permissible activities for our banks, since not all of these need to go to the state banking board. This change increases efficiencies and timeliness for routine requests.

Section 4 of the Bill creates and enacts a new chapter, 13-01.2, to cover data security for non-depository financial corporations. Information security threats and cyberattacks are ongoing concerns to the financial system. Safeguarding customers' data is of utmost importance, which is why banks and credit unions have strict requirements to have safeguards in place to protect consumer data. We want to make sure customer data is safe also when they are accessing financial services from our non-bank licensees. In 2023, the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) finalized and issued its Safeguards Rule applicable to non-banks. This Bill will add FTC's Safeguards Rule into state statute with this model law.

The reason this is needed in state statute is due to the lack of clarity whether we as a state can enforce compliance with the federal rules directly. We may identify failures in compliance during our exams, and by adopting this model law, we are provided with enforcement authority and the ability to address specific needs such as data breach notifications.

This statute does not create any additional rules for the industry, since the companies are already subject to the requirements, however, it allows us at the state level to have the same authority as the federal government when there are data breaches. It allows us to be proactive in addressing cyber threats, aligns us with standards of other regulators, and since we are leveraging the model law, it reduces regulatory burden for the industry. It is a model law – already enacted by 6, partially enacted by one, and 3 more states in process. Using this model law rather than enacting our own requirements, makes it easier on companies that are operating nationwide. It ensures a streamlined and coordinated approach to data security regulations where we work with other regulators. Coordination results in effective supervision and consistent standards among regulators. The objective of this law is to ensure the security and confidentiality of customer information, reducing the risk of identity theft and fraud. By adopting robust data security requirements, we continue to ensure consumers' trust and confidence in regulated financial corporations. It results in a safer, more secure and reliable financial environment for all stakeholders.

Section 5 of the Bill amends section 13-04.1-01.1 to add a definition of a loan to our money broker statute. This money broker statute applies to all non-bank lenders, other than the ones doing mortgage lending, which has a

separate statute. The language is from the “loan of money definition” in 47-14-01 and includes the additional sentence about “alternative financing products”. In recent years we have seen an increase in creative financing products entering the marketplace. To simplify our statute by avoiding a separate chapter for each financing product, this gives us the ability to include these products into the existing law as they are issued. It ensures that our citizens will have access to new lending products, without sacrificing safeguards.

Sections 6, 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, and 18 of the Bill amends sections in chapter 13 related to licensees’ (money brokers, collection agencies, mortgage loan originators, debt settlement providers, residential mortgage lenders, and mortgage servicers) response to department requests. Current practice is to communicate with our licensed entities electronically within our licensing system, which is more efficient for both parties. A timeline is always specified in writing for the expected response, rather than expecting our licensee to keep track of our communication date.

Section 10 of the Bill amends section 13-09.1-14 related to renewal of license for money transmitters. The language in statute was not clear as far as our authority to deny a license renewal when a company no longer meet

qualifications in law. When a licensee no longer meets North Dakota legal requirements, the department should be able to deny the license renewal.

Section 11 of the Bill amends section 13-09.1-17 related to money transmitters, updating the appeals request to 20 days, which is consistent with chapter 28-32.

Section 12 of the Bill amends 13-09.1-38 related to money transmitters orders to cease and desist. When we adopted this model law in 2023, this section was not consistent with other parts of North Dakota statutes. Also, the last section stated that the order would expire unless it was appealed, which does not make sense. The order should become final if the licensee does not appeal.

Section 13 of the Bill amends 13-10-05 for mortgage loan originators clarifying licensing when an applicant has been charged with a crime, including when trial is pending, and applicant has pled to lesser charges. The underlying crime has still occurred and should prevent the lender from offering services to North Dakota citizens. This change is consistent with other statutes.

Section 16 of the Bill amends 13-13-01 for mortgage servicers, clarifying certain definitions of the law we enacted in 2023, which seemed to cause confusion in the industry.

Section 17 of the Bill amends 13-13-04 for mortgage servicers, clarifying that entities that are only doing interim servicing are exempt.

Mr. Chairman, thank you for the opportunity to provide this testimony. I would be happy to answer any questions the Committee may have.

2025 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Industry and Business Committee Fort Union Room, State Capitol

HB 1127
3/10/2025

| |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A bill relating to the financial institution data security program. |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|

3:45 p.m. Chairman Barta opened the hearing.

Members present: Chairman Barta, Vice-Chair Boehm, Senator Klein, Senator Kessel, Senator Enget

Discussion Topics:

- Second chance provision and history
- Timeline of penalty and reissue of years
- Temporary and permanent prohibition mandates
- Federal statutes
- Consumer protection and confidentiality
- Number of banks regulated
- Expunged records

3:47 p.m. Lise Kruse, Commissioner, ND Department of Financial Institutions answered the committee's questions.

3:58 p.m. Senator Klein moved Amendment LC# 25.8110.02001, to strike page 2 line 17-18 striking the word "out".

3:58 p.m. Senator Kessel seconded the motion.

| Senators | Vote |
|---------------------|------|
| Senator Jeff Barta | Y |
| Senator Keith Boehm | Y |
| Senator Mark Enget | Y |
| Senator Greg Kessel | Y |
| Senator Jerry Klein | Y |

Motion passed 5-0-0.

3:59 p.m. Senator Kessel moved a Do Pass As Amended.

3:59 p.m. Senator Boehm seconded the motion.

| Senators | Vote |
|---------------------|------|
| Senator Jeff Barta | Y |
| Senator Keith Boehm | Y |
| Senator Mark Enget | Y |
| Senator Greg Kessel | Y |
| Senator Jerry Klein | Y |

Senate Industry and Business Committee

HB 1127

3/10/25

Page 2

Motion passed 5-0-0.

Senator Kessel will carry the bill.

4:00 p.m. Chairman Barta adjourned the meeting.

