LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA

ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

## **LEGISLATIVE BILL 474**

Introduced by Banking, Commerce and Insurance Committee: Jacobson, 42, Chairperson; Bostar, 29; Hallstrom, 1; Hardin, 48; Riepe, 12; von Gillern, 4; Wordekemper, 15; Sorrentino, 39.

Read first time January 21, 2025

Committee: Banking, Commerce and Insurance

1	A BILL FOR	AN ACT re	lating t	o interest	:, loans,	and debt;	to amend
2	sections	8-319,	8-330,	8-601, 8	-820.01,	44-1703,	45-101.04,
3	45-1,110	, 45-334,	45-335,	45-336, 45	5-337, 45-	338, 45-339	), 45-340,
4	45-341,	45-342, 4	5-343, 4	5-344, 45	-345, 45-3	347, 45-348	, 45-350,
5	45-351,	45-352, 4	5-353, 4	5-355, 45	-356, 45-7	702, 45-703	, 45-705,
6	45-729,	45-734, 4	5-804, an	d 76-2711,	, Reissue	Revised St	atutes of
7	Nebraska	, and sect	ions 45-34	46, 45-354,	, and 69-2	103, Revise	d Statutes
8	Cumulati	ve Supplen	nent, 202	4; to rem	name the	Nebraska I	nstallment
9	Sales Ac	t; to tran:	sfer the	provisions	of and e	liminate the	e Nebraska
10	Installm	ent Loan A	ct; to cha	ange and e	liminate p	rovisions r	elating to
11	installm	ent sales a	and insta	llment loa	ns; to har	monize prov	isions; to
12	provide	an operati	ve date;	to repeal	the origi	nal section	is; and to
13	outright	repeal	sections	45-351.01	, 45-1001	, 45-1004,	45-1007,
14	45-1008,	45-1009,	45-1010	, 45-1011,	, 45-1012	, 45-1013,	45-1014,
15	45-1015,	45-1016,	45-1017	, 45-1019	, 45-1020	, 45-1021,	45-1022,
16	45-1023,	45-1024,	45-1025	, 45-1026	, 45-1027	, 45-1028,	45-1029,
17	45-1030,	45-1031,	45-1032,	45-1033,	45-1033.0	2, 45-1034,	45-1035,
18	45-1036,	45-1037,	45-1038	, 45-1039	, 45-1040	, 45-1041,	45-1042,
19							
	45-1043,	45-1044,	45-1045	, 45-1046	, 45-1047	, 45-1048,	45-1049,
20						, 45-1048, , 45-1055,	
20 21	45-1050,	45-1051,	45-1052	, 45-1053,	, 45-1054		45-1056,

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1	Reissue R	Revised	Statutes	of N	lebraska,	and	sections	45-346.01,
2	45-1002, 4	45-1003,	45-1005,	45-100	6, 45-1018	B, and	d 45-1033.	01, Revised
3	Statutes C	Cumulati	/e Supplen	nent, 2	024.			

4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

Section 1. Section 8-319, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

3 8-319 (1) No loan shall be made by such association except to its own members, and no loan shall be made to any member for any sum in 4 excess of the par value of his or her stock. The borrower shall pledge to 5 the association, as security for the loan, shares of a maturity value 6 equal to the principal of the loan and, except as otherwise provided in 7 this section, ample security by mortgage or deeds of trust on real 8 9 estate. For purposes of this section, real property and real estate shall 10 include a leasehold or subleasehold estate in real property under a lease or sublease the term of which does not expire, or which is renewable 11 automatically or at the option of the holder or of the association so as 12 13 not to expire for at least five years beyond the maturity of the debt. Loans made upon improved real estate, except as otherwise provided in 14 this section, shall not exceed ninety-five percent of the reasonable 15 normal cash value thereof, and all loans made on any other real estate 16 17 shall not exceed three-fourths of the reasonable normal cash value thereof. 18

19 (2) An association may make a loan or loans in an amount exceeding ninety-five percent of the reasonable normal cash value of the real 20 estate security (a) if such loan or loans are made to a veteran in accord 21 with the provisions of 38 U.S.C., as now existing or as hereafter 22 amended, (b) if the proceeds of the loan or loans are to be used in 23 24 purchasing residential property or in constructing a dwelling on 25 unimproved property owned by such veteran to be occupied as his or her used for the purpose of making repairs, 26 home, alterations, or improvements in or paying delinquent indebtedness, taxes, or special 27 28 assessments on residential property owned by the veteran and used by him or her as his or her home, or used in purchasing any land and buildings 29 to be used by the applicant in pursuing a gainful occupation other than 30 farming, and (c) if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs guarantees that 31

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1 portion of such loan or loans in excess of ninety-five percent of the 2 reasonable normal cash value of the real estate security.

3 (3) An association is authorized to obtain insurance of its loans by 4 the Federal Housing Administrator under Title II of the National Housing 5 Act, as amended, and such loans so made upon improved real estate and so 6 insured shall not be subject to the restrictions set forth in this 7 section with reference to the maximum authorized amount of a loan.

(4) An association may make unsecured loans to its members if such 8 9 loans (a) are insured under Title I and Title II of the National Housing Act, as amended, or (b) are for property alterations, repair, or 10 improvements. The aggregate amount of loans made under subdivisions (a) 11 and (b) of this subsection shall not at any time exceed twenty percent of 12 13 the association's assets. Each loan made under subdivision (b) of this subsection shall be repayable in regular monthly installments within a 14 period of twenty years and shall be supported by a written property 15 statement on forms to be prescribed by the Department of Banking and 16 17 Finance. An association may make secured loans to its members and may make loans under 38 U.S.C., as amended, under Chapter V, subchapter C of 18 the Home Owners' Loan Act of 1933, as amended (12 U.S.C.), and on the 19 security of mobile homes. 20

(5) The stock of such association may be accepted as security for a
loan of the amount of the withdrawal value of such stock without other
security.

(6) An association when so licensed may make loans to its own
members upon the terms and security set forth in the Nebraska Installment
Loan <u>and Sales Act</u>.

(7) Any provisions of this section to the contrary notwithstanding,
an association may make any loan that a federal savings and loan
association doing business in this state is or may be authorized to make.
(8) An association may invest in loans, obligations, and advances of
credit, all of which are referred to in this subsection as loans, made

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1 for the payment of expenses of business school, technical training 2 school, college, or university education, but no association shall make any investment in loans under this subsection if the principal amount of 3 its investment in such loans, exclusive of any investment which is or 4 5 which at the time of its making was otherwise authorized, would thereupon exceed five percent of its assets. Such loans may be secured, partly 6 secured, or unsecured, and the association may require a comaker or 7 comakers, insurance, guaranty under a governmental student loan guarantee 8 9 plan, or other protection against contingencies. The borrower shall certify to the association that the proceeds of the loan are to be used 10 by a full-time student solely for the payment of expenses of business, 11 technical training school, college, or university education. 12

13 (9) An association may participate with other lenders in making loans of any type that an association may otherwise make if (a) each of 14 the lenders is either an instrumentality of the United States Government 15 or is insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or, in the 16 case of another lender, the interest of the association in such loan is 17 superior to the participating interests of the other participants and (b) 18 19 an association whose accounts are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation which may be a federal association or 20 an association chartered by this state, or another association chartered by 21 this state which is not so insured, has otherwise complied with 22 subsection (1) of this section with respect to loans to members. 23

(10) An association may sell to or purchase from any institution which is a savings association chartered by this state or the accounts of which are insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation a participating interest in any loan, whether or not, in the case of a purchase, the security is located within the association's regular lending area.

30 Sec. 2. Section 8-330, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 31 amended to read:

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1 8-330 Every association may require borrowing members to pay all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the making, closing, 2 disbursing, extending, readjusting, or renewing of real estate loans. 3 Such expenses may include abstract, recording, and registration fees, 4 5 title examinations, survey, escrow services, and taxes or charges imposed upon or in connection with the making and recording of any mortgage. Such 6 7 reasonable charges may be collected by the association from the borrower and shall not be considered interest or a charge for the use of the money 8 9 loaned. A charge not exceeding one percent or that allowed a federally chartered association for the premature prepayment may be made. The rate 10 of interest on any loan of money shall be determined and computed upon 11 the assumption that the debt will be paid according to the agreed terms 12 and in the event the loan is paid or collected by court action prior to 13 14 the term of the loan, any payment charged, received, or taken as an advance or forbearance which is in the nature of and taken into account 15 in the calculation of interest, shall be spread over the stated term of 16 17 the loan for the purpose of determining the rate of interest. Any amounts paid or contracted to be paid by persons other than the borrower shall 18 not be considered interest and shall not be taken into account in the 19 calculation of interest. Interest may be paid on escrow accounts held for 20 the payment of taxes, insurance, and similar payments, if agreed to in 21 writing by the borrower and association. Loans may be made by an 22 23 association under a license granted it pursuant to the Nebraska 24 Installment Loan and Sales Act, to borrowing members whose loans are secured by real estate, to the same extent and in the same amount as such 25 loans may lawfully be made to nonborrowing members. The association shall 26 furnish a loan settlement statement to each borrower, indicating in 27 detail the charges and fees such borrower has paid or obligated himself 28 or herself to pay to the association or to any other person in connection 29 with such loan. A copy of such statement shall be retained in the records 30 31 of the association.

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1 An association may charge and receive interest, on property 2 improvement loans including loans made under Title I of the National 3 Housing Act, as amended, and unsecured loans authorized in section 5(c) 4 of the Home Owners' Loan Act, as amended.

5 Sec. 3. Section 8-601, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
6 amended to read:

8-601 The Director of Banking and Finance may employ deputies, 7 examiners, attorneys, and other assistants as may be necessary for the 8 9 administration of the provisions and purposes of the Credit Union Act, Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act, Interstate Branching and Merger 10 Act, Interstate Trust Company Office Act, Nebraska Bank Holding Company 11 Act of 1995, Nebraska Banking Act, Nebraska Financial Innovation Act, 12 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, Nebraska Installment Sales Act, 13 Nebraska Money Transmitters Act, Nebraska Trust Company Act, 14 and 15 Residential Mortgage Licensing Act; Chapter 8, articles 3, 5, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14, 15, 16, 19, 20, 24, and 25; and Chapter 45, articles 1 and 2. The 16 17 director may levy upon financial institutions, namely, the banks, trust companies, building and loan associations, savings and loan associations, 18 19 savings banks, digital asset depositories, and credit unions, organized under the laws of this state, and holding companies, if any, of such 20 financial institutions, an assessment each year based upon the asset size 21 of the financial institution, except that in determining the asset size 22 of a holding company or digital asset depository, the assets of any 23 24 financial institution or holding company otherwise assessed pursuant to 25 this section and the assets of any nationally chartered financial institution shall be excluded. The assessment for 26 digital asset depositories under the Nebraska Financial Innovation Act shall be in an 27 amount to offset the costs of supervision and administration of the 28 Nebraska Financial Innovation Act. The assessment shall be a sum 29 determined by the director in accordance with section 8-606 and approved 30 by the Governor. 31

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Sec. 4. Section 8-820.01, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
 amended to read:

8-820.01 It is hereby declared to be the public policy of the State 3 of Nebraska that for purposes of applying the federal most-favored-lender 4 doctrine, the bank credit card rate contained in section 8-820 is not 5 comparable or analogous to the small loan rate found in section 23 of 6 this act sections 45-1024 and section 45-350 45-1025. The Legislature 7 finds that the institutions making small loans and the institutions 8 9 administering a bank credit card are categorically different. The 10 transactions carried on by these institutions are categorically different. The Legislature finds that small loan borrowers and bank 11 credit card users are not synonymous or comparable. In establishing a 12 13 small loan rate, the Legislature has recognized a risk factor that is different and greater than other financial transactions and therefor 14 justifies the charging of a higher interest rate than installment loans, 15 personal loans, retail revolving credit plans, or bank credit card 16 17 interest rates.

Sec. 5. Section 44-1703, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

44-1703 All life insurance and all accident and health insurance 20 sold in connection with loans or other credit transactions shall be 21 22 subject to sections 44-1701 to 44-1713 except such insurance sold in connection with a loan or other credit transaction of more than ten years 23 24 duration or fifteen years duration when made by licensees under the 25 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. No insurance shall be subject to sections 44-1701 to 44-1713 when the issuance of such insurance is an 26 isolated transaction on the part of the insurer and not related to an 27 agreement or a plan for insuring debtors of the creditor. 28

29 Sec. 6. Section 45-101.04, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-101.04 The limitation on the rate of interest provided in section

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1 45-101.03 shall not apply to:

2 (1) Other rates of interest authorized for loans made by any 3 licensee or permittee operating under a license or permit duly issued by 4 the Department of Banking and Finance pursuant to the Credit Union Act, 5 the Nebraska Installment Loan <u>and Sales Act</u>, subsection (4) of section 6 8-319, or sections 8-815 to 8-829;

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7 (2) Loans made to any corporation, partnership, limited liability8 company, or trust;

9 (3) The guarantor or surety of any loan to a corporation, 10 partnership, limited liability company, or trust;

(4) Loans made when the aggregate principal amount of the
indebtedness is twenty-five thousand dollars or more of the borrower to
any one financial institution, licensee, or permittee;

14 (5) Loans insured, guaranteed, sponsored, or participated in, either
15 in whole or part, by any agency, department, or program of the United
16 States or state government;

(6) Loans or advances of money, repayable on demand, which are made solely upon securities, as defined in subdivision (15) of section 8-1101, pledged as collateral for such repayment and in which such loans or advances are used by the borrower only for the purchase of securities as so defined. It shall be lawful to contract for and receive any rate of interest on such transaction as the parties thereto may expressly agree;

(7) Interest charges made on open credit accounts by a person who sells goods or services on credit when the interest charges do not exceed one and one-third percent per month for any charges which remain unpaid for more than thirty days following rendition of the statement of account;

(8) A minimum charge of ten dollars per loan which may be charged by
the lender in lieu of all interest charges;

30 (9) Loans described in subsection (4) of section 8-319 made by a
 31 state or federal savings and loan association at a rate not to exceed

1 nineteen percent per annum;

2 (10) Loans made primarily for business or agricultural purposes or 3 secured by real property when such loans are made (a) by a licensee, 4 registrant, or permittee operating under a license, registration, or 5 permit duly issued by the Department of Banking and Finance except for licensees operating under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, 6 7 (b) by any financial institution insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the National Credit Union Administration, or (c) by any 8 9 insurance company organized under the laws of this state and subject to regulation by the Department of Insurance; 10

(11) Loans secured solely by real property when such loans are (a) 11 made by licensees operating under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales 12 Act and (b) made to finance or refinance the purchase of the property or 13 construction on or improvements to the property, if the Department of 14 Banking and Finance has the authority to examine such loans for 15 16 compliance with sections 45-101.02 and 45-101.03. A licensee making a 17 loan pursuant to this subdivision may obtain an interest in any fixtures attached to such real property and any insurance proceeds payable in 18 connection with such real property or the loan; 19

20 (12) Loans secured by a reverse mortgage pursuant to section21 45-702.01;

(13) Interest charges made on any goods or services sold under an installment contract pursuant to the Nebraska Installment <u>Loan and Sales</u> Act. Subject to section <u>39 of this act</u> 45-338, it shall be lawful to contract for and receive any rate of interest on such contract as the parties may expressly agree to in writing; or

(14) Fees which may be charged by a licensee for services pursuant
to the Delayed Deposit Services Licensing Act.

29 Sec. 7. Section 45-1,110, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-1,110 Sections 45-1,105 to 45-1,110 shall not apply to any

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licensee operating under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. 1 2 Sec. 8. Section 45-334, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 3 amended to read: 45-334 Sections 45-334 to 45-356 and sections 23 and 31 to 54 of 4 this act shall be known and may be cited as the Nebraska Installment Loan 5 6 and Sales Act. 7 Sec. 9. Section 45-335, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read: 8 9 45-335 For purposes of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, 10 unless the context otherwise requires: (1) Applicant means a person applying for a license under the 11 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act; 12 (2) Basic time price means the cash sale price of the goods or 13 services which are the subject matter of an installment sales contract 14 plus the amount included therein, if a separate identified charge is made 15 therefor and stated in the contract, for insurance, registration, 16 17 certificate of title, debt cancellation contract, debt suspension contract, electronic title and lien services, guaranteed asset protection 18 waiver, and license fees, filing fees, an origination fee, and fees and 19 charges prescribed by law which actually are or will be paid to public 20 21 officials for determining the existence of or for perfecting, releasing, 22 or satisfying any security related to the credit transaction or any charge for nonfiling insurance if such charge does not exceed the amount 23 24 of fees and charges prescribed by law which would have been paid to 25 public officials for filing, perfecting, releasing, and satisfying any security related to the credit transaction and less the amount of the 26 buyer's downpayment in money or goods or both; 27 (3) Branch office means any location, other than the main office 28

29 location, at which the business of a licensee is to be conducted, 30 including:

31 (a) Any offices physically located in Nebraska; and

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1	(b) Any offices that, while not physically located in this state,
2	intend to transact business with Nebraska residents;
3	(4) Breach of security of the system means unauthorized acquisition
4	of data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of
5	information;
6	<u>(5) Buyer means a person who buys goods or obtains services from a</u>
7	<u>seller in an installment sale;</u>
8	<u>(6) Cash price or cash sale price means the price stated in an</u>
9	installment sales contract for which the seller would have sold or
10	furnished to the buyer and the buyer would have bought or acquired from
11	the seller goods or services which are the subject matter of the contract
12	if such sale had been a sale for cash instead of an installment sale. It
13	may include the cash price of accessories or services related to the sale
14	such as delivery, installation, alterations, modifications, and
15	improvements and may include taxes to the extent imposed on the cash
16	<u>sale;</u>
17	<u>(7) Consumer means an individual who is a resident of Nebraska and</u>
18	who seeks to obtain, obtains, or has obtained financial products or
19	services that are to be used primarily for personal, family, or household
20	<u>purposes;</u>
21	<u>(8)(a) Control in the case of a corporation means (i) direct or</u>
22	indirect ownership of or the right to control twenty-five percent or more
23	of the voting shares of the corporation or (ii) the ability of a person
24	or group acting in concert to elect a majority of the directors or
25	<u>otherwise effect a change in policy.</u>
26	(b) Control in the case of any other entity means (i) the power,
27	directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of the
28	entity, (ii) the contribution of twenty-five percent or more of the
29	capital of the entity, or (iii) the right to receive, upon dissolution,
30	twenty-five percent or more of the capital of the entity;

31 (9) Debt cancellation contract means a loan term or contractual

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1	arrangement modifying loan terms under which a financial institution or
2	licensee agrees to cancel all or part of a buyer's obligation to repay an
3	extension of credit from the financial institution or licensee upon the
4	occurrence of a specified event. The debt cancellation contract may be
5	<u>separate from or a part of other loan documents. The term debt</u>
6	cancellation contract does not include loan payment deferral arrangements
7	in which the triggering event is the buyer's unilateral election to defer
8	repayment or the financial institution's or licensee's unilateral
9	decision to allow a deferral of repayment;
10	<u>(10) Debt suspension contract means a loan term or contractual</u>
11	arrangement modifying loan terms under which a financial institution or
12	licensee agrees to suspend all or part of a buyer's obligation to repay
13	an extension of credit from the financial institution or licensee upon
14	the occurrence of a specified event. The debt suspension contract may be
15	separate from or a part of other loan documents. The term debt suspension
16	contract does not include loan payment deferral arrangements in which the
17	triggering event is the buyer's unilateral election to defer repayment or
18	the financial institution's or licensee's unilateral decision to allow a
19	<u>deferral of repayment;</u>
20	(11) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance;
21	(12) Director means the Director of Banking and Finance;
22	(13) Financial institution has the same meaning as in section
23	<u>8-101.03;</u>
24	<u>(14) Goods means all personal property, except money or things in</u>
25	action, and includes goods which, at the time of sale or subsequently,
26	are so affixed to realty as to become part thereof whether or not
27	severable therefrom;
28	<u>(15) Guaranteed asset protection waiver means a waiver that is</u>
29	offered, sold, or provided in accordance with the Guaranteed Asset
30	Protection Waiver Act;