Audrey Oswald, Committee Clerk

Sixty-ninth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
FIRST ENGROSSMENT**

RWT
3/10/25
1 of 27

ENGROSSED HOUSE BILL NO. 1127

Introduced by

Industry, Business and Labor Committee

(At the request of the Department of Financial Institutions)

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code,
2 relating to the financial institution data security program; and to amend and reenact sections
3 6-01-04.1 and 6-01-04.2, subsection 7 of section 6-03-02, sections 13-04.1-01.1, 13-04.1-11.1,
4 13-05-07.1, 13-08-10, 13-08-11.1, and 13-09.1-14, subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17, sections
5 13-09.1-38 and 13-10-05, subsection 1 of section 13-11-10, section 13-12-19, subsections 6,
6 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01, and sections 13-13-04 and 13-13-18 of the North Dakota
7 Century Code, relating to the department of financial institutions, financial institutions, response
8 to department requests, renewal of licenses, orders to cease and desist, issuance of licenses,
9 revocation of licenses, and exemptions from licenses.

10 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

11 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **6-01-04.1. Removal of officers, directors, and employees of financial corporations or**
14 **institutions.**

15 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue, upon any current or
16 former officer, director, or employee of a financial corporation, financial institution, or
17 credit union subject to its jurisdiction and upon a financial corporation, financial
18 institution, or credit union involved, an order stating:

19 a. That the current or former officer, director, or employee is engaging, or has
20 engaged, in any of the following conduct:

- 1 (1) Violating any law, regulation, board order, or written agreement with the
2 board.
- 3 (2) Engaging or participating in any unsafe or unsound practice.
- 4 (3) Performing any act of commission or omission or practice which is a breach
5 of trust or a breach of fiduciary duty.
- 6 b. The term of the suspension or removal from employment and participation within
7 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, credit
8 union, or any other entity licensed by the department of financial institutions.
- 9 2. The order must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
10 The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the
11 complaint is served upon the current or former officer, director, or employee of a
12 financial corporation, financial institution, credit union, or any other entity licensed by
13 the department of financial institutions. The current or former officer, director, or
14 employee may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
- 15 3. If no hearing is requested within twenty days of the date the order is served upon the
16 current or former officer, director, or employee, the order is final. If a hearing is held
17 and the board finds that the record so warrants, it may enter a final order. The final
18 order suspending or removing the current or former officer, director, or employee is
19 final. ~~The current or former officer or employee may request a termination of the final~~
20 ~~order after a period of no less than three years.~~
- 21 4. A contested or default suspension or removal order is effective immediately upon
22 issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and upon a financial
23 corporation, financial institution, or credit union. A consent order is effective as agreed.
- 24 5. Any current or former officer, director, or employee suspended or removed from any
25 position pursuant to this section is not eligible, while under suspension or removal, to
26 be employed or otherwise participate in the affairs of any financial corporation,
27 financial institution, or credit union or any other entity licensed by the department of
28 financial institutions until the suspension or removal is terminated by the department of
29 financial institutions or board.
- 30 6. When any current or former officer, director, employee, or other person participating in
31 the conduct of the affairs of a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union

1 is charged with a felony in state or federal court, involving dishonesty or breach of
2 trust, the commissioner may immediately suspend the person from office or prohibit
3 the person from any further participation in a financial corporation's, financial
4 institution's, or credit union's affairs. The order is effective immediately upon issuance
5 of the order on a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and the
6 person charged, and remains in effect until the criminal charge is finally disposed of or
7 until modified by the board. If a judgment of conviction, a federal pretrial diversion,
8 conviction or agreement to plea to lesser charges, or similar state order or judgment is
9 entered, the board or commissioner may order that the suspension or prohibition be
10 made permanent. A finding of not guilty or other disposition of the charge does not
11 preclude the commissioner or the board from pursuing administrative or civil remedies.

12 7. The commissioner or board may issue upon a current or former officer, director,
13 employee, or other person participating in the conduct of the affairs of a financial
14 corporation, financial institution, or credit union an order permanently suspending and
15 prohibiting the person from participation in a financial corporation's, financial
16 institution's, or credit union's affairs if convicted of any charge involving dishonesty or
17 breach of trust in state or federal court. The suspension or removal order is effective
18 immediately upon issuance on the current or former officer, director, or employee and
19 upon a financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union.

20 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 6-01-04.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **6-01-04.2. Cease and desist orders.**

- 23 1. The department of financial institutions or the board may issue and serve upon a
24 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union subject to its jurisdiction a
25 complaint stating the factual basis for the department's or board's belief that the
26 financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union is engaging in any of the
27 following conduct:
- 28 a. An unsafe or unsound practice.
 - 29 b. A violation in the past or on a continuing basis of any law, regulation, ~~board~~ order,
30 or written agreement entered into with the board or department of financial
31 institutions.

2. The complaint must contain a notice of opportunity for hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32. The date for the hearing must be set not less than thirty days after the date the complaint is served upon the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. The financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union may waive the thirty-day notice requirement.
3. If the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union fails to respond to the complaint within twenty days of its service, or if a hearing is held and the board concludes that the record so warrants, the board may enter an order directing the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union to cease and desist from engaging in the conduct which was the subject of the complaint and hearing and to take corrective action.
4. The commissioner or the board may enter an emergency, temporary cease and desist order if the commissioner or the board finds the conduct described in the complaint is likely to cause insolvency, substantial dissipation of assets, earnings, or capital of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union, or substantial prejudice to the depositors, shareholders, members, or creditors of the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order is effective immediately upon service on the financial corporation, financial institution, or credit union and remains in effect for no longer than sixty days or until the conclusion of permanent cease and desist proceedings pursuant to this section, whichever is sooner. An emergency, temporary cease and desist order may be issued without an opportunity for hearing. A bank or credit union may request a hearing before the state banking board or state credit union board within ten days of the order to review the factual basis used to issue the emergency, temporary cease and desist order. The decision made by the board during this hearing will be final. If a hearing is not requested, the initial decision of the commissioner or board will be final.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 7 of section 6-03-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

7. Exercise, as determined by the board or commissioner by order or rule, all the incidental powers as are necessary to carry on the business of banking, including discounting and negotiating promissory notes, bills of exchange, drafts, and other

1 evidences of debt; receiving deposits; buying and selling exchange, coin, and bullion;
2 loaning money upon real or personal security, or both; soliciting and receiving deposits
3 in the nature of custodial accounts for the purpose of health savings or similar health
4 care cost funding accounts, retirement fund contracts, or pension programs, and such
5 custodial accounts are exempt from chapter 6-05; and providing services to its
6 customers involving electronic transfer of funds to the same extent that other financial
7 institutions chartered and regulated by an agency of the federal government are
8 permitted to provide those services within this state. A bank that provides electronic
9 funds transfer equipment and service to its customers, at premises separate from its
10 main banking house or duly authorized facility approved by the state banking board,
11 must make the equipment and service available for use by customers of any other
12 bank upon the request of the other bank to share its use and the agreement of the
13 other bank to share pro rata all costs incurred in connection with its installation and
14 operation, and the electronic operations are not deemed to be the establishment of a
15 branch, nor of a separate facility. The electronic operations at premises separate from
16 its banking house or duly authorized facility must be considered a customer electronic
17 funds transfer center and may be established subject to rules that the state banking
18 board adopts.

19 **SECTION 4.** Chapter 13-01.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as
20 follows:

21 **13-01.2-01. Definitions.**

22 For purposes of this chapter, the following definitions shall apply:

23 1. "Authorized user" means any employee, contractor, agent, or other person who:

24 a. Participates in a financial corporation's business operations; and

25 b. Is authorized to access and use any of the financial corporation's information
26 systems and data.

27 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of the department of financial institutions.

28 3. "Consumer":

29 a. Means an individual, or that individual's legal representative, who applies for or

30 has obtained a financial product or service from a financial corporation which is to

1 be used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes. A consumer
2 includes an individual who:

- 3 (1) Applies to a financial corporation for credit for personal, family, or household
4 purposes, regardless of whether the credit is extended.
5 (2) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation to obtain
6 a determination about whether the applicant may qualify for a loan to be
7 used primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, regardless of
8 whether the loan is extended.
9 (3) Provides nonpublic personal information to a financial corporation in
10 connection with obtaining or seeking to obtain financial, investment, or
11 economic advisory services, regardless of whether the financial corporation
12 establishes a continuing advisory relationship.
13 (4) Has a loan for personal, family, or household purposes in which the financial
14 corporation has ownership or servicing rights, even if the financial
15 corporation or one or more other corporations that hold ownership or
16 servicing rights in conjunction with the financial corporation hires an agent to
17 collect on the loan.

18 b. Does not include an individual who:

- 19 (1) Uses a different financial corporation or financial institution to act solely as
20 an agent for, or provide processing or other services to, the individual
21 financial corporation or financial institution.
22 (2) Designates a financial corporation solely for the purposes to act as trustee
23 for a trust.
24 (3) Is a beneficiary of a trust for which the financial corporation is a trustee.
25 (4) Is a participant or a beneficiary of an employee benefit plan that the financial
26 corporation sponsors or for which the financial corporation acts as a trustee
27 or fiduciary.

28 4. "Continuing relationship":

29 a. Means a situation in which a consumer:

- 30 (1) Has a credit or investment account with a financial corporation;
31 (2) Obtains a loan from a financial corporation;

- (3) Purchases an insurance product from a financial corporation;
- (4) Holds an investment product through a financial corporation, including when a financial corporation acts as a custodian for securities or for assets in an individual retirement arrangement;
- (5) Enters into an agreement or understanding with a financial corporation in which the financial corporation undertakes to arrange or broker a home mortgage loan, or credit to purchase a vehicle, for the consumer;
- (6) Enters into a lease of personal property on a nonoperating basis with a financial corporation;
- (7) Obtains financial, investment, or economic advisory services from a financial corporation for a fee;
- (8) Becomes a financial corporation's client for the purpose of obtaining tax preparation or credit counseling services from the financial corporation;
- (9) Obtains career counseling while:
 - (a) Seeking employment with a financial corporation or the finance, accounting, or audit department of any company; or
 - (b) Employed by a financial corporation or department of any company;
- (10) Is obligated on an account that a financial corporation purchases from another financial corporation, regardless of whether the account is in default when purchased, unless the financial corporation does not locate the consumer or attempt to collect any amount from the consumer on the account;
- (11) Obtains real estate settlement services from a financial corporation; or
- (12) Has a loan for which a financial corporation owns the servicing rights.

b. Does not include a situation in which:

- (1) The consumer obtains a financial product or service from a financial corporation only in isolated transactions, including:
 - (a) A financial corporation's automated teller machine to withdraw cash from an account at another financial institution;
 - (b) Purchasing a money order from a financial corporation;
 - (c) Cashing a check with a financial corporation; or