<sup>31 (16)</sup> Installment sale means any transaction, whether or not

1	involving the creation or retention of a security interest, in which a
2	buyer acquires goods or services from a seller pursuant to an agreement
3	which provides for a time-price differential and under which the buyer
4	<u>agrees to pay all or part of the time-sale price in one or more</u>
5	installments and within one hundred forty-five months, except that the
6	<u>purchase of mobile homes may exceed such one-hundred-forty-five-month</u>
7	<u>limitation. Installment sale does not include a consumer rental purchase</u>
8	<u>agreement defined in and regulated by the Consumer Rental Purchase</u>
9	<u>Agreement Act;</u>
10	<u>(17) Installment sales contract means an agreement entered into in</u>
11	this state evidencing an installment sale except those otherwise provided
12	<u>for in separate acts;</u>
13	<del>(1) Goods means all personal property, except money or things in</del>
14	action, and includes goods which, at the time of sale or subsequently,
15	are so affixed to realty as to become part thereof whether or not
16	severable therefrom;
17	(2) Services means work, labor, and services of any kind performed
18	in conjunction with an installment sale but does not include services for
19	which the prices charged are required by law to be established and
20	regulated by the government of the United States or any state;
21	(3) Buyer means a person who buys goods or obtains services from a
22	seller in an installment sale;
23	(4) Seller means a person who sells goods or furnishes services to a
24	buyer under an installment sale;
25	(5) Installment sale means any transaction, whether or not involving
26	the creation or retention of a security interest, in which a buyer
27	acquires goods or services from a seller pursuant to an agreement which
28	provides for a time-price differential and under which the buyer agrees
29	to pay all or part of the time-sale price in one or more installments and
30	within one hundred forty-five months, except that installment contracts
31	for the purchase of mobile homes may exceed such one-hundred-forty-five-

1 month limitation. Installment sale does not include a consumer rental
2 purchase agreement defined in and regulated by the Consumer Rental
3 Purchase Agreement Act;

4 (6) Installment contract means an agreement entered into in this
5 state evidencing an installment sale except those otherwise provided for
6 in separate acts;

7 (7) Cash price or cash sale price means the price stated in an installment contract for which the seller would have sold or furnished to 8 9 the buyer and the buyer would have bought or acquired from the seller 10 goods or services which are the subject matter of the contract if such sale had been a sale for cash instead of an installment sale. It may 11 12 include the cash price of accessories or services related to the sale 13 such as delivery, installation, alterations, modifications, and 14 improvements and may include taxes to the extent imposed on the cash 15 sale;

16 (8) Basic time price means the cash sale price of the goods or 17 services which are the subject matter of an installment contract plus the 18 amount included therein, if a separate identified charge is made therefor 19 and stated in the contract, for insurance, registration, certificate of 20 title, debt cancellation contract, debt suspension contract, electronic 21 title and lien services, guaranteed asset protection waiver, and license 22 fees, filing fees, an origination fee, and fees and charges prescribed by 23 law which actually are or will be paid to public officials for determining the existence of or for perfecting, releasing, or satisfying 24 25 any security related to the credit transaction or any charge for nonfiling insurance if such charge does not exceed the amount of fees and 26 27 charges prescribed by law which would have been paid to public officials 28 for filing, perfecting, releasing, and satisfying any security related to 29 the credit transaction and less the amount of the buyer's downpayment in 30 money or goods or both;

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(9) Time-price differential, however denominated or expressed, means

1 the amount, as limited in the Nebraska Installment Sales Act, to be added 2 to the basic time price;

3 (10) Time-sale price means the total of the basic time price of the 4 goods or services, the amount of the buyer's downpayment in money or 5 goods or both, and the time-price differential;

6 (11) Sales finance company means a person purchasing one or more 7 installment contracts from one or more sellers or acquiring any rights of 8 ownership, servicing, or other forms of participation in or otherwise 9 engaging with a consumer on behalf of the purchaser of one or more 10 installment sales contracts from one or more sellers. Sales finance 11 company includes, but is not limited to, a financial institution or 12 installment loan licensee, if so engaged;

13 (12) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance;

14 (13) Director means the Director of Banking and Finance;

15 (14) Financial institution has the same meaning as in section 16 8-101.03;

17 (15) Debt cancellation contract means a loan term or contractual 18 arrangement modifying loan terms under which a financial institution or 19 licensee agrees to cancel all or part of a buyer's obligation to repay an 20 extension of credit from the financial institution or licensee upon the 21 occurrence of a specified event. The debt cancellation contract may be 22 separate from or a part of other loan documents. The term debt 23 cancellation contract does not include loan payment deferral arrangements 24 in which the triggering event is the buyer's unilateral election to defer 25 repayment or the financial institution's or licensee's unilateral 26 decision to allow a deferral of repayment;

27 (16) Debt suspension contract means a loan term or contractual 28 arrangement modifying loan terms under which a financial institution or 29 licensee agrees to suspend all or part of a buyer's obligation to repay 30 an extension of credit from the financial institution or licensee upon 31 the occurrence of a specified event. The debt suspension contract may be

separate from or a part of other loan documents. The term debt suspension 1 2 contract does not include loan payment deferral arrangements in which the 3 triggering event is the buyer's unilateral election to defer repayment or 4 the financial institution's or licensee's unilateral decision to allow a 5 deferral of repayment; 6 (17) Guaranteed asset protection waiver means a waiver that is 7 offered, sold, or provided in accordance with the Guaranteed Asset 8 Protection Waiver Act; 9 (18) Licensee means any person who obtains a license under the 10 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act; (19) Loan or installment loan means a loan or any extension of 11 credit to a consumer originated or made with an interest rate greater 12 13 than the maximum interest rate allowed under section 45-101.03, a minimum loan term of six months, and a principal balance of less than twenty-five 14 15 thousand dollars; (20) Mortgage loan originator has the same meaning as in section 16 17 45-702; 18 (19) Person means individual, partnership, limited liability 19 company, association, financial institution, trust, corporation, and any 20 other legal entity; 21 (20) Breach of security of the system means unauthorized acquisition 22 of data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of the information maintained by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System 23 24 and Registry, its affiliates, or its subsidiaries; 25 (21) Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry means a licensing system, also known as the Nationwide Multistate Licensing 26 27 System and Registry, developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage 28 Regulators for the licensing and registration of mortgage loan 29

originators, mortgage bankers, installment loan companies, and other 30 state-regulated financial services entities and industries; 31

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(22) Person means individual, partnership, limited liability 1 2 company, association, financial institution, trust, corporation, or any 3 other legal entity; (23) Real property means an owner-occupied single-family, two-4 family, three-family, or four-family dwelling which is located in this 5 state, which is occupied, used, or intended to be occupied or used for 6 7 residential purposes, and which is, or is intended to be, permanently affixed to the land; 8 9 (24) Sales finance company means a person purchasing one or more 10 installment sales contracts from one or more sellers or acquiring any rights of ownership, servicing, or other forms of participation in or 11 otherwise engaging with a consumer on behalf of the purchaser of one or 12 13 more installment sales contracts from one or more sellers. Sales finance company includes, but is not limited to, a financial institution or 14 15 installment loan licensee, if so engaged; 16 (25) Seller means a person who sells goods or furnishes services to 17 a buyer under an installment sale; (26) Services means work, labor, and services of any kind performed 18 19 in conjunction with an installment sale but does not include services for which the prices charged are required by law to be established and 20 21 regulated by the government of the United States or any state; 22 (27) Time-price differential, however denominated or expressed, means the amount, as limited in the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales 23 24 Act, to be added to the basic time price; and 25 (28) Time-sale price means the total of the basic time price of the goods or services, the amount of the buyer's downpayment in money or 26 27 goods or both, and the time-price differential. 28 (22)(a) Control in the case of a corporation means (i) direct or 29 indirect ownership of or the right to control twenty-five percent or more of the voting shares of the corporation or (ii) the ability of a person 30

or group acting in concert to elect a majority of the directors or

1 otherwise effect a change in policy. 2 (b) Control in the case of any other entity means (i) the power, 3 directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of the entity, (ii) the contribution of twenty-five percent or more of the 4 5 capital of the entity, or (iii) the right to receive, upon dissolution, 6 twenty-five percent or more of the capital of the entity; and 7 (23) Branch office means any location, other than the main office location, at which the business of a licensee is to be conducted, 8 9 including (a) any offices physically located in Nebraska, and (b) any 10 offices that, while not physically located in this state, intend to transact business with Nebraska residents. 11 Sec. 10. Section 45-336, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 12 13 amended to read: 45-336 (1) An installment loan license shall be required for: 14 15 (a) Any person engaging in the business of making loans; (b) Any person that holds or acquires any rights of ownership, 16 17 servicing, or other forms of participation in a loan or that engages with, or conducts loan activity with, an installment loan borrower in 18 connection with a loan; or 19 (c) Any person that is not a financial institution who, at or after 20 the time a loan is made by a financial institution, markets, owns in 21 22 whole or in part, holds, acquires, services, or otherwise participates in 23 a loan. 24 (2) Any person may, after procuring an installment loan license from 25 the department, engage or continue in the business of making loans of money and charge, contract for, and receive the maximum for interest and 26 27 other charges in accordance with the authorization and requirements of 28 the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. 29 (3) An installment loan license shall not be required for: 30 (a)(i) A financial institution. (ii) While no financial institution is eligible for an installment 31

1	loan license or to make loans under the Nebraska Installment Loan and
2	Sales Act, an installment loan license shall be required for any person
3	that is not a financial institution who, at or after the time a loan is
4	<u>made by a financial institution, markets, owns in whole or in part,</u>
5	holds, acquires, services, or otherwise participates in such loan;
6	<u>(b)(i) An affiliate of an installment loan licensee if the</u>
7	activities of the affiliate in this state are limited solely to the
8	securitization of loans made by the licensee and the servicing rights to
9	the loans are retained by the licensee or assigned or otherwise
10	transferred to a financial institution, licensee, or permittee.
11	<u>(ii) For purposes of subsection (b) of this section:</u>
12	(A) Affiliate means an entity that controls, is controlled by, or is
13	under common control with another entity;
14	(B) Control means to own directly or indirectly or to control in any
15	manner twenty-five percent of the voting shares of an entity or to
16	control in any manner the election of the majority of directors of any
17	entity; and
18	(C) Securitization means the placing of individual installment loans
19	made by licensees into a commingled or pooled security that is
20	subsequently sold or otherwise transferred to another entity.
21	<u>(iii) Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to exempt a</u>
22	licensee or affiliate from the Securities Act of Nebraska; and
23	<u>(c) Any person, who is not an installment loan licensee, that only</u>
24	makes loans that do not exceed the maximum rate of interest permitted by
25	<u>section 45-101.03.</u>
26	(4) An installment sales license shall be required by any person who
27	acts as a sales finance company in this state, whether or not such person
28	maintains an office, place of doing business, or agent in this state.
29	(5) An installment sales license shall not be required for:
30	<u>(a) A financial institution or an installment loan licensee;</u>
31	(b) A seller who does not otherwise act as a sales finance company,

but such seller shall comply with all of the other provisions of the
 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act in order to charge the time price
 differential allowed by section 39 of this act; or

4 (c) Persons that negotiate and enter into installment sales 5 contracts by United States mail without personal solicitation by salespersons or other representatives of the seller and based upon the 6 7 catalog of the seller or other printed solicitation of business, which is distributed and made available generally to the public, if such catalog 8 9 or other printed solicitation clearly sets forth the cash and time-sale 10 prices and other terms of sales to be made through such medium. All provisions of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act shall apply to 11 such sales, except that the seller shall not be required to deliver a 12 13 copy of the contract to the buyer pursuant to section 38 of this act and 14 if the contract when received by the seller contains any blank spaces, the seller may insert in the appropriate blank space the amounts of money 15 16 and other terms which are set forth in the seller's catalog or other 17 printed solicitation which is then in effect. In lieu of sending the buyer a copy of the contract pursuant to section 38 of this act, the 18 19 seller shall furnish to the buyer a written statement of any items inserted in the blank spaces in the contract received from the buyer. 20

21 (1) Each retail installment contract shall be in writing, shall be 22 signed by both the buyer and the seller, and shall contain the following 23 items and a copy thereof shall be delivered to the buyer at the time the 24 instrument is signed, except for contracts made in conformance with 25 section 45-340: (a) The cash sale price; (b) the amount of the buyer's downpayment, and whether made in money or goods, or partly in money and 26 27 partly in goods, including a brief description of any goods traded in; 28 (c) the difference between subdivisions (a) and (b) of this subsection; 29 (d) the amount included for insurance if a separate charge is made 30 therefor, specifying the types of coverages; (e) the amount included for a debt cancellation contract or a debt suspension contract if the debt 31

cancellation contract or debt suspension contract is a contract of a 1 2 financial institution or licensee, such contract is sold directly by such 3 financial institution or licensee or by an unaffiliated, nonexclusive 4 agent of such financial institution or licensee in accordance with 12 5 C.F.R. part 37, as such part existed on January 1, 2011, and the 6 financial institution or licensee is responsible for the unaffiliated, 7 nonexclusive agent's compliance with such part, and a separate charge is made therefor; (f) the amount included for electronic title and lien 8 9 services other than fees and charges prescribed by law which actually are 10 or will be paid to public officials for determining the existence of or for perfecting, releasing, or satisfying any security related to the 11 12 credit transaction; (g) the basic time price, which is the sum of 13 subdivisions (c), (d), (e), and (f) of this subsection; (h) the timeprice differential; (i) the amount of the time-price balance, which is 14 15 the sum of subdivisions (g) and (h) of this subsection, payable in installments by the buyer to the seller; (j) the number, amount, and due 16 17 date or period of each installment; (k) the time-sales price; and (l) the 18 amount included for a guaranteed asset protection waiver.

19 (2) The contract shall contain substantially the following notice:
 20 NOTICE TO THE BUYER. DO NOT SIGN THIS CONTRACT BEFORE YOU READ IT OR IF
 21 IT CONTAINS BLANK SPACES. YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A COPY OF THE CONTRACT YOU
 22 SIGN.

(3) The items listed in subsection (1) of this section need not be 23 24 stated in the sequence or order set forth in such subsection. Additional 25 items may be included to explain the computations made in determining the amount to be paid by the buyer. No installment contract shall be signed 26 27 by the buyer or proffered by seller when it contains blank spaces to be 28 filled in after execution, except that if delivery of the goods or services is not made at the time of the execution of the contract, the 29 30 identifying numbers or marks of the goods, or similar information, and the due date of the first installment may be inserted in the contract 31

1 after its execution.

2 (4) If a seller proffers an installment contract as part of a 3 transaction which delays or cancels, or promises to delay or cancel, the 4 payment of the time-price differential on the contract if the buyer pays 5 the basic time price, cash price, or cash sale price within a certain 6 period of time, the seller shall, in clear and conspicuous writing, 7 either within the installment contract or in a separate document, inform the buyer of the exact date by which the buyer must pay the basic time 8 9 price, cash price, or cash sale price in order to delay or cancel the 10 payment of the time-price differential. The seller or any subsequent 11 purchaser of the installment contract, including a sales finance company, 12 shall not be allowed to change such date.

13 (5) Upon written request from the buyer, the holder of an 14 installment contract shall give or forward to the buyer a written 15 statement of the dates and amounts of payments and the total amount 16 unpaid under such contract. A buyer shall be given a written receipt for 17 any payment when made in cash.

18 (6) After payment of all sums for which the buyer is obligated under 19 a contract, the holder shall deliver or mail to the buyer at his or her last-known address one or more good and sufficient instruments or copies 20 21 thereof to acknowledge payment in full and shall release all security in 22 the goods and mark canceled and return to the buyer the original 23 agreement or copy thereof or instruments or copies thereof signed by the 24 buyer. For purposes of this section, a copy shall meet the requirements 25 of section 25-12,112.

26 Sec. 11. Section 45-337, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 27 amended to read:

45-337 (1) An application for either an installment loan license or
an installment sales license shall be on a form prescribed and furnished
by the director and shall include, but not be limited to:

31 (a) The applicant's name and any trade name or doing business as

1	designation which the applicant intends to use in this state;
2	(b) The applicant's main office address;
3	(c) All branch office addresses of the applicant at which business
4	<u>is to be conducted;</u>
5	(d) The names and titles of each director and principal officer of
6	the applicant;
7	<u>(e) The names of all shareholders, partners, or members of the</u>
8	<u>applicant;</u>
9	(f) A description of the activities of the applicant in such detail
10	as the department may require;
11	<u>(g) If the applicant is an individual, such individual's social</u>
12	security number;
13	(h) Audited financial statements of the applicant showing a minimum
14	net worth of one hundred thousand dollars;
15	(i) Background checks of the applicant as provided in section 47 of
16	<u>this act; and</u>
17	<u>(j) A surety bond as provided in section 45-338.</u>
18	(2) All applications for licenses must be accompanied by any
19	processing fee allowed for by section 47 of this act, any application and
20	processing fees for associated branch applications pursuant to section
21	<u>45-339, and a filing fee of:</u>
22	<u>(a) One hundred fifty dollars for an installment sales license; and</u>
23	<u>(b) Five hundred dollars for an installment loan license.</u>
24	(3) The director shall, after an application has been filed for a
25	license under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, investigate
26	the applicant to determine whether all requirements for licensure have
27	been met and to determine if a finding can be made that the experience,
28	character, and general fitness of the applicant, of the members thereof
29	if the applicant is a corporation or association, and of the officers and
30	directors thereof if the applicant is a corporation, are such as to
31	warrant belief that the business will be operated honestly, fairly, and

efficiently within the purposes of the Nebraska Installment Loan and
 Sales Act.

3 <u>(4) The director may, within the director's discretion, make an</u> 4 <u>examination and inspection concerning the propriety of the issuance of a</u> 5 <u>license to any applicant. The cost of such examination and inspection</u> 6 shall be borne by the applicant.

7 (5) If all requirements to obtain a license under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act are met and a finding can be made that the 8 9 experience, character, and general fitness of the applicant, of the 10 members thereof if the applicant is a corporation or association, and of the officers and directors thereof if the applicant is a corporation, are 11 12 such as to warrant belief that the business will be operated honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purpose of the Nebraska Installment 13 Loan and Sales Act, the director shall issue and deliver a license to the 14 15 applicant to do business in accordance with the license and the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. The director shall have the power to deny 16 17 for cause any application for a license.

18 (6) The department shall approve or deny every application for a 19 license under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act within ninety 20 days after the filing of an application, if the application is 21 substantially complete and is accompanied by the required fees and the 22 approved bond.

23 (7) A license issued under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales
 24 Act is nontransferable and nonassignable.

(8) An initial license shall remain in full force and effect until
 the next succeeding December 31. Each license shall remain in force until
 revoked, suspended, canceled, expired, or surrendered.

(9) If an applicant for a license under the Nebraska Installment
 Loan and Sales Act does not complete the license application and fails to
 respond to a notice or notices from the department to correct the
 deficiency or deficiencies for a period of one hundred twenty days or

more after the date the department sends the initial notice to correct the deficiency or deficiencies, the department may deem the application as abandoned and may issue a notice of abandonment of the application to the applicant in lieu of proceedings to deny the application.

5 (10) Obtaining a license constitutes sufficient contact with this
6 state for the exercise of personal jurisdiction over the licensee in any
7 action arising out of the licensee's activity in this state.

8 (1) The amount, if any, included for insurance, which may be 9 purchased by the holder of the contract, shall not exceed the applicable 10 premium rates chargeable in accordance with filings, if any, with the 11 Department of Insurance. If dual interest insurance on the goods is purchased by the holder it shall, within thirty days after execution of 12 13 the installment contract, send or cause to be sent to the buyer a policy 14 or policies or certificate of insurance, written by an insurance company 15 authorized to do business in this state, clearly setting forth the amount 16 of the premium, the kind or kinds of insurance, the coverages, and all 17 the terms and conditions of the contract or contracts of insurance.

18 (2) If any insurance is canceled or the premium adjusted during the 19 term of the installment contract, any refund of the insurance premium 20 plus the unearned time-price differential thereon received by the holder 21 shall be credited by the holder to the last maturing installment of the 22 contract except to the extent applied toward payment for similar 23 insurance protecting the interests of the buyer and the holder or either 24 of them.

(3) If any insurance is canceled due to the payment of all sums for which the buyer is liable under an installment contract, the holder of the installment contract shall, upon receipt of payment of all sums due, send notice to the buyer within fifteen business days of the name, address, and telephone number of the insurance company which issued the insurance contract or the party responsible for any refund, and notice that the buyer may be eligible for a refund. A copy of such notice shall be retained by the holder of the installment contract. This subsection does not apply if the holder of the loan contract previously credited the refund of the insurance premium to the loan contract or otherwise refunded the insurance premium to the buyer.