- 1 (d) Making a wire transfer through a financial corporation;
- 2 (2) A financial corporation sells the consumer's loan and does not retain the
- 3 rights to service that loan;
- 4 (3) A financial corporation sells the consumer an airline ticket, travel insurance,
- 5 or a traveler's check in isolated transactions;
- 6 (4) The consumer obtains one-time personal or real property appraisal services
- 7 from a financial corporation; or
- 8 (5) The consumer purchases checks for a personal checking account from a
- 9 financial corporation.
- 10 5. "Customer" means a consumer who has a customer relationship with a financial
- 11 corporation.
- 12 6. "Customer information" means any record containing nonpublic personal information
- 13 about a customer of a financial corporation, whether in paper, electronic, or other form,
- 14 which is handled or maintained by or on behalf of the financial corporation or the
- 15 financial corporation's affiliates.
- 16 7. "Customer relationship" means a continuing relationship between a consumer and a
- 17 financial corporation under which the financial corporation provides one or more
- 18 financial products or services to the consumer that are used primarily for personal,
- 19 family, or household purposes.
- 20 8. "Encryption" means the transformation of data into a form that results in a low
- 21 probability of assigning meaning without the use of a protective process or key,
- 22 consistent with current cryptographic standards and accompanied by appropriate
- 23 safeguards for cryptographic key material.
- 24 9. "Financial corporation" means all entities regulated by the department of financial
- 25 institutions, excluding financial institutions and credit unions.
- 26 10. "Financial institution" means any bank, industrial loan company, or savings and loan
- 27 association organized under the laws of this state or of the United States.
- 28 11. "Financial product or service" means any product or service that a financial holding
- 29 company could offer by engaging in a financial activity under the federal Bank Holding
- 30 Company Act of 1956 [12 U.S.C. 1843 section 4(k)]. The term includes a financial
- 31 corporation's evaluation or brokerage of information that a financial corporation

1 collects in connection with a request or an application from a consumer for a financial
2 product or service.

3 12. "Information security program" means the administrative, technical, or physical
4 safeguards a financial corporation uses to access, collect, distribute, process, protect,
5 store, use, transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle customer information.

6 13. "Information system" means a discrete set of electronic information resources
7 organized for the collection, processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or
8 disposition of electronic information, as well as any specialized system, including
9 industrial process controls systems, telephone switching and private branch exchange
10 systems, and environmental controls systems that contain customer information or
11 that is connected to a system that contains customer information.

12 14. "Multifactor authentication" means authentication through verification of at least two of
13 the following types of authentication factors:

- 14 a. Knowledge factors, including a password;
15 b. Possession factors, including a token; or
16 c. Inherence factors, including biometric characteristics.

17 15. "Nonpublic personal information":

18 a. Means:

- 19 (1) Personally identifiable financial information; and
20 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
21 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived using
22 personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly available,
23 including account numbers.

24 b. Does not include:

- 25 (1) Publicly available information, except as included on a list described in
26 paragraph 2 of subdivision a;
27 (2) Any list, description, or other grouping of consumers, including publicly
28 available information pertaining to the consumers that is derived without
29 using any personally identifiable financial information that is not publicly
30 available; or

1 (3) Any list of individuals' names and addresses that contains only publicly
2 available information, is not derived, in whole or in part, using personally
3 identifiable financial information that is not publicly available, and is not
4 disclosed in a manner that indicates that any individual on the list is the
5 financial corporation's consumer.

6 16. "Notification event" means the acquisition of unencrypted customer information without
7 the authorization of the individual to which the information pertains. Customer
8 information is considered unencrypted for purposes of this subsection if the encryption
9 key was accessed by an unauthorized person. Unauthorized acquisition is presumed
10 to include unauthorized access to unencrypted customer information unless the
11 financial corporation has reliable evidence showing there has not been, or could not
12 reasonably have been, unauthorized acquisition of customer information.

13 17. "Penetration testing" means a test methodology in which assessors attempt to
14 circumvent or defeat the security features of an information system by attempting to
15 penetrate databases or controls from outside or inside a financial corporation's
16 information systems.

17 18. "Personally identifiable financial information":

18 a. Means any information:

19 (1) A consumer provides to a financial corporation to obtain a financial product
20 or service;

21 (2) About a consumer resulting from any transaction involving a financial
22 product or service between a financial corporation and a consumer; or

23 (3) A financial corporation otherwise obtains about a consumer in connection
24 with providing a financial product or service to that consumer.

25 b. Includes:

26 (1) Information a consumer provides to a financial corporation on an application
27 to obtain a loan, credit card, or other financial product or service;

28 (2) Account balance information, payment history, overdraft history, and credit
29 or debit card purchase information;

30 (3) An individual that is or has been a financial corporation's customer or has
31 obtained a financial product or service from the financial corporation;

- 1 (4) Any information about a financial corporation's consumer if it is disclosed in
- 2 a manner that indicates the individual is or has been a financial
- 3 corporation's consumer;
- 4 (5) Any information a consumer provides to a financial corporation or which a
- 5 financial corporation or a financial corporation's agent otherwise obtains in
- 6 connection with collecting on, or servicing, a credit account;
- 7 (6) Any information a financial corporation collects through an information
- 8 collecting device from a web server; and
- 9 (7) Information from a consumer report.

10 c. Does not include:

- 11 (1) A list of names and addresses of customers of an entity that is not a
- 12 financial corporation; and
- 13 (2) Information that does not identify a consumer, such as aggregate
- 14 information or blind data that does not contain personal identifiers such as
- 15 account numbers, names, or addresses.

16 19. a. "Publicly available information":

- 17 (1) Means any information that a financial corporation has a reasonable basis
- 18 to believe is lawfully made available to the general public from:
 - 19 (a) Federal, state, or local government records;
 - 20 (b) Widely distributed media; or
 - 21 (c) Disclosures to the general public which are required under federal,
 - 22 state, or local law.
- 23 (2) Includes information:
 - 24 (a) In government real estate records and security interest filings; or
 - 25 (b) From widely distributed media, a telephone book, a television or radio
 - 26 program, a newspaper, or a website that is available to the general
 - 27 public on an unrestricted basis. A website is not restricted because an
 - 28 internet service provider or a site operator requires a fee or a
 - 29 password, provided access is available to the general public.

1 b. For purposes of this subsection, a financial corporation has a reasonable basis to
2 believe information is lawfully made available to the general public if the financial
3 corporation has taken steps to determine:

4 (1) The information is of the type available to the general public; and

5 (2) Whether an individual can direct that the information not be made available
6 to the general public and, if so, that the financial corporation's consumer has
7 not done so. A financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe
8 mortgage information is lawfully made available to the general public if the
9 financial corporation determines the information is of the type included on
10 the public record in the jurisdiction where the mortgage is recorded. A
11 financial corporation has a reasonable basis to believe an individual's
12 telephone number is lawfully made available to the general public if the
13 financial corporation has located the telephone number in the telephone
14 book or the consumer has informed the financial corporation the telephone
15 number is not unlisted.

16 20. "Qualified individual" means the individual designated by a financial institution to
17 oversee, implement, and enforce the financial institution's information security
18 program.

19 21. "Security event" means an event resulting in unauthorized access to, or disruption or
20 misuse of:

21 a. An information system or information stored on an information system; or

22 b. Customer information held in physical form.

23 22. "Service provider" means any person or entity that receives, maintains, processes, or
24 otherwise is permitted access to customer information through its provision of services
25 directly to a financial corporation that is subject to this chapter.

26 **13-01.2-02. Standards for safeguarding customer information.**

27 1. A financial corporation shall develop, implement, and maintain a comprehensive
28 information security program.

29 2. The information security program must:

30 a. Be written in one or more readily accessible parts; and

- 1 b. Maintain administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that are appropriate
- 2 to the financial corporation's size and complexity, the nature and scope of the
- 3 financial corporation's activities, and the sensitivity of any customer information at
- 4 issue.
- 5 3. The financial corporation shall develop a security program that:
- 6 a. Ensures the security and confidentiality of customer information;
- 7 b. Protects against any anticipated threats or hazards to the security or integrity of
- 8 such information; and
- 9 c. Protects against unauthorized access to or use of such information that could
- 10 result in substantial harm or inconvenience to any customer.

11 **13-01.2-03. Elements of a security program.**

- 12 1. A financial corporation's information security program must denote a designation of a
- 13 qualified individual responsible for overseeing and implementing the financial
- 14 corporation's information security program and enforcing the financial corporation's
- 15 information security program. The qualified individual may be employed by the
- 16 financial corporation, an affiliate, or a service provider.
- 17 2. If a financial corporation designates an individual employed by an affiliate or service
- 18 provider as the qualified individual, the financial corporation shall:
- 19 a. Retain responsibility for compliance with this chapter;
- 20 b. Designate a senior member of the financial corporation's personnel to be
- 21 responsible for directing and overseeing the qualified individual; and
- 22 c. Require the service provider or affiliate to maintain an information security
- 23 program that protects the financial corporation in accordance with the
- 24 requirements of this chapter.
- 25 3. A financial corporation shall base the financial corporation's information security
- 26 program on a risk assessment that:
- 27 a. Identifies reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the security,
- 28 confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could result in the
- 29 unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other compromise of
- 30 customer information;

- 1 b. Assesses the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control the risks in
- 2 subdivision a; and
- 3 c. Includes additional periodic risk assessments that:
- 4 (1) Re-examine the reasonably foreseeable internal and external risks to the
- 5 security, confidentiality, and integrity of customer information that could
- 6 result in the unauthorized disclosure, misuse, alteration, destruction or other
- 7 compromise of such information; and
- 8 (2) Reassess the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control these risks.
- 9 4. The risk assessment must be in writing and include:
- 10 a. Criteria to evaluate and categorize identified security risks or threats the financial
- 11 corporation faces;
- 12 b. Criteria for the assessment of the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the
- 13 financial corporation's information systems and customer information, including
- 14 the adequacy of the existing controls in the context of the identified risks or
- 15 threats the financial corporation faces; and
- 16 c. Requirements describing how:
- 17 (1) Identified risks will be mitigated or accepted based on the risk assessment;
- 18 and
- 19 (2) The information security program will address the risks.
- 20 5. A financial corporation shall design and implement safeguards to control the risks the
- 21 financial corporation identifies through the risk assessment in subsection 4, which
- 22 include:
- 23 a. Implementing and periodically reviewing access controls, including technical and
- 24 as appropriate, physical controls to:
- 25 (1) Authenticate and permit access only to authorized users to protect against
- 26 the unauthorized acquisition of customer information; and
- 27 (2) Limit an authorized user's access to only customer information the
- 28 authorized user needs to perform the authorized user's duties and functions,
- 29 or in the case of a customer, to access the customer's own information.
- 30 b. Identifying and managing data, personnel, devices, systems, and facilities that
- 31 enable the financial corporation to achieve business purposes in accordance with

1 the business purpose's relative importance to business objectives and the
2 financial corporation's risk strategy.

3 c. Protecting by encryption all customer information held or transmitted by the
4 financial corporation both in transit over external networks and at rest. To the
5 extent a financial corporation determines that encryption of customer information,
6 either in transit over external networks or at rest, is infeasible, the financial
7 corporation may secure customer information using effective alternative
8 compensating controls reviewed and approved by the financial corporation's
9 qualified individual.

10 d. Adopting secure development practices for in-house developed applications
11 utilized by the financial corporation for transmitting, accessing, or storing
12 customer information and procedures for evaluating, assessing, or testing the
13 security of externally developed applications the financial corporation utilizes to
14 transmit, access, or store customer information.

15 e. Implementing multifactor authentication for any individual accessing any
16 information system, unless the financial corporation's qualified individual has
17 approved in writing the use of a reasonably equivalent or more secure access
18 control.

19 f. Developing, implementing, and maintaining procedures to securely dispose of
20 customer information, in any format, no later than two years after the last date the
21 information is used in connection with providing a product or service to the
22 customer which it relates, unless:

23 (1) The information is necessary for business operations or for other legitimate
24 business purposes;

25 (2) Is otherwise required to be retained by law or regulation; or

26 (3) Where targeted disposal is not reasonably feasible due to the manner in
27 which the information is maintained.