5 (4) The holder may also purchase nonfiling insurance and charge a 6 reasonable fee. The fee shall not exceed the amount of fees and charges 7 prescribed by law which would have been paid to public officials for 8 filing, perfecting, releasing, and satisfying any lien or security 9 interest in the goods or services.

Sec. 12. Section 45-338, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

45-338 (1) An applicant for a license to be issued pursuant to the 12 13 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act shall file with the department a surety bond in the amount of fifty thousand dollars, furnished by a 14 15 surety company authorized to do business in this state. Such bond shall be increased by an additional fifty thousand dollars for each branch 16 17 location of the applicant that is licensed under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. The bond shall be for the use of the State of 18 19 Nebraska and any Nebraska resident who may have claims or causes of action against the applicant. The surety may cancel the bond only upon 20 21 thirty days' prior written notice to the director.

22 (2)(a) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, an installment loan licensee who employs or enters into an independent agent 23 24 agreement with an individual required to obtain a mortgage loan 25 originator license pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall maintain the surety bond required by subsection (1) of this section 26 27 and a supplemental surety bond. The supplemental surety bond posted by 28 such installment loan licensee shall cover all mortgage loan originators 29 who are employees or independent agents of such licensee. The supplemental surety bond shall be for the use of the State of Nebraska 30 31 and any Nebraska resident who may have claims or causes of action against such licensee arising from a transaction involving a residential mortgage loan, as defined in section 45-702, or against an individual who is a mortgage loan originator employed by, or in an independent agent relationship with, the licensee. The initial amount of the supplemental surety bond shall be one hundred thousand dollars.

(b) Upon filing of the mortgage report of condition required by 6 7 section 45-345, a licensee shall maintain or increase its supplemental surety bond to reflect the total dollar amount of the closed residential 8 9 mortgage loans originated or serviced in this state in the preceding year 10 in accordance with the following table. A licensee may decrease its supplemental surety bond in accordance with the following table if the 11 supplemental surety bond required is less than the amount of the 12 13 supplemental surety bond on file with the department:

14 <u>Dollar Amount of Closed or Serviced</u>

Surety Bond Required

15 <u>Residential Mortgage Loans</u>

16	<u>\$0.00 through \$5,000,000.00</u>	<u>100,000</u>
17	<u>\$5,000,000.01 through \$10,000,000.00</u>	<u>125,000</u>
18	<u>\$10,000,000.01 through \$25,000,000.00</u>	<u>150,000</u>
19	\$25,000,000.01 and over	200,000

20 (3)(a) A person who employs or enters into an independent agent 21 agreement with an individual required to obtain a mortgage loan originator license pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act 22 shall maintain a surety bond for each license that he, she, or it holds 23 24 as required in subsection (1) of this section and shall also post one 25 supplemental surety bond which shall cover all licenses held by such 26 person. The supplemental surety bond posted by such person shall cover 27 all mortgage loan originators who are employees or independent agents of such person. The supplemental surety bond shall be for the use of the 28 29 State of Nebraska and any Nebraska resident who may have claims or causes of action against such person arising from a transaction involving a 30 31 residential mortgage loan or against an individual who is a mortgage loan LB474 LB474 2025 2025 originator employed by, or in an independent agent relationship with, the 1 2 person. The amount of such supplemental surety bond shall be as follows: 3 (i) The initial supplemental surety bond shall be in the amount of 4 one hundred thousand dollars; and 5 (ii) Upon filing of the mortgage report of condition required by section 45-345, the person's supplemental surety bond shall be maintained 6 7 in accordance with subdivision (2)(b) of this section. For purposes of calculating the amount of the bond that is required, the total dollar 8 9 amount of the closed loans shall include all residential mortgage loans 10 in this state closed by the person. (b) A person who holds one or more installment loan licenses 11 pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act and a mortgage 12 13 banker license pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act shall 14 not be required to post and maintain a supplemental surety bond if such 15 person meets the following conditions: 16 (i) The person maintains a surety bond as provided in subsection (1) 17 of this section for each installment loan license the person holds; 18 (ii) The person maintains a mortgage banker surety bond as provided 19 in section 45-724; and (iii) The mortgage banker surety bond covers all transactions 20 involving residential mortgage loans, including such transactions done 21 22 pursuant to the person's installment loan license or licenses. 23 (4) Should the department determine that an installment loan 24 licensee does not maintain a supplemental surety bond in the amount 25 required by subsection (2) or (3) of this section, the department shall give written notification to the licensee requiring the licensee to 26

27 increase the surety bond within thirty days to the amount required by 28 subsection (2) or (3) of this section.

29 (5) The bond or a substitute bond required by subsection (1) of this 30 section, applicable to all licensees under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, shall remain in effect or the licensee shall immediately 31

<u>cease conducting licensable activity. If a licensee fails to maintain a</u>
 <u>surety bond as required under this section, the department may issue a</u>
 <u>notice of cancellation of the license in lieu of revocation proceedings.</u>

4 (1)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the time-5 price differential for any goods or services sold under an installment 6 contract shall be stated as a fixed or variable annual percentage rate 7 and shall be at a rate agreed to in writing, not to exceed eighteen 8 percent per annum, except that a minimum time-price differential of ten 9 dollars may be charged on any installment contract.

10 (b)(i) A buyer may be required, upon the execution of the installment contract, to pay an origination fee of not to exceed ten 11 12 dollars, except that if the installment contract is for an installment 13 sale of agricultural machinery or equipment for use in commercial agriculture or if the installment contract is for an installment sale of 14 15 industrial machinery or equipment the buyer may be required to pay (A) an 16 origination fee of not to exceed one hundred dollars if the cash sale 17 price is less than twenty-five thousand dollars or (B) an origination fee 18 of not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars if the cash sale price is 19 twenty-five thousand dollars or more.

20 (ii) The origination fee shall be refundable if the installment 21 contract is canceled during the first thirty days. The origination fee 22 may be collected from the buyer or included in the principal balance of 23 the installment contract at the time the contract is made and shall not 24 be considered interest or a time-price differential.

(c) Nothing in the Nebraska Installment Sales Act prohibits a seller or holder of an installment contract from contracting for, computing, and charging a time-price differential based upon the application of the rate charged to the unpaid principal balance for the number of days actually elapsed. The charges so computed shall be used for the purpose of calculating the time-price differential, the time-price balance, the amount of each installment, and the time-sale price. (d) When the installment contract is payable in substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments, the time-price differential shall be computed on the basic time price of each contract, as determined under the provisions of section 45-336, from the date of the contract until the due date of the final installment, notwithstanding that the time-price balance is required to be paid in installments.

7 (2) When an installment contract provides for payment other than in 8 substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments, the time-price 9 differential may be at a rate which will provide the same return as is 10 permitted on substantially equal monthly payment contracts under 11 subdivision (1)(d) of this section, having due regard for the schedule of 12 payments.

13 (3) Every contract payable in two or more installments shall provide 14 for payment of such installments by stating the date and amount of each 15 installment or the method by which any variable rate or installment shall 16 be determined.

Sec. 13. Section 45-339, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

45-339 (1) Licensees under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales
 Act may apply to establish branch offices, whether in this state, or in
 another state or United States territory, at which the licensable
 business activities of the licensee may be conducted.

23 (2) Such application shall be on a form prescribed and furnished by
 24 the director and shall be accompanied by a branch application fee, along
 25 with any processing fee allowed for by section 47 of this act. Such
 26 branch application fees shall be:

27 (a) Two hundred fifty dollars for an installment loan branch
28 license; and

29 (b) One hundred dollars for an installment sales branch license.

30 Where a buyer makes any subsequent purchases of goods or services 31 from a seller from whom he has previously purchased goods or services under one or more installment contracts and the amounts under such contract or contracts to the extent of cash sale price thereof have not been fully paid the subsequent purchases may be included in and consolidated with one or more of the prior contract or contracts. A memorandum of such additional purchases shall be prepared by the seller and inserted in or attached to the seller's counterpart of the contract and shall set forth:

8 (1) The names of the seller and the buyer and a description of the 9 additional goods or services sold and all the information with respect to 10 the additional purchase required by section 45-336 to be included in an 11 installment contract;

12 (2) The consolidated time-price balance to be paid by the buyer; and
 13 (3) The revised payments.

A copy of such memorandum shall be delivered to the buyer as provided in and subject to the provisions of section 45-336. When such subsequent purchases are made, the entire amount of all payments made prior to such subsequent purchases shall be deemed to have been applied on previous purchases.

19 Each payment thereafter made on a consolidated installment contract shall be deemed to be allocated to all of the various purchases in the 20 21 same ratio or proportion as the original cash sale prices of the various 22 purchases bear to one another. Where the amount of each deferred payment 23 is increased in connection with such subsequent purchase, the subsequent 24 payments, at the seller's option, may be deemed to be allocated as 25 follows: An amount equal to the original installment payment to the previous purchase, the balance to the subsequent purchase. The amount of 26 27 any initial payment or downpayment on the subsequent purchase shall be 28 allocated in its entirety to such subsequent purchase. The provisions of 29 this section shall not apply to cases involving equipment, parts, or to 30 other merchandise attached or affixed to goods previously purchased, or to repairs or services in connection therewith rendered by the seller at 31

1	the buyer's request.
2	Sec. 14. Section 45-340, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
3	amended to read:
4	45-340 (1) For the annual renewal of an original license under the
5	<u>Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, the licensee shall file a</u>
6	renewal application containing such information as the director may
7	require to indicate any material change in the information contained in
8	the original application or succeeding renewal applications, along with a
9	renewal fee and any processing fee allowed for by section 47 of this act.
10	<u>(2) The renewal fee shall be:</u>
11	<u>(a) Two hundred fifty dollars for an installment loan license;</u>
12	<u>(b) One hundred twenty-five dollars for an installment loan branch</u>
13	<u>license;</u>
14	<u>(c) One hundred fifty dollars for an installment sales license; and</u>
15	<u>(d) One hundred dollars for an installment sales branch license.</u>
16	(3) If a licensee fails to renew such licensee's license and does
17	not voluntarily surrender the license pursuant to this section, the
18	department may issue a notice of expiration of the license to the
19	licensee in lieu of revocation proceedings.
20	<u>(4) Renewal of a license originally granted under the Nebraska</u>
21	Installment Loan and Sales Act may be denied by the director on the
22	following grounds:
23	(a) Material misstatement in the application for a license;
24	<u>(b) Willful failure to comply with any provision of the Nebraska</u>
25	Installment Loan and Sales Act relating to installment sales contracts or
26	<u>installment loans;</u>
27	(c) Failure to continue to meet the conditions under which the
28	<u>original license was granted;</u>
29	(d) Defrauding any buyer to the buyer's damage; or
30	<u>(e) Fraudulent misrepresentation, circumvention, or concealment by</u>

31 the licensee through whatever subterfuge or device of any of the material

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1 particulars or the nature thereof required to be stated or furnished to a
2 consumer.

3 (5) Any person, licensee, or applicant potentially aggrieved by an 4 order of the director entered under this section may appeal the order. 5 The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. 6 Installment contracts negotiated and entered into by mail without 7 personal solicitation by salespersons or other representatives of the seller and based upon the catalog of the seller or other printed 8 9 solicitation of business, which is distributed and made available 10 generally to the public, if such catalog or other printed solicitation clearly sets forth the cash and time-sale prices and other terms of sales 11 to be made through such medium, may be made as provided in this section. 12 13 All provisions of the Nebraska Installment Sales Act shall apply to such sales except that the seller shall not be required to deliver a copy of 14 15 the contract to the buyer as provided in section 45-336 and if the 16 contract when received by the seller contains any blank spaces the seller 17 may insert in the appropriate blank space the amounts of money and other 18 terms which are set forth in the seller's catalog or other printed 19 solicitation which is then in effect. In lieu of sending the buyer a copy of the contract as provided in section 45-336, the seller shall furnish 20 21 to the buyer a written statement of any items inserted in the blank 22 spaces in the contract received from the buyer.

23 Sec. 15. Section 45-341, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
24 amended to read:

45-341 (1) A licensee may voluntarily surrender a license at any
 time by delivering to the director written notice of the surrender. The
 department shall cancel the license following such surrender.

(2) The director may, following a hearing under the Administrative
 Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by
 the department under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, suspend
 or revoke any license issued pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan

and Sales Act. The director may also impose an administrative fine on the 1 2 licensee for each separate violation of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. The department shall remit fines collected under this 3 subsection to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with 4 Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska. The director may 5 suspend or revoke a license or fine a licensee under this subsection if 6 7 the director finds: (a) The licensee has materially violated or demonstrated a 8 9 continuing pattern of violating the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales 10 Act, rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, any order issued under the Nebraska 11 Installment Loan and Sales Act, or any other state or federal law 12 13 applicable to the conduct of the licensee's business; (b) A fact or condition exists which if such fact or condition had 14 existed at the time of the original application for the license, would 15 have warranted the director to deny the license application of the 16 17 licensee; (c) The licensee has violated a voluntary consent or compliance 18 agreement which had been entered into with the director; 19 (d) The licensee has knowingly provided or caused to be provided to 20 21 the director any false or fraudulent representation of a material fact or 22 any false or fraudulent financial statement or suppressed or withheld 23 from the director any information which, if submitted by the licensee, 24 would have resulted in denial of the license application of the licensee; 25 (e) The licensee has refused to permit an examination of the licensee by the director or failed to comply with a notice of 26 27 investigation or inquiry pursuant to section 45-346 or failed to make any 28 report required under section 45-345. Each day the licensee continues in violation of this subdivision constitutes a separate violation; 29 30 (f) The licensee has failed to maintain records as required by the

31 director following written notice. Each day the licensee continues in

1	violation of this subdivision constitutes a separate violation;
2	(g) The licensee knowingly has employed any individual or knowingly
3	has maintained a contractual relationship with any individual acting as
4	an agent, if such individual has been convicted of, pleaded guilty to, or
5	was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to:
6	<u>(i) A misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves</u>
7	dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the installment sales
8	business, installment loan business, mortgage banking business, or
9	financial institution business; or
10	<u>(ii) Any felony under state or federal law;</u>
11	(h) The licensee has violated the written restrictions or conditions
12	under which the license was issued;
13	(i) The licensee or, if the licensee is a business entity, one of
14	the officers, directors, members, partners, or controlling shareholders
15	was found guilty after a plea of nolo contendere to:
16	<u>(i) A misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves</u>
17	dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the installment sales
18	business, installment loan business, mortgage banking business, or
19	financial institution business; or
20	<u>(ii) Any felony under state or federal law; or</u>
21	(j) The licensee knowingly has employed any individual or knowingly
22	has maintained a contractual relationship with any individual acting as
23	an agent, if such individual is conducting activities requiring a
24	mortgage loan originator license in this state without first obtaining
25	such license.
26	(3) If a licensee is a partnership, limited liability company,
27	association, or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the
28	suspension or revocation of a license that any officer, director, or
29	trustee of a licensed association or corporation or any member of a
30	licensed partnership or limited liability company has so acted or failed
31	to act as would be cause for suspending or revoking a license to such

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1	<u>party as an individual.</u>
2	<u>(4) No license shall be denied, suspended, or revoked except after</u>
3	hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The director
4	shall give a licensee at least ten days' written notice, in the form of
5	<u>an order to show cause, of the time and place of such hearing by either</u>
6	registered or certified mail addressed to the principal place of business
7	in this state of such licensee. Such notice shall contain the grounds of
8	<u>complaint against the licensee. Any order suspending or revoking such</u>
9	license shall recite the grounds upon which the order is based. The order
10	shall be entered upon the records of the director and shall not be
11	<u>effective until after thirty days' written notice thereof given after</u>
12	such entry forwarded by either registered or certified mail to the
13	licensee at the principal place of business in this state of such
14	<u>licensee.</u>
15	<u>(5) Revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or surrender</u>
16	of any license shall not impair or affect the obligation of any lawful
17	contract entered into or acquired previously thereto by the licensee.
18	<u>(6) Revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or surrender</u>
19	of any license shall not affect civil or criminal liability for acts
20	committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or
21	surrender or affect liability for any fines which may be levied against
22	the licensee or any of the licensee's officers, directors, shareholders,
23	<u>partners, or members pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales</u>
24	Act for acts committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation,
25	expiration, or surrender of the license.
26	<u>(7) Whenever, for any cause, a license is revoked, the department</u>
27	shall not issue another license to the licensee unless the department is
28	otherwise ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction to do so.
29	(8) At the request of the licensee or any other aggrieved person,
30	the department shall prepare a written record which includes a transcript

31 of the evidence, the findings with respect to the evidence, the order,

and the reasons supporting the suspension, revocation, or denial of a
 license, and shall, after being paid for the cost of the written record,
 deliver to the licensee or other aggrieved person a copy of the written
 record in person or by certified or registered mail.

5 (9) Any person, licensee, or applicant potentially aggrieved by an
6 order of the director entered under this section may appeal the order.
7 The appeal shall be in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

8 An installment contract may provide and the holder thereof may 9 collect, in addition to any time-price differential, a delinquency charge 10 on each installment in default for a period of not less than fifteen 11 days, if provided for in the contract, not in excess of five percent of each installment or twenty-five dollars, whichever is less, or, in lieu 12 13 thereof, interest after maturity on each such installment not exceeding 14 the highest permissible contract rate. If the time-price differential is 15 computed by application of the rate charged to the unpaid principal 16 balance for the number of days actually elapsed, such delinguency charge 17 may not exceed five percent of each installment or twenty-five dollars, 18 whichever is less. If any installment payment is made by a check, draft, 19 or similar signed order which is not honored because of insufficient 20 funds, no account, or any other reason except an error of a third party 21 to the contract, the holder may charge and collect a fee of not more than 22 fifteen dollars. The delinquency charge and such fee may be collected 23 when due or at any time thereafter.

24 When an installment contract is for a commercial or business purpose 25 (1) a delinquency charge not to exceed five percent of each unpaid installment may be contracted for and received and (2) the holder of any 26 27 check or draft or similar order which is not honored for any reason, 28 except for error of a third party, may charge and collect a fee as stated 29 in the contract. As used in this section, commercial or business purpose 30 means primarily for a purpose other than a personal, family, or household 31 purpose.

1 Sec. 16. Section 45-342, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 2 amended to read: 3 45-342 Any person who, by any device, subterfuge, or pretense 4 whatsoever, engages in or continues any of the kinds of business or 5 enterprise permitted to licensees by the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act without having obtained the license required by the act, with 6 intent to evade the provisions of the act, is guilty of a Class I 7 8 misdemeanor. 9 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any contract to the contrary, 10 any buyer may prepay in full at any time before maturity the obligation of any contract. 11 12 (2) If such obligation is prepaid in full by cash, a new loan, or 13 otherwise after the first installment due date, the borrower shall receive a rebate of an amount which shall be not less than the amount 14 15 obtained by applying to the unpaid principal balances as originally 16 scheduled or, if deferred, as deferred, for the period following 17 prepayment, according to the actuarial method, the rate of the time-price 18 differential previously stated to the borrower. The licensee may round 19 the rate of the time-price differential to the nearest one-half of one 20 percent if such procedure is not consistently used to obtain a greater 21 yield than would otherwise be permitted. Any default and deferment 22 charges which are due and unpaid may be deducted from any rebate. No 23 rebate shall be required for any partial prepayment. No rebate of less 24 than one dollar need be made. Acceleration of the maturity of the 25 contract shall not in itself require a rebate. If judgment is obtained before the final installment date, the contract balance shall be reduced 26 27 by the rebate which would be required for prepayment in full as of the 28 date judgment is obtained.

29 Sec. 17. Section 45-343, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-343 <u>A licensee may move its main office or may relocate a branch</u>

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office from one location to another without obtaining a new license if 1 2 the licensee gives notice thereof to the director through the Nationwide 3 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry at least thirty days prior to such 4 move and pays a filing fee of one hundred fifty dollars. The director may, at the director's discretion, hold a hearing on the relocation 5 6 request, in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The expense 7 of any such hearing shall be paid by the licensee. Any person who violates any provision of the Nebraska Installment 8 Sales Act or acts as a sales finance company in this state without a 9 10 license therefor as provided in the Nebraska Installment Sales Act shall

11 be guilty of a Class II misdemeanor.

12 **Sec. 18.** Section 45-344, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 13 amended to read:

14 45-344 (1) No person acting personally or as an agent shall acquire 15 control of any licensee under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act 16 without first (a) giving thirty days' notice to the department on a form 17 prescribed by the department of such proposed acquisition and (b) paying 18 a filing fee of one hundred fifty dollars and any processing fee allowed 19 under subsection (2) of section 47 of this act.

20 (2) The director, upon receipt of such notice, shall approve or deny
 21 the acquisition within thirty days.

(3) If the director does not deny the acquisition within such thirty-day time period, the acquisition shall become effective on the thirty-first day after the receipt of the notice, except that the director may extend the thirty-day period an additional thirty days if, in the director's judgment, any material information submitted is substantially inaccurate or the acquiring party has not furnished all the information required by the department.

(4) An acquisition may become effective prior to the expiration of
 the thirty-day period if the director issues written notice of the
 director's approval of such acquisition or the director's intent not to

1 <u>deny the acquisition.</u>
2 (5)(a) The director may deny any proposed acquisition if:
3 (i) The financial condition of any acquiring person is such as might
4 jeopardize the financial stability of the acquired licensee;
5 (ii) The character and general fitness of any acquiring person or of

any of the proposed management personnel indicate that the acquired
 installment sales licensee or installment loan licensee would not be
 operated honestly, fairly, or efficiently within the purposes of the
 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act; or

<u>(iii) Any acquiring person neglects, fails, or refuses to furnish</u>
 <u>all information required by the department.</u>

(b) The director shall notify the acquiring party in writing of
 denial of the acquisition. The notice shall provide a statement of the
 basis for the denial.

15 (c) Within fifteen business days after receipt of written notice of 16 denial, the acquiring party may make a written request for a hearing on 17 the proposed acquisition in accordance with the Administrative Procedure 18 Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department 19 under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. The director shall, by 20 order, approve or deny the proposed acquisition on the basis of the 21 record made at the hearing.

22 If any seller or sales finance company, in the making or collection of an installment contract, shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, 23 24 take, or receive charges in excess of those authorized by the Nebraska 25 Installment Sales Act except as a result of an accidental and bona fide error such contract shall be void and uncollectible as to (1) all of the 26 27 excessive portion of the time-price differential, (2) the first one 28 thousand dollars of the time-price differential authorized by section 29 45-338, and (3) the first four thousand dollars of the principal of the 30 contract. If any seller or sales finance company violates any provision of the act, other than the violations described above, except as a result 31

of an accidental and bona fide error, such installment contract shall be void and uncollectible as to the first five hundred dollars of the timeprice differential and the first one thousand dollars of the principal of such contract. If any of such money has been paid by the buyer, such buyer or his or her assignee may recover under the act in a civil suit brought within one year after the due date, or any extension thereof, of the last installment of the contract.

8 Sec. 19. Section 45-345, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
9 amended to read:

45-345 (1) A licensee shall notify the director through the
 Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry at least thirty days
 prior to the occurrence of any change of the licensee's name, trade name,
 or doing business as designation.

(2)(a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c) of this 14 15 subsection, a licensee shall notify the director in writing or through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry within three 16 17 business days from the time that the licensee becomes aware of any breach of the security of the system of computerized data owned or licensed by 18 the licensee, which contains personal information about a Nebraska 19 resident, or the unauthorized access to or use of such information about 20 21 <u>a Nebraska resident as a result of the breach.</u>

(b) If a licensee would be required under Nebraska law to provide notification to a Nebraska resident regarding such incident, then the licensee shall provide a copy of such notification to the department prior to or simultaneously with the licensee's notification to the Nebraska resident.

(c) Notice required by this subsection may be delayed if a law
 enforcement agency determines that the notice will impede a criminal
 investigation. Notice shall be made in good faith, without unreasonable
 delay, and as soon as possible after the law enforcement agency
 determines that notification will no longer impede the investigation.

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1	(d) For purposes of this subsection, the terms breach of the
2	security of the system and personal information have the same meaning as
3	<u>in section 87-802.</u>
4	<u>(3) A licensee shall maintain the minimum net worth required by</u>
5	section 45-337 while a license issued to the licensee under the Nebraska
6	Installment Loan and Sales Act is in effect. The minimum net worth shall
7	be proven by an annual audit conducted by a certified public accountant.
8	<u>A licensee shall submit a copy of the annual audit to the director as</u>
9	required by section 45-337 or upon written request of the director. If a
10	licensee fails to maintain the required minimum net worth, the department
11	may issue a notice of cancellation of the license in lieu of revocation
12	proceedings.
13	(4)(a) Every licensee shall, at the time any loan is made, give to
14	the borrower, or if there are two or more borrowers, to one of the
15	borrowers, a statement in the English language disclosing in clear and
16	distinct terms the information required to be disclosed under the federal
17	Consumer Credit Protection Act.
18	<u>(b) The licensee shall also give to the borrower a copy of any</u>
19	writing evidencing a loan if the writing requires or provides for the
20	signature of the borrower. The writing evidencing the borrower's
21	obligation to pay a loan shall contain a clear and conspicuous notice in
22	form and content substantially as follows:
23	NOTICE TO CONSUMER: 1. Do not sign this paper before you read it. 2.
24	You are entitled to a copy of this paper. 3. You may prepay the unpaid
25	balance at any time without penalty and may be entitled to receive a
26	refund of unearned charges in accordance with law.
27	(5) All licensees under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act
28	shall, on or before March 1 of each year, file with the department a
29	report of the licensee's earnings and operations for the preceding
30	calendar year, the licensee's assets at the end of the year, and any

31 <u>other relevant information as the department may reasonably require. The</u>

1 <u>report shall be made under oath and shall be in the form and manner</u>
2 <u>prescribed by the department.</u>

3 (6) All installment loan licensees shall submit a mortgage report of
4 condition as required by section 45-726 on or before a date or dates
5 established by rule, regulation, or order of the director.

(7) Upon written request of a borrower, the licensee shall provide a 6 7 written statement of the dates and amounts of payments made and the amounts of any default and deferment charges assessed preceding the month 8 9 in which the request is received and the total amount unpaid as of the 10 end of the period covered by the statement and a copy of the loan agreement and security agreement, and a facsimile of any insurance 11 certificate issued as part of the transaction, if applicable. The 12 13 licensee may charge a reasonable fee for such copies, not to exceed fifty 14 cents per page.

15 (8) A licensee shall answer in writing, within ten business days 16 after receipt, any written request for payoff information from a borrower 17 or a borrower's representative. This service shall be provided without 18 charge to the borrower, except that when such information is provided 19 upon request within sixty days after the fulfillment of a previous 20 request, a processing fee of up to ten dollars may be charged for the 21 subsequent request.

(1) No person shall act as a sales finance company in this state without obtaining a license therefor from the department as provided in the Nebraska Installment Sales Act whether or not such person maintains an office, place of doing business, or agent in this state, unless such person meets the requirements of section 45-340.

27 (2) No financial institution or installment loan licensee authorized
 28 to do business in this state shall be required to obtain a license under
 29 the act but shall comply with all of the other provisions of the act.

30 (3) A seller who does not otherwise act as a sales finance company
 31 shall not be required to obtain a license under the act but shall comply

with all of the other provisions of the act in order to charge the time price differential allowed by section 45-338.

3 Sec. 20. Section 45-346, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
4 2024, is amended to read:

45-346 (1) The department shall be charged with the duty of 5 inspecting the business, records, and accounts of all persons who engage 6 7 in business activities requiring a license under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. The department may examine or investigate complaints 8 9 about or reports of alleged violations by a licensee made to the 10 department. The director shall have the power to appoint examiners who shall, under the director's direction, investigate the installment sales 11 contracts, installment loans, and business and examine the books and 12 13 records of licensees when the director shall so determine. Such examinations shall be conducted as often as determined by the director. 14

15 (2) The director or the director's duly authorized representative 16 shall have the power to make such investigations as the director or 17 authorized representative shall deem necessary, and to the extent 18 necessary for this purpose, the director or authorized representative may 19 examine a licensee or any other person and shall have the power to compel 20 the production of all relevant books, records, accounts, and documents.

21 (3) The expenses of the director incurred in the examination of the 22 books and records of licensees shall be charged to the licensees as set 23 forth in sections 8-605 and 8-606. The director may charge the costs of 24 an investigation of a nonlicensed person to such person, and such costs 25 shall be paid within thirty days after receipt of billing.

26 (4) Upon receipt by a licensee of a notice of investigation or 27 inquiry request for information from the department, the licensee shall 28 respond within twenty-one calendar days. Each day a licensee fails to 29 respond as required by this subsection shall constitute a separate 30 violation.

31 (5) If the director finds, after notice and opportunity for hearing

in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, that any person has 1 2 willfully and intentionally violated any provision of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, any rule or regulation adopted and 3 4 promulgated under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, or any 5 order issued by the director under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, the director may order such person to pay (a) an 6 7 administrative fine of not more than five thousand dollars for each separate violation and (b) the costs of investigation. The department 8 9 shall remit fines collected under this subsection to the State Treasurer 10 for distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska. 11

(6) If a person fails to pay an administrative fine and the costs of 12 13 investigation ordered pursuant to subsection (5) of this section, a lien in the amount of such fine and costs may be imposed upon all assets and 14 15 property of such person in this state and may be recovered in a civil 16 action by the director. The lien shall attach to the real property of 17 such person when notice of the lien is filed and indexed against the real property in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the 18 19 real property is located. The lien shall attach to any other property of such person when notice of the lien is filed against the property in the 20 manner prescribed by law. Failure of the person to pay such fine and 21 22 costs shall constitute a separate violation of the Nebraska Installment 23 Loan and Sales Act.

(1) A license issued under the Nebraska Installment Sales Act is nontransferable and nonassignable. The same person may obtain additional licenses for each place of business operating as a sales finance company in this state upon compliance with the act as to each license, except that on or after January 1, 2020, a person is no longer required to obtain a new license for each place of business and may maintain a branch office or offices upon compliance with the act.

31 (2) Application for a license shall be on a form prescribed and

furnished by the director and shall include, but not be limited to, (a) 1 2 the applicant's name and any trade name or doing business as designation 3 which the applicant intends to use in this state, (b) the applicant's 4 main office address, (c) all branch office addresses at which business is 5 to be conducted, (d) the names and titles of each director and principal 6 officer of the applicant, (e) the names of all shareholders, partners, or 7 members of the applicant, (f) a description of the activities of the 8 applicant in such detail as the department may require, (g) if the 9 applicant is an individual, his or her social security number, (h) 10 audited financial statements showing a minimum net worth of one hundred thousand dollars, and (i) background checks as provided in section 11 12 45-354.

13 (3) An applicant for a license shall file with the department a surety bond in the amount of fifty thousand dollars, furnished by a 14 15 surety company authorized to do business in this state. Such bond shall be increased by an additional fifty thousand dollars for each branch 16 17 location of the applicant that is licensed under the Nebraska Installment 18 Sales Act. The bond shall be for the use of the State of Nebraska and any 19 Nebraska resident who may have claims or causes of action against the 20 applicant. The surety may cancel the bond only upon thirty days' written 21 notice to the director.

(4) A license fee of one hundred fifty dollars, and, if applicable,
 a one-hundred-dollar fee for each branch office listed in the
 application, and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of
 section 45-354 shall be submitted along with each application.

(5) An initial license shall remain in full force and effect until
 the next succeeding December 31. Each license shall remain in force until
 revoked, suspended, canceled, expired, or surrendered.

(6) The director shall, after an application has been filed for a
 license under the act, investigate the facts, and if he or she finds that
 the experience, character, and general fitness of the applicant, of the

members thereof if the applicant is a corporation or association, and of the officers and directors thereof if the applicant is a corporation, are such as to warrant belief that the business will be operated honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purpose of the act, the director shall issue and deliver a license to the applicant to do business as a sales finance company in accordance with the license and the act. The director shall have the power to reject for cause any application for a license.

8 (7) The director shall, within his or her discretion, make an 9 examination and inspection concerning the propriety of the issuance of a 10 license to any applicant. The cost of such examination and inspection 11 shall be borne by the applicant.

12 (8) If an applicant for a license under the act does not complete 13 the license application and fails to respond to a notice or notices from the department to correct the deficiency or deficiencies for a period of 14 15 one hundred twenty days or more after the date the department sends the 16 initial notice to correct the deficiency or deficiencies, the department 17 may deem the application as abandoned and may issue a notice of 18 abandonment of the application to the applicant in lieu of proceedings to 19 deny the application.

20 Sec. 21. Section 45-347, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 21 amended to read:

22 45-347 The payment in money, credit, goods, or things in action, as consideration for any sale or assignment of, or order for, the payment of 23 24 wages, salary, commission, or other compensation for services, whether earned or to be earned, shall, for purposes of regulation under the 25 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, be deemed a loan secured by such 26 27 assignment, and the amount by which the assigned compensation exceeds the 28 amount of the consideration actually paid, shall, for the purposes of 29 regulation under the act, be deemed interest or charges upon the loan from the date of payment to the date the compensation is payable. Such 30 transaction shall be governed by and be subject to the act. 31

1	All money collected under the authority of the Nebraska Installment
2	Sales Act shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the
3	Financial Institution Assessment Cash Fund.
4	Sec. 22. Section 45-348, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
5	amended to read:
6	45-348 Every installment loan licensee shall permit payment to be
7	made in advance in any amount equal to one or more full installments on
8	any loan contract at any time during regular business hours, but the
9	licensee may apply such payment first to all accrued charges in full up
10	to the date of such payment.
11	(1) An installment sales license may be renewed annually on or
12	before December 31 by paying to the director a fee of one hundred fifty
13	dollars, plus one hundred dollars for each branch office, if applicable,
14	and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of section 45-354 and
15	by submitting such information as the director may require to indicate
16	any material change in the information contained in the original
17	application or succeeding renewal applications, including a copy of the
18	licensee's most recent annual audit.
19	(2) A licensee may voluntarily surrender a license at any time by
20	delivering to the director written notice of the surrender. The
21	department shall cancel the license following such surrender.
22	<del>(3) If a licensee fails to renew its license and does not</del>
23	voluntarily surrender the license pursuant to this section, the
24	department may issue a notice of expiration of the license to the
25	licensee in lieu of revocation proceedings.
26	Sec. 23. (1) Except as provided in section 45-350 and subsection
27	(6) of this section, every installment loan licensee may make loans and
28	may contract for and receive on such loans charges at a rate not
29	exceeding twenty-four percent per annum on that part of the unpaid
30	principal balance on any loan not in excess of one thousand dollars, and

balance. Except for loans secured by mobile homes, an installment loan 1 2 licensee may not make loans for a period in excess of one hundred forty-3 five months if the amount of the loan is greater than three thousand 4 dollars but less than twenty-five thousand dollars. Unless otherwise 5 allowed for by law, charges on loans made under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act shall not be paid, deducted, or received in advance. 6 7 The contracting for, charging of, or receiving of charges as provided for in subsection (2) of this section shall not be deemed to be the payment, 8 9 deduction, or receipt of such charges in advance.

10 (2) When the loan contract requires repayment in substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments of principal and charges combined, 11 the installment loan licensee may, at the time the loan is made, 12 13 precompute the charges at the agreed rate on scheduled unpaid principal 14 balances according to the terms of the contract and add such charges to 15 the principal of the loan. Every payment may be applied to the combined 16 total of principal and precomputed charges until the contract is fully 17 paid. All payments made on account of any loan except for default and deferment charges shall be deemed to be applied to the unpaid 18 19 installments in the order in which the unpaid installments are due. The portion of the precomputed charges applicable to any particular month of 20 21 the contract, as originally scheduled or following a deferment, shall be that proportion of such precomputed charges, excluding any adjustment 22 23 made for a first installment period of more than one month and any adjustment made for deferment, which the balance of the contract 24 25 scheduled to be outstanding during such month bears to the sum of all monthly balances originally scheduled to be outstanding by the contract. 26 27 This section shall not limit or restrict the manner of calculating 28 charges, whether by way of add-on, single annual rate, or otherwise, if the rate of charges does not exceed what is permitted by this section. 29 30 Charges may be contracted for and earned at a single annual rate, except that the total charges from such rate shall not be greater than the total 31

charges from the several rates otherwise applicable to the different
portions of the unpaid balance according to subsection (1) of this
section. All loan contracts made pursuant to this subsection are subject
to the following adjustments:

5 (a) Notwithstanding the requirement for substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments, the first installment period may not 6 7 exceed one month by more than twenty-one days and may not fall short of one month by more than eleven days. The charges for each day exceeding 8 9 one month shall be one-thirtieth of the charges which would be applicable 10 to a first installment period of one month. The charge for extra days in the first installment period may be added to the first installment and 11 such charges for such extra days shall be excluded in computing any 12 13 rebate;

(b) If prepayment in full by cash, a new loan, or otherwise occurs before the first installment due date, the charges shall be recomputed at the rate of charges contracted for in accordance with this section upon the actual unpaid principal balance of the loan for the actual time outstanding by applying the payment, or payments, first to charges at the agreed rate and the remainder to the principal. The amount of charges so computed shall be retained in lieu of all precomputed charges;

21 (c) If a contract is prepaid in full by cash, a new loan, or otherwise after the first installment due date, the borrower shall 22 receive a rebate of an amount which is not less than the amount obtained 23 by applying to the unpaid principal balances as originally scheduled or, 24 25 if deferred, as deferred, for the period following prepayment, according to the actuarial method, the rate of charge contracted for in accordance 26 27 with this section. The licensee may round the rate of charge to the 28 nearest one-half of one percent if such procedure is not consistently used to obtain a greater yield than would otherwise be permitted. Any 29 30 default and deferment charges which are due and unpaid may be deducted from any rebate. No rebate shall be required for any partial prepayment. 31

No rebate of less than one dollar need be made. Acceleration of the maturity of the contract shall not in itself require a rebate. If judgment is obtained before the final installment date, the contract balance shall be reduced by the rebate which would be required for prepayment in full as of the date judgment is obtained;

(d) If any installment on a precomputed or interest-bearing loan is 6 7 unpaid in full for ten or more consecutive days, Sundays and holidays included, after it is due, the licensee may charge and collect a default 8 9 charge not exceeding an amount equal to five percent of such installment. 10 If any installment payment is made by a check, draft, or similar signed order which is not honored because of insufficient funds, no account, or 11 12 any other reason except an error of a third party to the loan contract, 13 the licensee may charge and collect a fifteen-dollar bad check charge. 14 Such default or bad check charges may be collected when due or at any 15 time thereafter;

16 (e) If, as of an installment due date, the payment date of all 17 wholly unpaid installments is deferred one or more full months and the maturity of the contract is extended for a corresponding period, the 18 19 licensee may charge and collect a deferment charge not exceeding the charge applicable to the first of the installments deferred, multiplied 20 21 by the number of months in the deferment period. The deferment period is 22 that period during which no payment is made or required by reason of such 23 deferment. The deferment charge may be collected at the time of deferment 24 or at any time thereafter. The portion of the precomputed charges 25 applicable to each deferred balance and installment period following the deferment period shall remain the same as that applicable to such balance 26 27 and periods under the original loan contract. No installment on which a 28 default charge has been collected, or on account of which any partial 29 payment has been made, shall be deferred or included in the computation 30 of the deferment charge unless such default charge or partial payment is 31 refunded to the borrower or credited to the deferment charge. Any payment

received at the time of deferment may be applied first to the deferment 1 2 charge and the remainder, if any, applied to the unpaid balance of the 3 contract, except that if such payment is sufficient to pay, in addition 4 to the appropriate deferment charge, any installment which is in default 5 and the applicable default charge, it shall be first so applied and any such installment shall not be deferred or subject to the deferment 6 7 charge. If a loan is prepaid in full during the deferment period, the borrower shall receive, in addition to the required rebate, a rebate of 8 9 that portion of the deferment charge applicable to any unexpired full 10 month or months of such deferment period; and

(f) If two or more full installments are in default for one full 11 month or more at any installment date and if the contract so provides, 12 13 the installment loan licensee may reduce the contract balance by the 14 rebate which would be required for prepayment in full as of such 15 installment date and the amount remaining unpaid shall be deemed to be 16 the unpaid principal balance and thereafter in lieu of charging, 17 collecting, receiving, and applying charges as provided in this subsection, charges may be charged, collected, received, and applied at 18 19 the agreed rate as otherwise provided by this section until the loan is 20 fully paid.