28 g. Periodically reviewing the financial corporation's data retention policy to minimize
29 unnecessary retention of data.

30 h. Adopting procedures for change management.

31 i. Implementing policies, procedures and controls designed to:

- 1 (1) Monitor and log the activity of authorized users; and
2 (2) Detect unauthorized access to, use of, or tampering with customer
3 information by authorized users.

4 6. a. A financial corporation shall regularly test or otherwise monitor the effectiveness
5 of the safeguards' key controls, systems, and procedures, including the controls,
6 systems, and procedures to detect actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions
7 into, information systems.

8 b. Information systems monitoring and testing must include continuous monitoring
9 or periodic penetration testing, and vulnerability assessments. Without effective
10 continuous monitoring or other systems to detect, on an ongoing basis, changes
11 in information systems that may create vulnerabilities, a financial corporation
12 shall conduct:

13 (1) Annual penetration testing of the financial corporation's information systems
14 based on relevant identified risks in accordance with the risk assessment;
15 and

16 (2) Vulnerability assessments, including systemic scans or information systems
17 reviews that are reasonably designed to identify publicly known security
18 vulnerabilities in the financial corporation's information systems based on
19 the risk assessment, at least every six months; whenever there are material
20 changes to the financial corporation's operations or business arrangements;
21 and whenever there are circumstances the financial corporation knows or
22 has reason to know may have a material impact on the financial
23 corporation's information security program.

24 7. A financial corporation shall implement policies and procedures to ensure the financial
25 corporation's personnel are able to enact the financial corporation's information
26 security program by:

27 a. Providing the financial corporation's personnel with security awareness training
28 that is updated as necessary to reflect risks identified by the risk assessment;

29 b. Utilizing qualified information security personnel employed by the financial
30 corporation or an affiliate or service provider sufficient to manage the financial

- 1 corporation's information security risks and to perform or oversee the information
2 security program;
- 3 c. Providing information security personnel with security updates and training
4 sufficient to address relevant security risks; and
- 5 d. Verifying that key information security personnel take steps to maintain current
6 knowledge of changing information security threats and countermeasures.
- 7 8. A financial corporation shall oversee service providers by:
- 8 a. Taking reasonable steps to select and retain service providers capable of
9 maintaining appropriate safeguards for customer information;
- 10 b. Requiring, by contract, the financial corporation's service providers implement
11 and maintain appropriate safeguards; and
- 12 c. Periodically assessing the financial corporation's service providers based on the
13 risk they present, and the continued adequacy of the service providers'
14 safeguards.
- 15 9. A financial corporation shall evaluate and adjust the financial corporation's information
16 security program by incorporating:
- 17 a. The results of the testing and monitoring required under subsection 5;
18 b. Any material changes to the financial corporation's operations or business
19 arrangements;
- 20 c. The results of risk assessments performed under subsection 3; or
21 d. Any other circumstances that the financial corporation knows or has reason to
22 know may have a material impact on the financial corporation's information
23 security program.
- 24 10. A financial corporation shall establish a written incident response plan designed to
25 promptly respond to, and recover from, any security event materially affecting the
26 confidentiality, integrity, or availability of customer information the financial corporation
27 controls. The plan must address:
- 28 a. The goals of the incident response plan;
29 b. The internal processes for responding to a security event;
30 c. Clear roles, responsibilities, and levels of decisionmaking authority;
31 d. External and internal communications and information sharing;

- 1 e. Requirements for the remediation of any identified weaknesses in information
- 2 systems and associated controls;
- 3 f. Documentation and reporting regarding security events and related incident
- 4 response activities; and
- 5 g. The evaluation and revision of the incident response plan, as necessary, after a
- 6 security event.
- 7 11. A financial corporation shall require the financial corporation's qualified individual to
- 8 report in writing, at least annually, to the financial corporation's board of directors or
- 9 equivalent governing body. If no board of directors or equivalent governing body
- 10 exists, the report shall be timely presented to a senior officer responsible for the
- 11 financial corporation's information security program. The report must include:
- 12 a. The overall status of the information security program, and the financial
- 13 corporation's compliance with this chapter and associated rules; and
- 14 b. Material matters related to the information security program, addressing issues
- 15 including risk assessment, risk management and control decisions, service
- 16 provider arrangements, results of testing, security events or violations and
- 17 management's responses thereto, and recommendations for changes in the
- 18 information security program.
- 19 12. a. A financial corporation shall notify the commissioner about notification events.
- 20 b. After discovery of a notification event described in subdivision c, if the notification
- 21 event involves the information of at least five hundred consumers, the financial
- 22 corporation shall notify the commissioner as soon as possible, and no later than
- 23 forty-five days after the event is discovered. The notice must be made in a format
- 24 specified by the commissioner and include:
- 25 (1) The name and contact information of the reporting financial corporation;
- 26 (2) A description of the types of information involved in the notification event;
- 27 (3) The date or date range of the notification event, if the information is possible
- 28 to determine;
- 29 (4) The number of consumers affected or potentially affected by the notification
- 30 event;
- 31 (5) A general description of the notification event; and

1 (6) A statement whether any law enforcement official has provided the financial
2 corporation with a written determination that notifying the public of the
3 breach would impede a criminal investigation or cause damage to national
4 security, and a means for the commissioner to contact the law enforcement
5 official. A law enforcement official may request an initial delay of up to
6 forty-five days following the date when notice was provided to the
7 commissioner. The delay may be extended for an additional period of up to
8 sixty days if the law enforcement official seeks an extension in writing.

9 c. A notification event must be treated as discovered on the first day when the event
10 is known to the financial corporation. A financial corporation is deemed to have
11 knowledge of a notification event if the event is known to any employee, officer,
12 or other agent of the financial corporation, other than the person committing the
13 breach.

14 13. A financial corporation shall establish a written plan addressing business continuity
15 and disaster recovery.