(3) The charges, as referred to in subsection (1) of this section, 21 22 shall not be compounded. The charging, collecting, and receiving of 23 charges as provided in subsection (2) of this section shall not be deemed 24 compounding. If part or all of the consideration for a loan contract is 25 the unpaid principal balance of a prior loan, then the principal amount payable under such loan contract may include any unpaid charges on the 26 27 prior loan which have accrued within sixty days before the making of such 28 loan contract and may include the balance remaining after giving the rebate required by subsection (2) of this section. Except as provided in 29 subsection (2) of this section, charges shall (a) be computed and paid 30 only as a percentage per month of the unpaid principal balance or 31

portions thereof and (b) be computed on the basis of the number of days actually elapsed. For purposes of computing charges, whether at the maximum rate or less, a month shall be that period of time from any date in a month to the corresponding date in the next month but if there is no such corresponding date then to the last day of the next month, and a day shall be considered one-thirtieth of a month when computation is made for a fraction of a month.

(4) Except as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this section, 8 9 in addition to that provided for under the Nebraska Installment Loan and 10 Sales Act, no further or other amount whatsoever shall be directly or indirectly charged, contracted for, or received. If any amount, in excess 11 of the charges permitted, is charged, contracted for, or received, the 12 13 loan contract shall not on that account be void, but the installment loan licensee shall have no right to collect or receive any interest or other 14 15 charges whatsoever. If such interest or other charges have been collected 16 or contracted for, the licensee shall refund to the borrower all interest 17 and other charges collected and shall not collect any interest or other charges contracted for and thereafter due on the loan involved, as 18 19 liquidated damages, and the installment loan licensee or its assignee, if found liable, shall pay the costs of any action relating thereto, 20 including reasonable attorney's fees. No installment loan licensee shall 21 22 be found liable under this subsection if it shows by a preponderance of 23 the evidence that the violation was not intentional and resulted from a 24 bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of procedures reasonably 25 adopted to avoid any such error.

(5) A borrower may be required to pay all reasonable expenses
 incurred in connection with the making, closing, disbursing, extending,
 readjusting, or renewing of loans. Such expenses may include abstracting,
 recording, releasing, and registration fees; premiums paid for nonfiling
 insurance; premiums paid on insurance policies covering tangible personal
 property securing the loan; amounts charged for a debt cancellation

1	contract or a debt suspension contract, as agreed upon by the parties, if
2	the debt cancellation contract or debt suspension contract is a contract
3	of a financial institution or installment loan licensee and such contract
4	is sold directly by such financial institution or licensee or by an
5	unaffiliated, nonexclusive agent of such financial institution or
6	licensee in accordance with 12 C.F.R. part 37, as such part existed on
7	January 1, 2025, and the financial institution or installment loan
8	licensee is responsible for the unaffiliated, nonexclusive agent's
9	compliance with such part; title examinations; credit reports; survey;
10	taxes or charges imposed upon or in connection with the making and
11	recording or releasing of any mortgage; amounts charged for a guaranteed
12	asset protection waiver; and fees and expenses charged for electronic
13	title and lien services. Except as provided in subsection (6) of this
14	section, a borrower may also be required to pay a nonrefundable loan
15	origination fee not to exceed the lesser of five hundred dollars or an
16	amount equal to seven percent of that part of the original principal
17	balance of any loan not in excess of two thousand dollars and five
18	percent on that part of the original principal balance in excess of two
19	thousand dollars, if the installment loan licensee has not made another
20	loan to the borrower within the previous twelve months. If the licensee
21	has made another loan to the borrower within the previous twelve months,
22	<u>a nonrefundable loan origination fee may only be charged on new funds</u>
23	advanced on each successive loan. Such reasonable initial charges may be
24	collected from the borrower or included in the principal balance of the
25	loan at the time the loan is made and shall not be considered interest or
26	<u>a charge for the use of the money loaned.</u>

27 (6)(a) Loans secured solely by real property that are not made 28 pursuant to subdivision (11) of section 45-101.04 on real property shall 29 not be subject to the limitations on the rate of interest provided in 30 subsection (1) of this section or the limitations on the nonrefundable 31 loan origination fee under subsection (5) of this section if (i) the principal amount of the loan is seven thousand five hundred dollars or more and (ii) the sum of the principal amount of the loan and the balances of all other liens against the property do not exceed one hundred percent of the appraised value of the property. Acceptable methods of determining appraised value shall be made by the department pursuant to rule, regulation, or order.

7 (b) An origination fee on such loan shall be computed only on the 8 principal amount of the loan reduced by any portion of the principal that 9 consists of the amount required to pay off another loan made under this 10 subsection by the same licensee.

(c) A prepayment penalty on such loan shall be permitted only if (i) 11 12 the maximum amount of the penalty to be assessed is stated in writing at 13 the time the loan is made, (ii) the loan is prepaid in full within two years from the date of the loan, and (iii) the loan is prepaid with money 14 15 other than the proceeds of another loan made by the same licensee. Such prepayment penalty shall not exceed six months' interest on eighty 16 17 percent of the original principal balance computed at the agreed rate of 18 interest on the loan.

(d) An installment loan licensee making a loan pursuant to this
 subsection may obtain an interest in any fixtures attached to such real
 property and any insurance proceeds payable in connection with such real
 property or the loan.

(e) For purposes of this subsection, principal amount of the loan
means the total sum owed by the borrower including, but not limited to,
insurance premiums, loan origination fees, or any other amount that is
financed, except that for purposes of subdivision (6)(b) of this section,
loan origination fees shall not be included in calculating the principal
amount of the loan.

29 Sec. 24. Section 45-350, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-350 (1) Installment loan licensees may charge, contract for, or

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1	receive any amount or rate of interest permitted by section 45-101.03 or
2	<u>45-101.04 or section 23 of this act upon any loan or upon any part or all</u>
3	of any aggregate indebtedness of the same person. Except as provided in
4	subsection (2) of this section, the charging, contracting for, or
5	receiving of a rate of interest permitted by section 45-101.04 does not
6	exempt the licensee from compliance with the Nebraska Installment Loan
7	and Sales Act.
8	<u>(2)(a) Loans made by an installment loan licensee pursuant to</u>
9	subdivision (4) of section 45-101.04 are not subject to the Nebraska
10	Installment Loan and Sales Act if such loans are not made on real
11	property.
12	<u>(b) Loans made by an installment loan licensee pursuant to</u>
13	subdivision (11) of section 45-101.04 on real property are not subject to
14	<u>the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. An installment loan licensee</u>
15	making such loans shall comply with and be subject to the Residential
16	Mortgage Licensing Act with respect to such loans, except that the
17	<u>installment loan licensee shall not be required to obtain a mortgage</u>
18	banker license under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act.
19	<u>(c) Any mortgage loan originator who works as an employee or</u>
20	independent agent of an installment loan licensee shall be required to
21	obtain a mortgage loan originator license and shall be subject to the
22	Residential Mortgage Licensing Act.
23	(3) Except as provided in subdivision (2)(a) of section 23 of this
24	act, no installment loan licensee shall enter into any loan contract
25	under the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act under which the
26	borrower agrees to make any payment of principal more than thirty-six
27	calendar months from the date of making such contract when the principal
28	balance is not more than three thousand dollars. Every loan contract
29	precomputed pursuant to subsection (2) of section 23 of this act shall
30	provide for repayment of principal and charges in installments which

31 <u>shall be payable at approximately equal periodic intervals of time and so</u>

1 arranged that no installment is substantially greater in amount than any 2 preceding installment. When necessary in order to facilitate payment in accordance with the borrower's principal source of income or when the 3 4 loan contract is not precomputed pursuant to subsection (2) of section 23 5 of this act, the payment schedule may reduce or omit installment payments. Any loan contract made in violation of this section, either 6 7 knowingly or without the exercise of due care to prevent the violation, shall not on that account be void, but the licensee has no right to 8 9 collect or receive any interest or charges on such loan. If any interest 10 or other charges have been collected or contracted for, the installment 11 loan licensee shall refund to the borrower all interest and other charges collected and shall not collect thereafter any interest or other charges 12 13 contracted for and thereafter due on the loan involved, as liquidated 14 damages, and the installment loan licensee or its assignee, if found liable, shall pay the costs of any action relating thereto, including 15 16 reasonable attorney's fees. No installment loan licensee shall be found liable under this subsection if it shows by a preponderance of the 17 evidence that the violation was not intentional and resulted from a bona 18 19 fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of procedures reasonably adopted to avoid any such error. 20

21 (1) Renewal of a license originally granted under the Nebraska 22 Installment Sales Act may be denied or a license may be suspended or 23 revoked by the director on the following grounds: (a) Material 24 misstatement in the application for license; (b) willful failure to 25 comply with any provision of the Nebraska Installment Sales Act relating to installment contracts; (c) defrauding any buyer to the buyer's damage; 26 27 or (d) fraudulent misrepresentation, circumvention, or concealment by the 28 licensee through whatever subterfuge or device of any of the material 29 particulars or the nature thereof required to be stated or furnished to 30 the buyer under the Nebraska Installment Sales Act.

31 (2) If a licensee is a partnership, limited liability company,

1 association, or corporation, it shall be sufficient cause for the 2 suspension or revocation of a license that any officer, director, or 3 trustee of a licensed association or corporation or any member of a 4 licensed partnership or limited liability company has so acted or failed 5 to act as would be cause for suspending or revoking a license to such 6 party as an individual.

7 (3) No license shall be denied, suspended, or revoked except after hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act. The director 8 9 shall give the licensee at least ten days' written notice, in the form of 10 an order to show cause, of the time and place of such hearing by either registered or certified mail addressed to the principal place of business 11 12 in this state of such licensee. Such notice shall contain the grounds of 13 complaint against the licensee. Any order suspending or revoking such 14 license shall recite the grounds upon which the same is based. The order 15 shall be entered upon the records of the director and shall not be 16 effective until after thirty days' written notice thereof given after 17 such entry forwarded by either registered or certified mail to the 18 licensee at such principal place of business.

19 (4) Revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or surrender
 20 of any license shall not impair or affect the obligation of any lawful
 21 installment contract acquired previously thereto by the licensee.

22 (5) Revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or surrender 23 of any license shall not affect civil or criminal liability for acts 24 committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or 25 surrender or affect liability for any fines which may be levied against the licensee or any of its officers, directors, shareholders, partners, 26 27 or members pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Sales Act for acts 28 committed before the revocation, suspension, cancellation, expiration, or 29 surrender.

30 (6) Any person, licensee, or applicant considering himself or
 31 herself aggrieved by an order of the director entered under the

1 provisions of this section may appeal the order. The appeal shall be in
2 accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act.

3 Sec. 25. Section 45-351, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 45-351 (1) Except as otherwise provided by the Nebraska Installment 6 Loan and Sales Act or other law, an installment loan licensee shall not 7 contact any individual who is not living, residing, or present in the 8 household of the borrower regarding the borrower's obligation to pay a 9 debt, other than the borrower's spouse, the borrower's attorney, another 10 creditor, or a credit reporting agency.

11 (2) The borrower may waive the benefits of this section at any time 12 by giving consent if such consent is given at a time subsequent to the 13 date the debt arises.

14 (1) The department shall be charged with the duty of inspecting the 15 business, records, and accounts of all persons who engage in the business of a sales finance company subject to the Nebraska Installment Sales Act. 16 The director shall have the power to appoint examiners who shall, under 17 18 his or her direction, investigate the installment contracts and business and examine the books and records of licensees when the director shall so 19 20 determine. Such examinations shall not be conducted more often than 21 annually except as provided in subsection (2) of this section.

22 (2) The director or his or her duly authorized representative shall 23 have the power to make such investigations as he or she shall deem 24 necessary, and to the extent necessary for this purpose, he or she may 25 examine such licensee or any other person and shall have the power to 26 compel the production of all relevant books, records, accounts, and 27 documents.

28 (3) The expenses of the director incurred in the examination of the 29 books and records of licensees shall be charged to the licensees as set 30 forth in sections 8-605 and 8-606. The director may charge the costs of 31 an investigation of a nonlicensed person to such person, and such costs 1 shall be paid within thirty days after receipt of billing.

2 (4) Upon receipt by a licensee of a notice of investigation or 3 inquiry request for information from the department, the licensee shall 4 respond within twenty-one calendar days. Each day a licensee fails to 5 respond as required by this subsection shall constitute a separate 6 violation.

7 (5) If the director finds, after notice and opportunity for hearing in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, that any person has 8 9 willfully and intentionally violated any provision of the Nebraska 10 Installment Sales Act, any rule or regulation adopted and promulgated under the act, or any order issued by the director under the act, the 11 director may order such person to pay (a) an administrative fine of not 12 13 more than one thousand dollars for each separate violation and (b) the 14 costs of investigation. The department shall remit fines collected under 15 this subsection to the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska. 16

17 (6) If a person fails to pay an administrative fine and the costs of 18 investigation ordered pursuant to subsection (5) of this section, a lien 19 in the amount of such fine and costs may be imposed upon all assets and 20 property of such person in this state and may be recovered in a civil 21 action by the director. The lien shall attach to the real property of 22 such person when notice of the lien is filed and indexed against the real 23 property in the office of the register of deeds in the county where the 24 real property is located. The lien shall attach to any other property of 25 such person when notice of the lien is filed against the property in the manner prescribed by law. Failure of the person to pay such fine and 26 27 costs shall constitute a separate violation of the Nebraska Installment 28 Sales Act.

29 Sec. 26. Section 45-352, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-352 (1) Section 45-351 shall not prohibit the licensee from:

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1	<u>(a) Contacting any person in order to discover property belonging to</u>
2	the borrower that may be seized to satisfy a debt that has been reduced
3	<u>to judgment;</u>
4	(b) Making amicable demand and filing suit on the debt; or
5	(c) Contacting persons related to the borrower if permission is
6	specifically given in writing at the time the debt arises or at any time
7	<u>after such debt arises.</u>
8	(2) An installment loan licensee may contact any person without the
9	borrower's consent:
10	<u>(a) To ascertain information relating to a borrower's credit</u>
11	worthiness, credit standing, credit capacity, character, general
12	reputation, personal characteristics, or mode of living which is used or
13	expected to be used or collected in whole or in part for the purpose of
14	serving as a factor in establishing the borrower's eligibility for credit
15	or insurance if such contacts are not designed to collect a delinquent
16	<u>debt; or</u>
17	<u>(b) To locate the borrower when the licensee has reason to believe</u>
18	the borrower has changed his or her employment or has moved from his or
19	<u>her last-known address.</u>
20	The director shall have the power to make such general rules and
21	regulations and specific rulings, demands, and findings as may be
22	necessary for the proper conduct of the business licensed under the
23	Nebraska Installment Sales Act, and the enforcement of the act, in
24	addition thereto and not inconsistent therewith.
25	Sec. 27. Section 45-353, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
26	amended to read:
27	45-353 <u>(1) An agreement of the parties to a loan, with respect to</u>
28	default on the part of the borrower, is enforceable only to the extent
29	<u>that:</u>
30	<u>(a) The borrower fails to make a payment on the loan or other</u>
31	charges required by the agreement; or

2025	2025
1	(b) The prospect of payment, performance, or realization of
2	collateral is significantly impaired. The burden of establishing the
3	prospect of significant impairment is on the installment loan licensee.
4	(2) If the borrower has defaulted on his or her promise to pay and
5	if he or she has given specific notice in writing, by registered or
6	certified mail, instructing the licensee to cease further contacts with
7	the borrower in regard to the indebtedness, the installment loan licensee
8	shall, after such notice, except as provided in section 45-352, limit
9	contacts to one notice per month by mail. No notice shall be designed to
10	threaten action not otherwise permitted by law.
11	<u>(3) With respect to a loan, after a borrower has been in default for</u>
12	<u>ten days for failure to make a required payment, an installment loan</u>
13	licensee may give the borrower the notice described in this section. An
14	installment loan licensee gives notice to the borrower under this section
15	when it delivers the notice to the borrower or delivers or mails the
16	notice to the last-known address of the borrower's residence.
17	(4) The notice shall be in writing and shall conspicuously state:
18	<u>(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the installment loan</u>
19	licensee to which payment is to be made;
20	(b) A brief identification of the loan;
21	(c) The borrower's right to cure the default;
22	(d) The amount of payment and date by which payment must be made to
23	cure the default; and
24	(e) That any credit insurance issued in connection with the loan
25	contract may be canceled unless the borrower cures the default.
26	(5) With respect to a loan, after a default consisting only of the
27	borrower's failure to make a required payment, an installment loan
28	licensee may neither accelerate maturity of the unpaid balance of the
29	obligation nor take possession of collateral, except voluntarily
30	surrendered collateral, because of such default until twenty days after a

31 <u>notice of the borrower's right to cure is given. The borrower shall have</u>

1 <u>twenty days after the notice is given to cure any default consisting of a</u> 2 <u>failure to make the required payment by tendering the amount of all</u> 3 <u>unpaid sums due at the time of the tender, without acceleration, plus any</u> 4 <u>unpaid charges. Cure restores the borrower to his or her rights under the</u> 5 <u>agreement as though the default had not occurred.</u>

6 <u>(6) With respect to defaults on the same obligation after an</u> 7 <u>installment loan licensee has once given a notice of the borrower's right</u> 8 <u>to cure, the borrower shall have no further right to cure and the</u> 9 <u>installment loan licensee has no obligation to proceed against the</u> 10 borrower or the collateral.

11 (7) Upon default by a borrower with respect to a loan, unless the 12 borrower voluntarily surrenders possession of the collateral to the 13 licensee, the licensee may take possession of the collateral without 14 judicial process only if possession can be taken without entry into a 15 dwelling or a locked, unoccupied motor vehicle, and without the use of 16 force or other breach of the peace.

17 (1) Whenever the director has reasonable cause to believe that any 18 person is violating or is threatening to or intends to violate any of the 19 provisions of the Nebraska Installment Sales Act, he or she may, in 20 addition to all actions provided for in the act and without prejudice 21 thereto, enter an order requiring such person to desist or to refrain 22 from such violation. An action may also be brought, on the relation of 23 the Attorney General or the director, to enjoin such person from engaging 24 in or continuing such violation or from doing any act or acts in 25 furtherance thereof.

26 (2) In any such action an order or judgment may be entered awarding 27 such preliminary or final injunction as may be deemed proper. In addition 28 to all other means provided by law for the enforcement of a restraining 29 order or injunction, the court, in which such action is brought, shall 30 have power and jurisdiction to impound and appoint a receiver for the 31 property and business of the defendant, including books, papers, documents, and records pertaining thereto or so much thereof as the court may deem reasonably necessary to prevent violations of the Nebraska Installment Sales Act through or by means of the use of such property and business. Such receiver, when so appointed and qualified, shall have such powers and duties as to custody, collection, administration, winding up and liquidation of such property and business as shall, from time to time, be conferred upon him or her by the court.

8 Sec. 28. Section 45-354, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,
9 2024, is amended to read:

45-354 (1) A borrower is not liable for a deficiency unless the
 licensee has disposed of the collateral in good faith and in a
 commercially reasonable manner.

13 (2) If the installment loan licensee takes possession or voluntarily accepts surrender of goods in which the licensee has a security interest 14 to secure a loan and at the time thereof the unpaid balance due on the 15 loan is three thousand dollars or less, the borrower is not personally 16 17 liable to the installment loan licensee for the unpaid balance of the debt arising from the loan and the licensee's duty to dispose of the 18 19 collateral is governed by the provisions on disposition of collateral, article 9, Uniform Commercial Code. 20

(3) The borrower may be liable in damages to the installment loan 21 licensee if the borrower has wrongfully damaged the collateral or if, 22 after default, failure to cure, and demand, the borrower has wrongfully 23 24 failed to make the collateral available to the installment loan licensee. 25 (4) If the installment loan licensee elects to bring an action against the borrower for a debt arising from a loan, when under this 26 section the installment loan licensee would not be entitled to a 27 28 deficiency judgment if the installment loan licensee took possession of the collateral, and obtains judgment, (a) the installment loan licensee 29 30 may not take possession of the collateral and (b) the collateral is not subject to levy or sale on execution or similar proceedings pursuant to 31

1 <u>the judgment.</u>

2 (1) Effective January 1, 2013, or within one hundred eighty days 3 after the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry is capable of 4 accepting licenses issued under the Nebraska Installment Sales Act, 5 whichever is later, the department shall require such licensees under the 6 act to be licensed and registered through the Nationwide Mortgage 7 Licensing System and Registry. In order to carry out this requirement, 8 the department is authorized to participate in the Nationwide Mortgage 9 Licensing System and Registry. For this purpose, the department may 10 establish, by adopting and promulgating rules and regulations or by order, requirements as necessary. The requirements may include, but not 11 12 be limited to:

13 (a) Background checks of applicants and licensees, including, but 14 not limited to:

15 (i) Fingerprints of every executive officer, director, partner, 16 member, sole proprietor, or shareholder submitted to the Federal Bureau 17 of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized 18 to receive such information for a state, national, and international 19 criminal history record information check;

20 (ii) Civil or administrative records;

21 (iii) Credit history; or

(iv) Any other information as deemed necessary by the Nationwide
 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry;

(b) The payment of fees to apply for or renew a license through the
 Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry;

26 (c) Compliance with prelicensure education and testing and 27 continuing education;

28 (d) The setting or resetting, as necessary, of renewal processing or
 29 reporting dates; and

30 (e) Amending or surrendering a license or any other such activities
 31 as the director deems necessary for participation in the Nationwide

1 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry.

2 (2) In order to fulfill the purposes of the Nebraska Installment 3 Sales Act, the department is authorized to establish relationships or 4 contracts with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry or 5 other entities designated by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and 6 Registry to collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or 7 other fees related to licensees or other persons subject to the act. The 8 department may allow such system to collect licensing fees on behalf of 9 the department and allow such system to collect a processing fee for the 10 services of the system directly from each licensee or applicant for a 11 license.

12 (3) The director is required to regularly report enforcement actions 13 and other relevant information to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing 14 System and Registry subject to the provisions contained in section 15 45-355.

16 (4) The director shall establish a process whereby applicants and
 17 licensees may challenge information entered into the Nationwide Mortgage
 18 Licensing System and Registry by the director.

19 (5) The department shall ensure that the Nationwide Mortgage 20 Licensing System and Registry adopts a privacy, data security, and breach 21 of security of the system notification policy. The director shall make 22 available upon written request a copy of the contract between the 23 department and the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry 24 pertaining to the breach of security of the system provisions.

25 (6) The department shall upon written request provide the most 26 recently available audited financial report of the Nationwide Mortgage 27 Licensing System and Registry.

(7) The director may use the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System
 and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting information from and
 distributing information to the United States Department of Justice or
 any other governmental agency in order to reduce the points of contact

which the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain for
purposes of subsection (1) of this section.

3 Sec. 29. Section 45-355, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
4 amended to read:

5 45-355 (1) No individual, other than the spouse of the borrower, is obligated as a cosigner, comaker, guarantor, endorser, surety, or similar 6 party with respect to a loan unless, before or contemporaneously with 7 signing any separate agreement of loan or any writing setting forth the 8 terms of the borrower's agreement, the individual receives a separate 9 written notice that contains a completed identification of the loan the 10 11 individual may have to pay and reasonably informs the individual of the obligation with respect to it. 12

13 (2) Such notice shall be in the form prescribed by the department.

14 (3) An individual entitled to notice under this section shall also
 15 be given a copy of any writing setting forth the terms of the borrower's
 16 agreement and of any separate agreement of obligation signed by the
 17 individual entitled to the notice.

18 (1) In order to promote more effective regulation and reduce the
 19 regulatory burden through supervisory information sharing:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the requirements 20 21 under any federal or state law regarding the privacy or confidentiality 22 of any information or material provided to the Nationwide Mortgage 23 Licensing System and Registry, and any privilege arising under federal or 24 state law, including the rules of any federal or state court, with 25 respect to such information or material, shall continue to apply to such information or material after the information or material has been 26 27 disclosed to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. Such 28 information and material may be shared with all federal and state 29 regulatory officials with mortgage industry oversight authority without 30 the loss of privilege or the loss of confidentiality protections provided by federal or state law; 31

1 (b) Information or material that is subject to privilege or 2 confidentiality under subdivision (a) of this subsection shall not be 3 subject to:

4 (i) Disclosure under any federal or state law governing the
5 disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or an agency
6 of the federal government or the respective state; or

7 (ii) Subpoena or discovery or admission into evidence in any private 8 civil action or administrative process unless, with respect to any 9 privilege held by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry 10 with respect to such information or material, the person to whom such 11 information or material pertains waives, in whole or in part, in the 12 discretion of such person, that privilege;

13 (c) Any state statute relating to the disclosure of confidential 14 supervisory information or any information or material described in 15 subdivision (a) of this subsection that is inconsistent with such 16 subdivision shall be superseded by the requirements of this section; and

17 (d) This section shall not apply with respect to the information or 18 material relating to the employment history of, and publicly adjudicated 19 disciplinary and enforcement actions against, applicants and licensees 20 that is included in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry 21 for access by the public.

22 (2) For these purposes, the director is authorized to enter into 23 agreements or sharing arrangements with other governmental agencies, the 24 Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the American Association of 25 Residential Mortgage Regulators, or other associations representing 26 governmental agencies as established by adopting and promulgating rules 27 and regulations or an order of the director.

28 Sec. 30. Section 45-356, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 29 amended to read:

30 45-356 <u>(1) No licensee shall receive any security agreement or</u> 31 assignment of salary or wages signed in blank. All blank spaces shall be

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filled in with ink or typewritten or printed with the proper names and amounts showing the name of the person by whom the individual making the conveyance or assignment is employed. No assignment or order for wages is valid if it contains an amount in excess of the sum borrowed together with the interest and charges as provided in the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act.
No assignment of or order for wages to secure a loan or

8 <u>advancement is valid when made by a married man or woman unless the</u>
9 <u>written consent of the wife or husband to the making of such loan is</u>
10 <u>attached thereto.</u>

(3) No licensee shall take a power of attorney, or any instrument
 signed by an attorney in fact and not personally, or any instrument
 signed in which blanks are left to be filled after execution.

14 (1) No person acting personally or as an agent shall acquire control 15 of any licensee under the Nebraska Installment Sales Act without first 16 (a) giving thirty days' notice to the department on a form prescribed by 17 the department of such proposed acquisition and (b) paying a filing fee 18 of one hundred fifty dollars and any processing fee allowed under 19 subsection (2) of section 45-354.

(2) The director, upon receipt of such notice, shall act upon the 20 21 acquisition within thirty days, and unless he or she disapproves of the 22 proposed acquisition within such period of time, the acquisition shall 23 become effective on the thirty-first day after receipt without the 24 director's approval, except that the director may extend the thirty-day 25 period an additional thirty days if, in his or her judgment, any material information submitted is substantially inaccurate or the acquiring party 26 27 has not furnished all the information required by the department.

(3) An acquisition may become effective prior to the expiration of
 the disapproval period if the director issues written notice of his or
 her intent not to disapprove the action.

31 (4)(a) The director may disapprove any proposed acquisition if:

(i) The financial condition of any acquiring person is such as might
 jeopardize the financial stability of the acquired licensee;

3 (ii) The character and general fitness of any acquiring person or of 4 any of the proposed management personnel indicate that the acquired 5 installment sales licensee would not be operated honestly, fairly, or 6 efficiently within the purpose of the Nebraska Installment Sales Act; or

7 (iii) Any acquiring person neglects, fails, or refuses to furnish
8 all information required by the department.

9 (b) The director shall notify the acquiring party in writing of
10 disapproval of the acquisition. The notice shall provide a statement of
11 the basis for the disapproval.

(c) Within fifteen business days after receipt of written notice of disapproval, the acquiring party may make a written request for a hearing on the proposed acquisition in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and promulgated by the department under the Administrative Procedure Act. The director shall, by order, approve or disapprove the proposed acquisition on the basis of the record made at the hearing.

19 Sec. 31. Within thirty days after repayment of the loan in full, the licensee shall mark plainly every obligation or copy of the 20 obligation and security or copy of the security signed by any obligor 21 22 with the word Paid or Canceled and shall release any mortgage, trust 23 deed, or lien, restore any pledge, and cancel and return any note or copy 24 of the note and any assignment or copy of the assignment given to the licensee. For purposes of this section, a copy shall meet the 25 requirements of section 25-12,112. 26

27 Sec. 32. Nothing in sections 45-351 and 45-353 shall limit a 28 borrower's right to bring an action for damages. When the licensee has 29 filed suit and obtained judgment, the licensee shall be permitted to 30 resume contacts with the borrower against whom judgment has been 31 obtained.

1	<b>Sec. 33.</b> (1) The following types of insurance or one or more of the
2	following types of insurance may be written in connection with loans made
3	<u>by installment loan licensees under the Nebraska Installment Loan and</u>
4	<u>Sales Act:</u>
5	<u>(a) Fire, theft, windstorm, or comprehensive, including fire, theft,</u>
6	and windstorm, fifty dollars or more deductible collision, and bodily
7	injury liability and property damage liability upon motor vehicles;
8	(b) Fire and extended-coverage insurance upon real property;
9	<u>(c) Fire and extended-coverage insurance upon tangible personal</u>
10	property, limited to the principal amount of the loan;
11	<u>(d) Involuntary unemployment or job protection insurance. In the</u>
12	event of a renewal of a loan contract, this type of insurance shall be
13	canceled and a refund of the unearned premium credited or made before new
14	<u>insurance of this type may be rewritten. Such insurance shall not be</u>
15	required as a condition precedent to the making of such loan; and
16	<u>(e) Life, health, and accident insurance or any of them, except that</u>
17	the amount of such insurance shall not exceed the total amount to be
18	repaid under the loan contract and the term shall not extend beyond the
19	final maturity date of the loan contract. In the event of a renewal of a
20	loan contract, this type of insurance shall be canceled and a refund of
21	the unearned premium credited or made before new insurance of this type
22	may be written in connection with such loan. Such insurance shall not be
23	required as a condition precedent to the making of such loan.
24	(2) In addition to the types of insurance written under subsection
25	(1) of this section by licensees under the act, any other type of
26	<u>insurance or motor club service as defined in section 44-3707 may be</u>
27	provided for the benefit of a licensee's borrower or the borrower's
28	immediate family whether or not in connection with a loan, except that
29	such insurance or motor club service shall not be required as a condition
30	precedent to the making of any loan. Nothing in this subsection alters or
31	eliminates any insurance licensing requirements or certificate of

1 <u>authority requirements under the Motor Club Services Act.</u>

2 (3) Notwithstanding section 23 of this act and section 45-350, any 3 gain or advantage, in the form of commission or otherwise, to the licensee or to any employee, affiliate, or associate of the licensee from 4 such insurance or motor club service or the sale thereof shall not be 5 deemed to be an additional or further charge in connection with the loan 6 7 contract. The insurance premium or motor club service contract fee may be collected from the borrower or financed through the loan contract at the 8 9 time the loan is made.

(4)(a) Insurance permitted under this section shall be obtained
 through a duly licensed insurance agent, agency, or broker. Premiums
 shall not exceed those fixed by law or current applicable manual rates.
 Insurance written, as authorized by this section, may contain a mortgage
 clause or other appropriate provision to protect the insurable interest
 of the licensee.

(b) Motor club services permitted under this section shall be
 obtained through a motor club which holds a certificate of authority
 under the Motor Club Services Act.

(5) In the event of a renewal of a loan contract, any insurance or 19 motor club service sold pursuant to this section shall be canceled and 20 21 (a) a refund of the unearned premium or motor club service contract fee 22 credited or made before new insurance or motor club service of the same type as that being canceled may be rewritten or (b) the holder of the 23 24 loan contract shall send notice to the buyer within fifteen business days after cancellation of the name, address, and telephone number of the 25 insurance company or motor club which issued the insurance contract or 26 27 motor club service contract or the party responsible for any refund and 28 notice that the buyer may be eligible for a refund. A copy of such notice shall be retained by the holder of the loan contract. 29

30 (6) If any insurance or motor club service sold pursuant to this
 31 section is canceled or the premium or motor club service contract fee

1 adjusted during the term of the loan contract, any refund of the 2 insurance premium or motor club service contract fee plus the unearned 3 interest thereon received by the holder shall be credited by the holder 4 to the loan contract or otherwise refunded, except to the extent applied 5 toward payment for similar insurance or motor club service protecting the 6 interests of the buyer and the holder or either of them.

7 (7) If any insurance or motor club service sold pursuant to this section is canceled due to the payment of all sums for which the buyer is 8 9 liable under a loan contract, the holder of the loan contract shall, upon receipt of payment of all sums due, send notice to the buyer within 10 fifteen business days after payment of the sums due of the name, address, 11 and telephone number of the insurance company or motor club which issued 12 13 the insurance contract or motor club service contract or the party 14 responsible for any refund and notice that the buyer may be eligible for 15 a refund. A copy of such notice shall be retained by the holder of the 16 loan contract. This subsection does not apply if the holder of the loan 17 contract previously credited the refund of the insurance premium or motor 18 club service contract fee to the loan contract or otherwise refunded the 19 insurance premium or motor club service contract fee to the buyer.

(8) The licensee shall, at the time the loan is made, give to the 20 borrower, or if more than one, to one of them, a statement concerning any 21 22 insurance procured by or through the licensee, which includes the amount of any premium which the borrower has paid or is obligated to pay, the 23 24 expiration date of the policy, and a concise description of the risks 25 insured. If a borrower procures insurance by or through a licensee, the licensee shall deliver to the borrower within fifteen days after the 26 27 making of the loan an executed copy of the insurance policy or 28 certificate of insurance.

Sec. 34. (1) Licensees holding an active installment loan license
 may make preauthorized loans. Preauthorized loan means a loan made by a
 licensee pursuant to an agreement between the licensee and the borrower

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1 whereby: 2 (a) The licensee may permit the borrower to obtain advances of money 3 from the licensee from time to time or the licensee may advance money on behalf of the borrower from time to time as directed by the borrower; 4 (b) The amount of each advance and permitted charge and cost is 5 debited to the borrower's account and payments and other credits are 6 7 credited to the same account; (c) The charges are computed on the unpaid principal balance or 8 9 balances of the account from time to time; 10 (d) The borrower has the privilege of paying the account in full at any time or, if the account is not in default, in monthly installments or 11 12 fixed or determinable amounts as provided in the agreement; and 13 (e) The loan agreement expressly states that it covers preauthorized loans. Preauthorized loan does not mean a transaction, resulting in 14 15 either a credit or a debit to the borrower's account, which is initiated by the use or application of a plastic, metal, or other type of credit or 16 17 transaction card. (2) For purposes of computations relating to preauthorized loans 18 made pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, billing 19 cycle means the time interval between periodic billing dates. A billing 20 21 cycle shall be considered monthly if the closing date of the cycle is the 22 same date each month or does not vary by more than four days from such 23 date. 24 Sec. 35. (1) A licensee may make preauthorized loans and may 25 contract for and receive charges on such loans as set forth in subsection (1) of section 23 of this act, subject to the following requirements: 26 27 (a) A licensee shall not compound charges by adding any unpaid charges authorized by section 23 of this act or this section to the 28 unpaid principal balance of the borrower's account, except that the 29 30 unpaid principal balance may include additional charges for credit life

insurance or credit disability insurance provided in connection with the

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preauthorized loan, subject to the requirements and restrictions 1 2 contained in section 36 of this act; (b) Charges authorized by section 23 of this act or this section 3 4 shall be deemed not to exceed the maximum charges permitted by such 5 sections if such charges are computed in each billing cycle by any of the 6 following methods: 7 (i) By converting each graduated monthly rate to a daily rate and multiplying such daily rate by the applicable portion of the daily unpaid 8 principal balance of the account, in which case each daily rate is

10 determined by multiplying the authorized monthly rate by twelve and dividing by three hundred sixty-five; 11

(ii) By multiplying each graduated monthly rate by the applicable 12 13 portion of the average daily unpaid principal balance of the account in the billing cycle, in which case the average daily unpaid principal 14 15 balance is the sum of the amount unpaid each day during the cycle divided by the number of days in the cycle; or 16

17 (iii) By converting each graduated monthly rate to a daily rate and multiplying such daily rate by the applicable portion of the average 18 19 daily unpaid principal balance of the account in the billing cycle, in which case each daily rate is determined by multiplying the authorized 20 monthly rate by twelve and dividing by three hundred sixty-five, and the 21 22 average daily unpaid principal balance is the sum of the amount unpaid 23 each day during the cycle divided by the number of days in the cycle; and 24 (c) For each method of computation set forth in this section, the 25 billing cycle shall be monthly and the unpaid principal balance on any day shall be determined by adding to any balance unpaid as of the 26 27 beginning of that day all advances and other permissible amounts charged 28 to the borrower and deducting all payments and other credits made or received that day. 29

(2) The borrower under a preauthorized loan may at any time pay all 30 or any part of the unpaid balance in his or her account, or, if the 31

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1	account is not in default, the borrower may pay the unpaid principal
2	balance in monthly installments. Minimum monthly payment requirements
3	shall be determined by the licensee and set forth in the preauthorized
4	loan agreement, except that the minimum monthly payment shall not be less
5	than one and one-half percent of the average daily unpaid principal
6	balance of an account having an average daily balance of more than three
7	thousand dollars nor less than two percent of the average daily unpaid
8	principal balance of an account having an average daily balance of three
9	thousand dollars or less.
10	<u>(3) A licensee may retain any security interest, including a</u>
11	mortgage on real property, until the preauthorized account is terminated.
12	(4) Subsection (4) of section 45-345, subsection (3) of section
13	<u>45-350, and section 31 of this act shall not apply to preauthorized</u>
14	<u>loans.</u>
15	(5) The department may approve record-keeping systems for licensees
16	and may prescribe policies and procedures necessary to the administration
17	of preauthorized loans made pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and
18	<u>Sales Act.</u>
19	Sec. 36. In addition to the charges permitted under section 35 of
20	this act, a licensee may contract for and receive the fees, costs, and
21	expenses permitted by the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act on
22	other loans, subject to all the conditions and restrictions set forth in
23	the act with the following variations:
24	(1) If credit life or disability insurance is provided and if the
25	insured dies or becomes disabled when there is an outstanding
26	preauthorized loan indebtedness, the insurance shall be sufficient to pay
27	the total balance of the loan due on the date of the borrower's death or
28	the amount due as of the end of the previous billing cycle, whichever is
29	less, in the case of credit life insurance, or all minimum payments which
30	become due on the loan during the covered period of disability in the

31 case of credit disability insurance. The additional charge for credit

1 life insurance or credit disability insurance shall be calculated in each 2 billing cycle by applying the current monthly premium rate for such 3 insurance, as such rate may be determined by the Director of Insurance, 4 to the unpaid balances in the borrower's account, using either of the 5 methods specified in section 35 of this act for the calculation of loan 6 charges;

7 (2) No credit life or disability insurance written in connection 8 with a preauthorized loan shall be canceled by the licensee because of 9 delinquency of the borrower in the making of the required minimum 10 payments on the loan unless one or more of such payments is past due for 11 a period of ninety days or more, and the licensee shall advance to the 12 insurer the amounts required to keep the insurance in force during such 13 period, which amounts may be debited to the borrower's account;

14 (3) The department may, by rule and regulation or order, require a
 15 statement of insurance that will be appropriate for preauthorized loans
 16 in lieu of that required by section 33 of this act; and

17 (4) The amount, terms, and conditions of any insurance against loss 18 or damage to property must be reasonable in relation to the character and 19 value of the property insured and the maximum anticipated amount of 20 credit to be extended.

21 (1) For purposes of this section, reverse-mortgage loan Sec. 37. 22 means a loan made by a licensee which (a) is secured by residential real estate, (b) is nonrecourse to the borrower except in the event of fraud 23 24 by the borrower or waste to the residential real estate given as security 25 for the loan, (c) provides cash advances to the borrower based upon the equity in the borrower's owner-occupied principal residence, (d) requires 26 27 no payment of principal or interest until the entire loan becomes due and 28 payable, and (e) otherwise complies with the terms of this section.

29 (2) Reverse-mortgage loans shall be governed by the following rules
 30 without regard to the requirements set out elsewhere for other types of
 31 mortgage transactions: (a) Payment in whole or in part is permitted

without penalty at any time during the period of the loan; (b) an advance 1 2 and interest on the advance have priority over a lien filed after the 3 closing of a reverse-mortgage loan; (c) an interest rate may be fixed or 4 adjustable and may also provide for interest that is contingent on 5 appreciation in the value of the residential real estate; and (d) the advance shall not be reduced in amount or number based on an adjustment 6 7 in the interest rate when a reverse-mortgage loan provides for periodic advances to a borrower. 8

9 (3) Reverse-mortgage loans may be made or acquired without regard to 10 the following provisions for other types of mortgage transactions: (a) Limitations on the purpose and use of future advances or any other 11 mortgage proceeds; (b) limitations on future advances to a term of years 12 13 or limitations on the term of credit line advances; (c) limitations on the term during which future advances take priority over intervening 14 15 advances; (d) requirements that a maximum mortgage amount be stated in 16 the mortgage; (e) limitations on loan-to-value ratios; (f) prohibitions 17 on balloon payments; (q) prohibitions on compounded interest and interest on interest; and (h) requirements that a percentage of the loan proceeds 18 19 must be advanced prior to loan assignment.