16 **13-01.2-04. Exemptions.**

17 Subsection 4, subdivision b of subsection 6, and subsections 10 and 11 of section
18 13-01.2-03 do not apply to financial institutions that maintain customer information concerning
19 fewer than five thousand consumers.

20 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-01.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **13-04.1-01.1. Definitions.**

23 As used in this chapter, unless the context or subject matter otherwise requires:

- 24 1. "Borrower" means a person or entity that seeks out, or is solicited by a money broker
25 for the purpose of money brokering.
- 26 2. "Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial institutions.
- 27 3. "Loan" means a contract by which one delivers a sum of money to another and the
28 latter agrees to return at a future time a sum equivalent to that which the person
29 borrowed. This includes alternative financing products as identified by the
30 commissioner through the issuance of an order.

1 4. "Money broker" means a person or entity who, in the ordinary course of business,
2 engages in money brokering.

3 4.5. "Money brokering" means the act of arranging or providing loans or leases as a form
4 of financing, or advertising or soliciting either in print, by letter, in person, or otherwise,
5 the right to find lenders or provide loans or leases for persons or businesses desirous
6 of obtaining funds for any purposes.

7 5.6. "Net branch" means an office at which a licensed money broker allows a separate
8 person that does not hold a valid North Dakota money brokers license to originate
9 loans under the license of the money broker.

10 6.7. "Net branch arrangement" means an arrangement under which a licensed money
11 broker enters an agreement whereby its designated branch manager has the
12 appearance of ownership of the licensee by, among other things, sharing in the profits
13 or losses, establishing, leasing, or renting the branch premises, entering other
14 contractual relationships with vendors such as for telephones, utilities, and advertising,
15 having control of a corporate checkbook, or exercising control of personnel through
16 the power to hire or fire such individuals. A person may be considered to be utilizing a
17 net branch if the net branch agreement requires the branch manager to indemnify the
18 licensee for damages from any apparent, express, or implied agency representation
19 by or through the branch's actions or if the agreement requires the branch manager to
20 issue a personal check to cover operating expenses whether or not funds are
21 available from an operating account of the licensee.

22 7.8. "Precomputed loan" means a loan that is expressed as a sum comprising the principal
23 and the amount of the loan finance charge computed in advance.

24 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-04.1-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-04.1-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the mailing of the request by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-05-07.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-05-07.1. Response to department requests.**

6 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
7 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
8 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
9 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
10 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
11 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
12 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

13 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is
14 amended and reenacted as follows:

15 **13-08-10. Regulations - Examinations.**

16 The commissioner may adopt rules for the implementation and enforcement of this chapter.
17 ~~A copy of a rule adopted by the commissioner must be mailed to each licensee at least thirty~~
18 ~~days before the date the rule takes effect.~~ To assure compliance with this chapter, the
19 commissioner may examine the relevant business, books, and records of any licensee. The
20 licensee shall pay an examination or visitation fee, and the commissioner shall charge the
21 licensee for the actual cost of the examination or visitation at an hourly rate set by the
22 commissioner which is sufficient to cover all reasonable expenses associated with the
23 examination or visitation.

24 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-08-11.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **13-08-11.1. Response to department requests.**

27 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
28 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
29 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if
30 no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request~~ by the department of
31 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of

1 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within~~
2 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

3 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-14 of the North Dakota Century Code is
4 amended and reenacted as follows:

5 **13-09.1-14. Renewal of license.**

- 6 1. A license under this chapter must be renewed annually.
 - 7 a. An annual nonrefundable renewal fee must be paid by December thirty-first. The
8 fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of one percent of the money
9 transmission dollar volume in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
10 thirtieth, whichever is greater. For the transmission of virtual currency as defined
11 in section 13-09.1-44, the fee must equal five hundred dollars or one-fourth of
12 one percent of the average United States dollar equivalent market value of the
13 virtual currency transmitted in North Dakota for the twelve months ending June
14 thirtieth, whichever is greater. The fee may not exceed two thousand five hundred
15 dollars.
 - 16 b. The renewal term must be for a period of one year and begins on January first of
17 each year after the initial license term and expires on December thirty-first of the
18 year the renewal term begins.
- 19 2. A licensee shall submit a renewal report with the renewal fee, in a form and in a
20 medium prescribed by the commissioner. The renewal report must state or contain a
21 description of each material change in information submitted by the licensee in its
22 original license application which has not been reported to the commissioner.
- 23 3. The commissioner for good cause may grant an extension of the renewal date.
- 24 4. The commissioner may utilize the nationwide system to process license renewals
25 provided that such functionality is consistent with this section.
- 26 5. A licensee may renew an expired license no later than January thirty-first subject to a
27 late fee of fifty dollars.
- 28 6. The commissioner may deny an application to renew a license if the licensee no
29 longer meets the criteria for licensure or otherwise fails to comply with this chapter.

30 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 3 of section 13-09.1-17 of the North Dakota
31 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 1 3. A notice of disapproval must contain a statement of the basis for disapproval and must
2 be sent to the licensee and the disapproved individual. A licensee may appeal a notice
3 of disapproval by requesting a hearing before the commissioner within ~~thirty~~twenty
4 days after receipt of notice of disapproval in accordance with chapter 28-32.

5 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-09.1-38 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **13-09.1-38. Orders to cease and desist.**

- 8 1. If the commissioner determines that a violation of this chapter or of a rule adopted or
9 an order issued under this chapter by a licensee or authorized delegate is likely to
10 cause immediate and irreparable harm to the licensee, its customers, or the public as
11 a result of the violation, or cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets of the
12 licensee, the commissioner may issue an order requiring the licensee or authorized
13 delegate to cease and desist from the violation. The order becomes effective upon
14 issuance.
- 15 2. The commissioner may issue an order against a licensee to cease and desist from
16 providing money transmission through an authorized delegate that is the subject of a
17 separate order by the commissioner.
- 18 3. An order to cease and desist ~~remains effective and enforceable pending the~~
19 ~~completion of an administrative proceeding~~must contain a notice of opportunity for a
20 hearing pursuant to chapter 28-32.
- 21 4. ~~An order to cease and desist expires unless the commissioner commences an~~
22 ~~administrative proceeding pursuant to chapter 28-32 within ten days after it is issued~~If
23 the company or individual subject to an order to cease and desist fails to request a
24 hearing in writing to the commissioner within twenty days of issuance, or if a hearing is
25 held and the commissioner concludes the record so warrants, the order to cease and
26 desist becomes final.