20 (4) A licensee may, in connection with a reverse-mortgage loan, 21 charge to the borrower (a) a nonrefundable loan origination fee which 22 does not exceed two percent of the appraised value of the owner-occupied 23 principal residence at the time the loan is made, (b) a reasonable fee 24 paid to third parties originating loans on behalf of the licensee, and 25 (c) such other fees as are necessary and required, including fees for 26 inspections, insurance, appraisals, and surveys.

27 (5) Licensees failing to make loan advances as required in the loan 28 documents and failing to cure the default as required in the loan 29 documents shall forfeit an amount equal to the greater of two hundred 30 dollars or one percent of the amount of the loan advance the licensee 31 failed to make.

1	<b>Sec. 38.</b> (1) Each retail installment sales contract shall be in
2	writing, shall be signed by both the buyer and the seller, and shall
3	contain the following items, and a copy thereof shall be delivered to the
4	buyer at the time the instrument is signed, except for contracts made in
5	conformance with subdivision (5)(c) of section 45-336:
6	<u>(a) The cash sale price;</u>
7	(b) The amount of the buyer's downpayment, and whether made in money
8	or goods, or partly in money and partly in goods, including a brief
9	description of any goods traded in;
10	<u>(c) The difference between subdivisions (a) and (b) of this</u>
11	subsection;
12	<u>(d) The amount included for insurance if a separate charge is made</u>
13	therefor, specifying the types of coverages;
14	<u>(e) The amount included for a debt cancellation contract or a debt</u>
15	suspension contract if the debt cancellation contract or debt suspension
16	contract is a contract of a financial institution or licensee, such
17	contract is sold directly by such financial institution or licensee or by
18	an unaffiliated, nonexclusive agent of such financial institution or
19	licensee in accordance with 12 C.F.R. part 37, as such part existed on
20	January 1, 2025, and the financial institution or licensee is responsible
21	for the unaffiliated, nonexclusive agent's compliance with such part, and
22	<u>a separate charge is made therefor;</u>
23	<u>(f) The amount included for electronic title and lien services other</u>
24	than fees and charges prescribed by law which actually are or will be
25	paid to public officials for determining the existence of or for
26	perfecting, releasing, or satisfying any security related to the credit
27	transaction;
28	(g) The basic time price, which is the sum of subdivisions (c), (d),
29	<u>(e), and (f) of this subsection;</u>
30	(h) The time-price differential;
31	<u>(i) The amount of the time-price balance, which is the sum of</u>

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1	subdivisions (g) and (h) of this subsection, payable in installments by
2	the buyer to the seller;
3	(j) The number, amount, and due date or period of each installment;
4	(k) The time-sales price; and
5	(1) The amount included for a guaranteed asset protection waiver.
6	(2) The contract shall contain substantially the following notice:
7	NOTICE TO THE BUYER. DO NOT SIGN THIS CONTRACT BEFORE YOU READ IT OR IF
8	IT CONTAINS BLANK SPACES. YOU ARE ENTITLED TO A COPY OF THE CONTRACT YOU
9	<u>SIGN.</u>
10	<u>(3) The items listed in subsection (1) of this section need not be</u>
11	stated in the sequence or order set forth in such subsection. Additional
12	items may be included to explain the computations made in determining the
13	amount to be paid by the buyer. No installment sales contract shall be
14	signed by the buyer or proffered by the seller when it contains blank
15	spaces to be filled in after execution, except that if delivery of the
16	goods or services is not made at the time of the execution of the
17	contract, the identifying numbers or marks of the goods, or similar
18	information, and the due date of the first installment may be inserted in
19	the contract after its execution.
20	<u>(4) If a seller proffers an installment sales contract as part of a</u>
21	transaction which delays or cancels, or promises to delay or cancel, the
22	payment of the time-price differential on the contract if the buyer pays
23	the basic time price, cash price, or cash sale price within a certain
24	period of time, the seller shall, in clear and conspicuous writing.

period of time, the seller shall, in clear and conspicuous writing, 24 either within the installment sales contract or in a separate document, 25 26 inform the buyer of the exact date by which the buyer must pay the basic 27 time price, cash price, or cash sale price in order to delay or cancel the payment of the time-price differential. The seller or any subsequent 28 purchaser of the installment sales contract, including a sales finance 29 30 company, shall not be allowed to change such date.

31 (5) Upon written request from the buyer, the holder of an installment sales contract shall give or forward to the buyer a written statement of the dates and amounts of payments and the total amount unpaid under such contract. A buyer shall be given a written receipt for any payment when made in cash.

5 (6) After payment of all sums for which the buyer is obligated under a contract, the holder shall deliver or mail to the buyer at his or her 6 7 last-known address one or more good and sufficient instruments or copies thereof to acknowledge payment in full and shall release all security in 8 9 the goods and mark canceled and return to the buyer the original 10 agreement or copy thereof or instruments or copies thereof signed by the buyer. For purposes of this section, a copy shall meet the requirements 11 12 of section 25-12,112.

Sec. 39. (1)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of any other law, the time-price differential for any goods or services sold under an installment sales contract shall be stated as a fixed or variable annual percentage rate and shall be at a rate agreed to in writing, not to exceed eighteen percent per annum, except that a minimum time-price differential of ten dollars may be charged on any installment sales contract.

## 20 (b) Origination fees may be required to be made by the buyer, 21 subject to the following requirements:

22 (i) A buyer may be required, upon the execution of the installment sales contract, to pay an origination fee in an amount not to exceed ten 23 24 dollars, except that if the installment sales contract is for an 25 installment sale of agricultural machinery or equipment for use in commercial agriculture or if the installment sales contract is for an 26 27 installment sale of industrial machinery or equipment the buyer may be 28 required to pay (A) an origination fee of not to exceed one hundred dollars if the cash sale price is less than twenty-five thousand dollars 29 30 or (B) an origination fee of not to exceed two hundred fifty dollars, if the cash sale price is twenty-five thousand dollars or more; and 31

1 (ii) The origination fee shall be refundable if the installment 2 sales contract is canceled during the first thirty days. The origination 3 fee may be collected from the buyer or included in the principal balance 4 of the installment sales contract at the time the contract is made and 5 shall not be considered interest or a time-price differential.

6 (c) Nothing in the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act prohibits 7 a seller or holder of an installment sales contract from contracting for, 8 computing, and charging a time-price differential based upon the 9 application of the rate charged to the unpaid principal balance for the 10 number of days actually elapsed. The charges so computed shall be used 11 for the purpose of calculating the time-price differential, the time-12 price balance, the amount of each installment, and the time-sale price.

(d) When the installment sales contract is payable in substantially
equal and consecutive monthly installments, the time-price differential
shall be computed on the basic time price of each contract, as determined
under section 38 of this act, from the date of the contract until the due
date of the final installment, notwithstanding that the time-price
balance is required to be paid in installments.

19 (2) When an installment sales contract provides for payment other 20 than in substantially equal and consecutive monthly installments, the 21 time-price differential may be at a rate which will provide the same 22 return as is permitted on substantially equal monthly payment contracts 23 under subdivision (1)(d) of this section, having due regard for the 24 schedule of payments.

(3) Every contract payable in two or more installments shall provide
 for payment of such installments by stating the date and amount of each
 installment or the method by which any variable rate or installment shall
 be determined.

Sec. 40. (1) The amount, if any, included for insurance, which may be purchased by the holder of the contract, shall not exceed the applicable premium rates chargeable in accordance with filings, if any,

with the Department of Insurance. If dual interest insurance on the goods 1 2 is purchased by the holder, it shall, within thirty days after execution of the installment sales contract, send or cause to be sent to the buyer 3 4 a policy or policies or certificate of insurance, written by an insurance 5 company authorized to do business in this state, clearly setting forth the amount of the premium, the kind or kinds of insurance, the coverages, 6 7 and all the terms and conditions of the contract or contracts of 8 insurance.

9 (2) If any insurance is canceled or the premium adjusted during the 10 term of the installment sales contract, any refund of the insurance 11 premium plus the unearned time-price differential thereon received by the 12 holder shall be credited by the holder to the last maturing installment 13 of the contract except to the extent applied toward payment for similar 14 insurance protecting the interests of the buyer and the holder or either 15 of them.

16 (3) If any insurance is canceled due to the payment of all sums for 17 which the buyer is liable under an installment sales contract, the holder of the installment sales contract shall, upon receipt of payment of all 18 19 sums due, send notice to the buyer within fifteen business days of the name, address, and telephone number of the insurance company which issued 20 21 the insurance contract or the party responsible for any refund, and 22 notice that the buyer may be eligible for a refund. A copy of such notice 23 shall be retained by the holder of the installment sales contract. This 24 subsection does not apply if the holder of the loan contract previously 25 credited the refund of the insurance premium to the loan contract or otherwise refunded the insurance premium to the buyer. 26

27 (4) The holder may also purchase nonfiling insurance and charge a
 28 reasonable fee. The fee shall not exceed the amount of fees and charges
 29 prescribed by law which would have been paid to public officials for
 30 filing, perfecting, releasing, and satisfying any lien or security
 31 interest in the goods or services.

Sec. 41. (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of any contract to the
 contrary, any buyer may prepay in full at any time before maturity the
 obligation of any contract.

4 (2) If such obligation is prepaid in full by cash, a new loan, or otherwise after the first installment due date, the borrower shall 5 receive a rebate of an amount which shall be not less than the amount 6 7 obtained by applying to the unpaid principal balances as originally scheduled or, if deferred, as deferred, for the period following 8 9 prepayment, according to the actuarial method, the rate of the time-price 10 differential previously stated to the borrower. The licensee may round the rate of the time-price differential to the nearest one-half of one 11 12 percent if such procedure is not consistently used to obtain a greater 13 yield than would otherwise be permitted. Any default and deferment charges which are due and unpaid may be deducted from any rebate. No 14 15 rebate shall be required for any partial prepayment. No rebate of less 16 than one dollar need be made. Acceleration of the maturity of the 17 contract shall not in itself require a rebate. If judgment is obtained before the final installment date, the contract balance shall be reduced 18 19 by the rebate which would be required for prepayment in full as of the date judgment is obtained. 20

21 **Sec. 42.** (1) Where a buyer makes any subsequent purchases of goods 22 or services from a seller from whom such buyer has previously purchased goods or services under one or more installment sales contracts and the 23 24 amounts under such contract or contracts to the extent of cash sale price 25 thereof have not been fully paid, the subsequent purchases may be included in and consolidated with one or more of the prior contract or 26 27 contracts. A memorandum of such additional purchases shall be prepared by 28 the seller and inserted in or attached to the seller's counterpart of the contract and shall set forth: 29

30 (a) The names of the seller and the buyer and a description of the
 31 additional goods or services sold and all the information with respect to

the additional purchase required by section 38 of this act to be included 1 2 in an installment sales contract; 3 (b) The consolidated time-price balance to be paid by the buyer; and (c) The revised payments. 4 (2) A copy of such memorandum shall be delivered to the buyer as 5 provided in and subject to section 38 of this act. When such subsequent 6 7 purchases are made, the entire amount of all payments made prior to such subsequent purchases shall be deemed to have been applied on previous 8

9 purchases.

10 (3) Each payment thereafter made on a consolidated installment sales contract shall be deemed to be allocated to all of the various purchases 11 12 in the same ratio or proportion as the original cash sale prices of the 13 various purchases bear to one another. Where the amount of each deferred payment is increased in connection with such subsequent purchase, the 14 15 subsequent payments, at the seller's option, may be deemed to be allocated as follows: An amount equal to the original installment payment 16 17 to the previous purchase, the balance to the subsequent purchase. The amount of any initial payment or downpayment on the subsequent purchase 18 19 shall be allocated in its entirety to such subsequent purchase. This section shall not apply to cases involving equipment, parts, or other 20 21 merchandise attached or affixed to goods previously purchased, or to 22 repairs or services in connection therewith rendered by the seller at the buyer's request. 23

24 (1) An installment sales contract may provide and the Sec. 43. 25 holder thereof may collect, in addition to any time-price differential, a delinquency charge on each installment in default for a period of not 26 27 less than fifteen days, if provided for in the contract, not in excess of five percent of each installment or twenty-five dollars, whichever is 28 less, or, in lieu thereof, interest after maturity on each such 29 installment not exceeding the highest permissible contract rate. If the 30 time-price differential is computed by application of the rate charged to 31

the unpaid principal balance for the number of days actually elapsed, 1 2 such delinquency charge may not exceed five percent of each installment 3 or twenty-five dollars, whichever is less. If any installment payment is made by a check, draft, or similar signed order which is not honored 4 5 because of insufficient funds, no account, or any other reason except an error of a third party to the contract, the holder may charge and collect 6 7 a fee of not more than fifteen dollars. The delinguency charge and such fee may be collected when due or at any time thereafter. 8 9 (2) When an installment sales contract is for a commercial or

business purpose (a) a delinquency charge not to exceed five percent of each unpaid installment may be contracted for and received and (b) the holder of any check or draft or similar order which is not honored for any reason, except for error of a third party, may charge and collect a fee as stated in the contract. As used in this section, commercial or business purpose means primarily for a purpose other than a personal, family, or household purpose.

Sec. 44. <u>The holder of a retail installment sales contract may,</u>
upon agreement with the buyer:

19 (1) Extend the scheduled due date or defer the scheduled payment of 20 any installment payment under the retail installment sales contract; and 21 (2) Charge and collect a reasonable flat service fee for such 22 extension or deferment in addition to the time-price differential 23 calculated for the period of such extension or deferment at the rate 24 originally agreed upon in the retail installment sales contract on the 25 outstanding balance.

Sec. 45. (1) If any seller or sales finance company, in the making or collection of an installment sales contract, shall, directly or indirectly, contract for, take, or receive charges in excess of those authorized by the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act except as a result of an accidental and bona fide error, such contract shall be void and uncollectible as to (a) all of the excessive portion of the timeprice differential, (b) the first one thousand dollars of the time-price differential authorized by section 39 of this act, and (c) the first four thousand dollars of the principal of the contract.

4 (2) If any seller or sales finance company violates any provision of the act, other than the violations described in subsection (1) of this 5 section, except as a result of an accidental and bona fide error, such 6 7 installment sales contract shall be void and uncollectible as to the first five hundred dollars of the time-price differential and the first 8 9 one thousand dollars of the principal of such contract. If any of such 10 money has been paid by the buyer, such buyer or his or her assignee may recover under the act in a civil suit brought within one year after the 11 due date, or any extension thereof, of the last installment of the 12 13 contract.

Sec. 46. (1) A licensee shall not refuse to enter into a loan or impose finance charges or other terms or conditions of credit more onerous than those regularly extended by that licensee to borrowers of similar economic backgrounds because of the age, color, creed, national origin, political affiliation, race, religion, sex, marital status, or disability of the borrower or because the borrower receives public assistance, social security benefits, pension benefits, or the like.

21 (2) No licensee shall conduct the business of making loans under the 22 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act within any office, room, or place of business in which any other business is solicited or engaged in, or in 23 24 association or conjunction with any other business, if the director finds 25 that the other business is of such nature that the conducting of such other business tends to conceal evasion of the act or of the rules and 26 27 regulations adopted and promulgated under the act. In such case, the 28 director shall order such licensee in writing to cease and desist from such conduct. 29

30 (3) No licensee shall, directly or indirectly, require a borrower as
 31 a condition of granting a loan to such borrower to reaffirm or otherwise

<u>obligate the borrower to pay a former debt to the licensee which has been</u>
 discharged in bankruptcy proceedings.

3 <u>(4) Any person who makes a false statement to secure a loan is</u> 4 <u>guilty of a Class III misdemeanor. The punishment shall not be exacted,</u> 5 <u>however, when such a loan is made after the licensee is aware of the</u> 6 falsity of the statement.

7 (5) No licensee or other person subject to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act shall advertise, print, display, publish, distribute, 8 9 or broadcast or cause or permit to be advertised, printed, displayed, 10 published, distributed, or broadcast in any manner whatsoever any false, misleading, or deceptive statement or representation with regard to the 11 12 rates, terms, or conditions for the lending of money, credit, goods, or things in action. The director may order any licensee to cease and desist 13 from any conduct which he or she finds to be a violation of this section. 14 15 The director may require that rates of charge, if stated by a licensee, be stated fully and clearly in such manner as the director deems 16 17 necessary to prevent misunderstanding by prospective borrowers.

(6) No loan, made outside this state, in the amount or of the value 18 of three thousand dollars or less, for which a greater rate of interest, 19 consideration, or charges than is permitted by section 45-350 has been 20 21 charged, contracted for, or received, shall be enforced in this state. 22 Every person participating in such loan in this state is subject to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, except that the act shall not 23 24 apply to loans legally made in any state under and in accordance with a 25 regulatory small loan law similar in principle to such act.

## 26 <u>(7) In connection with the collection of any loan, a licensee may</u> 27 <u>not:</u>

28 (a) Use or threaten to use violence;

29 <u>(b) Use obscene or profane language;</u>

30 (c) Cause a telephone to ring or engage a person in telephone
 31 conversation at times known to be inconvenient to the borrower;

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1	<u>(d) Falsely represent the character, amount, or legal status of any</u>
2	<u>debt;</u>
3	<u>(e) Falsely represent that an individual is an attorney when he or</u>
4	<u>she is not;</u>
5	<u>(f) Falsely represent that nonpayment of any debt will result in the</u>
6	arrest or imprisonment of the borrower or any member of the borrower's
7	household;
8	<u>(g) Threaten to take any action that the licensee knows cannot</u>
9	legally be taken at the time the threat is made;
10	(h) Falsely represent that the borrower committed any crime when the
11	borrower did not;
12	<u>(i) Communicate or threaten to communicate to any person credit</u>
13	<u>information which is known to be false;</u>
14	<u>(j) Use or distribute any written communication which falsely</u>
15	represents that it is a document authorized, issued, or approved by any
16	court, official, or agency of the United States or any state;
17	<u>(k) Charge or collect any fees, charges, or expenses, incidental to</u>
18	the collection of any loan, unless such amount is expressly authorized by
19	the loan agreement or permitted by law;
20	<u>(l) Accept from any person a check or other payment instrument</u>
21	postdated by more than five days unless such person is notified in
22	writing of the licensee's intent to deposit such check or instrument not
23	more than ten nor less than three business days prior to such deposit;
24	<u>(m) Solicit any postdated check or other postdated payment</u>
25	instrument for the purpose of threatening or instituting criminal
26	prosecution;
27	<u>(n) Deposit or threaten to deposit any postdated check prior to the</u>
28	<u>date on such check;</u>
29	<u>(o) Cause charges to be made to any person for communications by</u>
30	concealment of the true purpose of the communication, including, but not
31	limited to, collect telephone calls and telegram fees;

1 (p) Communicate with a borrower regarding a debt by postcard; or 2 (q) Communicate with a borrower at the borrower's place of 3 employment if the licensee has received actual notice that the borrower's 4 employer prohibits the borrower from receiving such communication. 5 Sec. 47. (1) The department shall require licensees to be licensed and registered through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and 6 7 Registry. In order to carry out this requirement, the department is authorized to participate in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and 8 9 Registry. For this purpose, the department may establish, by adopting and 10 promulgating rules and regulations or by order, requirements as necessary. The requirements may include, but not be limited to: 11 (a) Background checks of applicants and licensees, including, but 12 not limited to: 13 (i) Fingerprints of every executive officer, director, partner, 14 15 member, sole proprietor, or shareholder submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized 16 17 to receive such information for a state, national, and international 18 criminal history record information check; 19 (ii) Civil or administrative records; 20 (iii) Credit history; or (iv) Any other information as deemed necessary by the Nationwide 21 22 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry; 23 (b) The payment of fees to apply for or renew a license through the 24 Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry; (c) Compliance with prelicensure education and testing and 25 continuing education; 26 27 (d) The setting or resetting, as necessary, of renewal processing or reporting dates; and 28 29 (e) Amending or surrendering a license or any other such activities as the director deems necessary for participation in the Nationwide 30 Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. 31

(2) In order to fulfill the purposes of the Nebraska Installment 1 2 Loan and Sales Act, the department is authorized to establish 3 relationships or contracts with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System 4 and Registry or other entities designated by the Nationwide Mortgage 5 Licensing System and Registry to collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or other persons 6 7 subject to the act. The department may allow such system to collect licensing fees on behalf of the department and allow such system to 8 9 collect a processing fee for the services of the system directly from 10 each licensee or applicant for a license.