27 **SECTION 13. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-10-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
28 amended and reenacted as follows:

29 **13-10-05. Issuance of license.**

30 The commissioner shall not issue a mortgage loan originator license unless the
31 commissioner makes at a minimum the following findings:

- 1 1. The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license revoked in any
2 governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal vacation of such revocation
3 shall not be deemed a revocation.
- 4 2. The applicant has not been charged pending trial, convicted ~~of~~, ~~or~~ pled guilty, pled to
5 lesser charges, or pled nolo contendere to, a felony in a domestic, foreign, or military
6 court:
 - 7 a. During the seven-year period preceding the date of the application for licensing
8 and registration; or
 - 9 b. At any time preceding such date of application, if such felony involved an act of
10 fraud, dishonesty, or a breach of trust, or money laundering;
 - 11 c. Provided that any pardon of a conviction shall not be a conviction for purposes of
12 this subsection.
- 13 3. a. The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general
14 fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a
15 determination that the mortgage loan originator will operate honestly, fairly, and
16 efficiently within the purposes of this chapter.
 - 17 b. For purposes of this subsection, a person has shown that that person is not
18 financially responsible when that person has shown a disregard in the
19 management of that person's own financial condition. A determination that an
20 individual has not shown financial responsibility may include:
 - 21 (1) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments solely as a result of
22 medical expenses;
 - 23 (2) Current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings;
 - 24 (3) Foreclosures within the past three years; and
 - 25 (4) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within the past three years.
- 26 4. The applicant has completed the prelicensing education requirement described in
27 section 13-10-06.
- 28 5. The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test requirement described in
29 section 13-10-07.
- 30 6. The applicant has met the net worth and surety bond requirements under section
31 13-10-13.

SECTION 14. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 13-11-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. If the commissioner has reason to believe that grounds for revocation of a license exist, the commissioner may ~~send by certified mail to~~ notify the licensee with a notice of hearing stating the contemplated action and in general the grounds thereof and setting the time and place for a hearing thereon. Grounds for revocation of a license include:

- a. Any debt-settlement provider has failed to pay the annual license fee or to maintain in effect the bond required under this chapter;
- b. The debt-settlement provider has violated this chapter or any rule lawfully made by the commissioner implementing this chapter;
- c. Any fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the time of the original application for a license, would have warranted the commissioner in refusing its issuance; or
- d. Any applicant has made any false statement or representation to the commissioner in applying for a license under this chapter.

SECTION 15. AMENDMENT. Section 13-12-19 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

13-12-19. Response to department requests.

An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if no time is specified, within thirty days of the ~~mailing of the request by the department of~~ financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, ~~or within thirty days of the mailing of the request,~~ the department may deny the application.

SECTION 16. AMENDMENT. Subsections 6, 21, and 22 of section 13-13-01 of the North Dakota Century Code are amended and reenacted as follows:

6. "~~Interim serviced prior to sale~~ mortgage servicing" means the activity of collecting a limited number of contractual mortgage payments immediately after origination on loans held for sale but prior to the loans being sold into the secondary market.

- 1 21. "Service or servicing a loan" means ~~on behalf of the lender or investor of a residential~~
2 ~~mortgage loan:~~
- 3 a. Collecting or receiving payments on existing obligations due and owing to the
4 lender or investor, including payments of principal, interest, escrow amounts, and
5 other amounts due;
- 6 b. Collecting fees due to the servicer;
- 7 c. Working with the borrower and the licensed lender or servicer to collect data and
8 make decisions necessary to modify certain terms of those obligations either
9 temporarily or permanently;
- 10 d. Otherwise finalizing collection through the foreclosure process; or
- 11 e. Servicing a reverse mortgage loan.
- 12 22. "Servicer" means the entity performing the routine administration of residential
13 ~~mortgage loans on behalf of the owner or owners of the related mortgages under the~~
14 ~~terms of a servicing contract.~~

15 **SECTION 17. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-13-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
16 amended and reenacted as follows:

17 **13-13-04. Entities exempted from licensing requirements.**

18 This chapter does not apply to:

- 19 1. Banks;
- 20 2. Credit unions;
- 21 3. Savings and loan associations;
- 22 4. State or federal housing finance agencies;
- 23 5. Institutions chartered by the farm credit administration; ~~or~~
- 24 6. Not-for-profit mortgage servicers; or
- 25 7. Entities solely performing interim mortgage servicing.

26 **SECTION 18. AMENDMENT.** Section 13-13-18 of the North Dakota Century Code is
27 amended and reenacted as follows:

28 **13-13-18. Response to department requests.**

29 An applicant, licensee, or other person subject to the provisions of this chapter shall comply
30 with requests for information, documents, or other requests from the department of financial
31 institutions within the time specified in the request, which must be a minimum of ten days, or, if

- 1 no time is specified, within thirty days of the mailing of the request by the department of
- 2 financial institutions. If the request for information is in regard to a new application or renewal of
- 3 an existing application and is not received within the time specified in the request, or within
- 4 ~~thirty days of the mailing of the request~~, the department may deny the application.

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE
ENGROSSED HB 1127**

Industry and Business Committee (Sen. Barta, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS** ([25.8110.02001](#)) and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** (5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT OR EXCUSED AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1127 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar. This bill does not affect workforce development.