11 (3) The director is required to regularly report violations of the 12 act pertaining to residential mortgage loans, as defined in section 13 45-702, as well as enforcement actions and other relevant information, to 14 the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry subject to the 15 provisions contained in this section.

(4) The director shall establish a process whereby applicants and
 licensees may challenge information entered into the Nationwide Mortgage
 Licensing System and Registry by the director.

19 <u>(5) The department shall ensure that the Nationwide Mortgage</u> 20 <u>Licensing System and Registry adopts a privacy, data security, and</u> 21 <u>security breach notification policy. The director shall make available</u> 22 <u>upon written request a copy of the contract between the department and</u> 23 <u>the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry pertaining to the</u> 24 <u>breach of security of the system provisions.</u>

25 (6) The department shall upon written request provide the most
 26 recently available audited financial report of the Nationwide Mortgage
 27 Licensing System and Registry.

(7) The director may use the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System
 and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting information from and
 distributing information to the United States Department of Justice or
 any other governmental agency in order to reduce the points of contact

which the Federal Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain for
 purposes of subsection (1) of this section.

3 (8) In order to promote more effective regulation and reduce the
4 regulatory burden through supervisory information sharing:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in this section, the requirements 5 6 under any federal or state law regarding the privacy or confidentiality 7 of any information or material provided to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, and any privilege arising under federal or 8 9 state law, including the rules of any federal or state court, with 10 respect to such information or material, shall continue to apply to such information or material after the information or material has been 11 12 disclosed to the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry. Such 13 information and material may be shared with all federal and state regulatory officials with mortgage industry oversight authority without 14 15 the loss of privilege or the loss of confidentiality protections provided by federal or state law; 16

17 (b) Information or material that is subject to a privilege or 18 confidentiality under subdivision (8)(a) of this section shall not be 19 subject to:

20 (i) Disclosure under any federal or state law governing the
 21 disclosure to the public of information held by an officer or an agency
 22 of the federal government or the respective state; or

(ii) Subpoena or discovery, or admission into evidence, in any
 private civil action or administrative process, unless with respect to
 any privilege held by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and
 Registry with respect to such information or material, the person to whom
 such information or material pertains waives, in whole or in part, in the
 discretion of such person, that privilege;

(c) Any state statute relating to the disclosure of confidential
 supervisory information or any information or material described in
 subdivision (1)(a) of this section that is inconsistent with such

subdivision shall be superseded by the requirements of this section; and (d) This section shall not apply with respect to the information or material relating to the employment history of, and publicly adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, applicants and licensees that is included in the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry for access by the public.

7 (9) For these purposes, the director is authorized to enter into 8 agreements or sharing arrangements with other governmental agencies, the 9 Conference of State Bank Supervisors, the American Association of 10 Residential Mortgage Regulators, or other associations representing 11 governmental agencies as established by adopting and promulgating rules 12 and regulations or an order of the director.

Sec. 48. <u>The director may adopt and promulgate rules and</u>
 regulations and issue orders, rulings, demands, and findings to carry out
 <u>the purposes of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act.</u>

16 Any person violating subsection (4) of section 45-345, Sec. 49. 17 section 23 of this act, section 45-356, or section 33 of this act is quilty of a Class II misdemeanor. If, in the making of, or collection on, 18 19 any loan contract, any act is done which constitutes a Class II misdemeanor under this section, that loan shall not be void, but the 20 21 licensee shall have no right to collect or receive any interest or 22 charges whatsoever. If any interest or other charges have been collected, 23 the licensee shall forfeit and refund to the borrower all interest and other charges collected on the loan involved and shall not collect 24 25 thereafter any interest or other charges contracted for and thereafter due on the loan involved, as liquidated damages, and the licensee or its 26 assignee, if found liable, shall pay the costs of any action relating 27 28 thereto, including reasonable attorney's fees. No licensee shall be found liable under this section if the licensee shows by a preponderance of the 29 30 evidence that the violation was not intentional and resulted from a bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of procedures reasonably 31

1 adopted to avoid any such error. 2 Sec. 50. Any violation of section 46 of this act, in connection with any loan transaction, however acquired, shall not render the 3 4 indebtedness, any interest, or other charges void or uncollectible. In an action, other than a class action, the borrower may recover from the 5 licensee violating section 46 of this act an award of liquidated damages 6 7 in an amount determined by the court, but not less than five hundred dollars nor more than one thousand dollars. In any legal action brought 8 9 pursuant to this section in which the licensee is found liable, the court 10 shall award costs and reasonable attorneys' fees to the borrower. A licensee is not liable under this section if the licensee notifies the 11 borrower of an error before the licensee receives from the borrower 12 13 written notice of the error or before the borrower has brought an action under this section and the licensee corrects the error within thirty days 14 15 after notifying the borrower. A licensee may not be held liable in any action brought under this section if the licensee shows by a 16 17 preponderance of evidence that the violation was not intentional and resulted from a bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance of 18 19 procedures reasonably adapted to avoid the error.

Sec. 51. Whenever the director has reasonable cause to believe that 20 21 any person is violating or is threatening to or intends to violate the 22 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act, the director may, in addition to any action provided in the act and without prejudice thereto, enter an 23 24 order requiring such person to cease and desist or to refrain from such 25 violation. An action may also be brought, on the relation of the Attorney General and the director, to enjoin such person from engaging in or 26 27 continuing such violation or from doing any act or acts in furtherance of 28 such violation. In any such action, an order or judgment may be entered awarding such preliminary or final injunction as may be deemed proper. In 29 30 addition to all other means provided by law for the enforcement of a restraining order or injunction, the court, in which such action is 31

brought, has power and jurisdiction to impound and appoint a receiver for 1 2 the property and business of the defendant, including books, papers, 3 documents, and records pertaining thereto or so much thereof as the court 4 may deem reasonably necessary to prevent violations of the Nebraska 5 Installment Loan and Sales Act through or by means of the use of such property and business. Such receiver, when so appointed and qualified, 6 7 has such powers and duties as to custody, collection, administration, winding up, and liquidation of such property and business as shall, from 8 9 time to time, be conferred upon the receiver by the court.

10 Sec. 52. (1) The department may order any person to cease and desist whenever the department determines that the person has violated 11 12 any provision of the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act. Upon entry 13 of a cease and desist order, the director shall promptly notify the affected person that such order has been entered, of the reasons for such 14 15 order, and that upon receipt, within fifteen business days after the date of the order, of written request from the affected person a hearing will 16 17 be scheduled within thirty business days after the date of receipt of the 18 written request unless the parties consent to a later date or the hearing 19 officer sets a later date for good cause. If a hearing is not requested and none is ordered by the director, the order shall remain in effect 20 21 until it is modified or vacated.

(2) The director may vacate or modify a cease and desist order if he
 or she finds that the conditions which caused its entry have changed or
 that it is otherwise in the public interest to do so.

25 (3) A person aggrieved by a cease and desist order of the director 26 may obtain judicial review of the order in the manner prescribed in the 27 Administrative Procedure Act and the rules and regulations adopted and 28 promulgated by the department under the act. The director may obtain an 29 order from the district court of Lancaster County for the enforcement of 30 the cease and desist order.

31 (4) A person who violates a cease and desist order of the director

1 may, after notice and hearing and upon further order of the director, be 2 subject to a penalty of not more than five thousand dollars for each act 3 in violation of the cease and desist order. The department shall remit 4 fines collected under this section to the State Treasurer for 5 distribution in accordance with Article VII, section 5, of the 6 Constitution of Nebraska.

(1) The director may, following a hearing under the 7 Sec. 53. Administrative Procedure Act, impose an administrative fine against any 8 9 officer, director, shareholder, partner, or member of a licensee, if the 10 director finds the licensee or any such person participated in or had knowledge of any act prohibited by the Nebraska Installment Loan and 11 Sales Act or otherwise violated the act. Such administrative fine shall 12 13 be in addition to or separate from any fine imposed against a licensee 14 pursuant to section 45-346.

15 (2) If the director finds, after notice and hearing in accordance 16 with the Administrative Procedure Act, that any person has knowingly 17 committed any act prohibited by section 46 of this act or otherwise 18 violated the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act or any rule and 19 regulation or order adopted thereunder, the director may order such 20 person to pay (a) an administrative fine of not more than five thousand 21 dollars for each separate violation and (b) the costs of investigation.

22 (3) If a person fails to pay an administrative fine and the costs of investigation ordered pursuant to this section, a lien in the amount of 23 24 such fine and costs may be imposed upon all assets and property of such 25 person in this state and may be recovered in a civil action by the director. The lien shall attach to the real property of such person when 26 27 notice of the lien is filed and indexed against the real property in the 28 office of the register of deeds in the county where the real property is located. The lien shall attach to any other property of such person when 29 30 notice of the lien is filed against the property in the manner prescribed by law. Failure of the person to pay such fine and costs shall constitute 31

1 <u>a separate violation of the act.</u>

2 (4) The department shall remit fines collected under this section to
3 the State Treasurer for distribution in accordance with Article VII,
4 section 5, of the Constitution of Nebraska.

5 Sec. 54. All original license fees, annual renewal fees, 6 investigation and examination fees, charges, and costs collected by or 7 paid to the department pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and 8 Sales Act shall be remitted to the State Treasurer for credit to the 9 Financial Institution Assessment Cash Fund and shall be available for the 10 uses and purposes of the fund.

Sec. 55. Section 45-702, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

13 45-702 For purposes of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act:

14 (1) Borrower means the mortgagor or mortgagors under a real estate15 mortgage or the trustor or trustors under a trust deed;

(2) Branch office means any location at which the business of a
mortgage banker or mortgage loan originator is to be conducted, including
(a) any offices physically located in Nebraska, (b) any offices that,
while not physically located in this state, intend to transact business
with Nebraska residents, and (c) any third-party or home-based locations
that mortgage loan originators, agents, and representatives intend to use
to transact business with Nebraska residents;

(3) Breach of security of the system means unauthorized acquisition
of data that compromises the security, confidentiality, or integrity of
the information maintained by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System
and Registry, its affiliates, or its subsidiaries;

(4) Clerical or support duties means tasks which occur subsequent to the receipt of a residential mortgage loan application including (a) the receipt, collection, distribution, and analysis of information common for the processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage loan or (b) communication with a consumer to obtain the information necessary for the

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processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage loan, to the extent that such communication does not include offering or negotiating loan rates or terms or counseling consumers about residential mortgage loan rates or terms;

5 (5) Control means the power, directly or indirectly, to direct the management or policies of a mortgage banking business, whether through 6 ownership of securities, by contract, or otherwise. Any person who (a) is 7 a director, a general partner, or an executive officer, including the 8 9 president, chief executive officer, chief financial officer, chief operating officer, chief legal officer, chief compliance officer, and any 10 individual with similar status and function, (b) directly or indirectly 11 has the right to vote ten percent or more of a class of voting security 12 13 or has the power to sell or direct the sale of ten percent or more of a class of voting securities, (c) in the case of a limited liability 14 15 company, is a managing member, or (d) in the case of a partnership, has the right to receive, upon dissolution, or has contributed, ten percent 16 17 or more of the capital, is presumed to control that mortgage banking 18 business;

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(6) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance;

(7) Depository institution means any person (a) organized or 20 chartered under the laws of this state, any other state, or the United 21 22 States relating to banks, savings institutions, trust companies, savings and loan associations, credit unions, or industrial banks or similar 23 24 depository institutions which the Board of Directors of the Federal 25 Deposit Insurance Corporation finds to be operating substantially in the same manner as an industrial bank and (b) engaged in the business of 26 27 receiving deposits other than funds held in a fiduciary capacity, 28 including, but not limited to, funds held as trustee, executor, administrator, guardian, or agent; 29

30 (8) Director means the Director of Banking and Finance;

31 (9) Dwelling means a residential structure located or intended to be

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1 located in this state that contains one to four units, whether or not 2 that structure is attached to real property, including an individual 3 condominium unit, cooperative unit, mobile home, or trailer, if it is 4 used as a residence;

5 (10) Federal banking agencies means the Board of Governors of the 6 Federal Reserve System, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, 7 the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, the National Credit Union 8 Administration, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation;

9 (11) Immediate family member means a spouse, child, sibling, parent,
10 grandparent, or grandchild, including stepparents, stepchildren,
11 stepsiblings, and adoptive relationships;

(12) Installment loan company means any person <u>that has been issued</u>
 <u>an installment loan license</u> <u>licensed</u> pursuant to the Nebraska Installment
 Loan <u>and Sales Act;</u>

15 (13) Licensee means any person licensed under the Residential 16 Mortgage Licensing Act as either a mortgage banker or mortgage loan 17 originator;

(14) Loan processor or underwriter means an individual who (a) 18 19 performs clerical or support duties as an employee at the direction of and subject to the supervision and instruction of a person licensed, or 20 exempt from licensing, under the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act or 21 22 Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act and (b) does not represent to the public, through advertising or other means of communicating or providing 23 24 information including the use of business cards, stationery, brochures, 25 signs, rate lists, or other promotional items, that such individual can or will perform any of the activities of a mortgage loan originator; 26

(15) Mortgage banker or mortgage banking business means any person
(a) other than (i) a person exempt under section 45-703, (ii) an
individual who is a loan processor or underwriter, or (iii) an individual
who is licensed in this state as a mortgage loan originator and (b) who,
for compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain,

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directly or indirectly makes, originates, services, negotiates, acquires,
 sells, arranges for, or offers to make, originate, service, negotiate,
 acquire, sell, or arrange for a residential mortgage loan;

4 (16)(a) Mortgage loan originator means an individual who for
5 compensation or gain or in the expectation of compensation or gain (i)
6 takes a residential mortgage loan application or (ii) offers or
7 negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan.

(b) Mortgage loan originator does not include (i) an individual 8 9 engaged solely as a loan processor or underwriter except as otherwise provided in section 45-727, (ii) a person or entity that only performs 10 real estate brokerage activities and is licensed or registered in 11 accordance with Nebraska law, unless the person or entity is compensated 12 by a lender, a mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by 13 any agent of such lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan 14 originator, and (iii) a person solely involved in extensions of credit 15 relating to time-share programs as defined in section 76-1702; 16

17 (17) Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry means a licensing system developed and maintained by the Conference of State Bank 18 19 Supervisors and the American Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators for licensing and registration of mortgage 20 the loan originators, mortgage bankers, installment loan companies, and other 21 22 state-regulated financial services entities and industries;

(18) Nontraditional mortgage product means any residential mortgage
loan product other than a thirty-year fixed rate residential mortgage
loan;

(19) Offer means every attempt to provide, offer to provide, or solicitation to provide a residential mortgage loan or any form of mortgage banking business. Offer includes, but is not limited to, all general and public advertising, whether made in print, through electronic media, or by the Internet;

31 (20) Person means an association, joint venture, joint-stock

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company, partnership, limited partnership, limited liability company,
 business corporation, nonprofit corporation, individual, or any group of
 individuals however organized;

4 (21) Purchase-money mortgage means a mortgage issued to the borrower
5 by the seller of the property as part of the purchase transaction;

6 (22) Real estate brokerage activity means any activity that involves 7 offering or providing real estate brokerage services to the public, 8 including (a) acting as a real estate salesperson or real estate broker 9 for a buyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property, (b) bringing together parties interested in the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or 10 exchange of real property, (c) negotiating, on behalf of any party, any 11 12 portion of a contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property, other than in connection with providing 13 financing with respect to any such transaction, (d) engaging in any 14 activity for which a person engaged in the activity is required to be 15 16 registered or licensed as a real estate salesperson or real estate broker 17 under any applicable law, and (e) offering to engage in any activity or act in any capacity described in subdivision (a), (b), (c), or (d) of 18 19 this subdivision;

(23) Registered bank holding company means any bank holding company
registered with the department pursuant to the Nebraska Bank Holding
Company Act of 1995;

23 (24) Registered mortgage loan originator means any individual who 24 (a) meets the definition of mortgage loan originator and is an employee of (i) a depository institution, (ii) a subsidiary that is (A) wholly 25 owned and controlled by a depository institution and (B) regulated by a 26 federal banking agency, or (iii) an institution regulated by the Farm 27 28 Credit Administration and (b) is registered with, and maintains a unique 29 identifier through, the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and 30 Registry;

31 (25) Registrant means a person registered pursuant to section

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1 45-704;

2 (26) Residential mortgage loan means any loan or extension of 3 credit, including a refinancing of a contract of sale or an assumption or 4 refinancing of a prior loan or extension of credit, which is primarily 5 for personal, family, or household use and is secured by a mortgage, 6 trust deed, or other equivalent consensual security interest on a 7 dwelling or residential real estate upon which is constructed or intended 8 to be constructed a dwelling;

9 (27) Residential real estate means any real property located in this 10 state upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling; (28) Reverse-mortgage loan means a loan made by a licensee which (a) 11 is secured by residential real estate, (b) is nonrecourse to the borrower 12 13 except in the event of fraud by the borrower or waste to the residential real estate given as security for the loan, (c) provides cash advances to 14 the borrower based upon the equity in the borrower's owner-occupied 15 principal residence, (d) requires no payment of principal or interest 16 until the entire loan becomes due and payable, and (e) otherwise complies 17 with the terms of section 45-702.01; 18

(29) Service means accepting payments or maintenance of escrow
 accounts in the regular course of business in connection with a
 residential mortgage loan;

(30) State means any state of the United States, the District of
Columbia, any territory of the United States, Puerto Rico, Guam, American
Samoa, the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Virgin Islands, or
the Northern Mariana Islands; and

(31) Unique identifier means a number or other identifier assigned
by protocols established by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and
Registry.

29 Sec. 56. Section 45-703, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 30 amended to read:

31 45-703 (1) Except as provided in section 45-704, the following shall

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1 be exempt from the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act:

(a) Any depository institution or wholly owned subsidiary thereof;

3 (b) Any registered bank holding company;

4 (c) Any insurance company that is subject to regulation by the 5 Department of Insurance and is either (i) organized or chartered under 6 the laws of Nebraska or (ii) organized or chartered under the laws of any 7 other state if such insurance company has a place of business in 8 Nebraska;

9 (d) Any person licensed to practice law in this state in connection 10 with activities that are (i) considered the practice of law by the 11 Supreme Court, (ii) carried out within an attorney-client relationship, 12 and (iii) accomplished by the attorney in compliance with all applicable 13 laws, rules, ethics, and standards;

(e) Any person licensed in this state as a real estate broker or 14 real estate salesperson pursuant to section 81-885.02 who is engaging in 15 16 real estate brokerage activities unless such person is compensated by a 17 lender, a mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator; 18 19 (f) Any registered mortgage loan originator when acting for an entity described in subdivision (24)(a)(i), (ii), or (iii) of section 20 21 45-702;

(g) Any sales finance company licensed pursuant to the Nebraska Installment Loan and Sales Act if such sales finance company does not engage in mortgage banking business in any capacity other than as a purchaser or servicer of an installment <u>sales</u> contract, as defined in section 45-335, which is secured by a mobile home or trailer;

(h) Any trust company chartered pursuant to the Nebraska TrustCompany Act;

(i) Any wholly owned subsidiary of an organization listed in
subdivisions (b) and (c) of this subsection if the listed organization
maintains a place of business in Nebraska;

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(j) Any individual who offers or negotiates terms of a residential
 mortgage loan with or on behalf of an immediate family member of the
 individual;

4 (k) Any individual who does not repetitively and habitually engage 5 in the business of a mortgage banker, a mortgage loan originator, or a 6 loan processor or underwriter, either inside or outside of this state, 7 who (i) makes a residential mortgage loan with his or her own funds for 8 his or her own investment, (ii) makes a purchase-money mortgage, or (iii) 9 finances the sale of a dwelling or residential real estate owned by such 10 individual without the intent to resell the residential mortgage loan;

(1) Any employee or independent agent of a mortgage banker licensed or registered pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act or exempt from the act if such employee or independent agent does not conduct the activities of a mortgage loan originator or loan processor or underwriter;

(m) The United States of America; the State of Nebraska; any other
state, district, territory, commonwealth, or possession of the United
States of America; any city, county, or other political subdivision; and
any agency or division of any of the foregoing;

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(n) The Nebraska Investment Finance Authority;

(o) Any individual who is an employee of an entity described in
subdivision (m) or (n) of this subsection and who acts as a mortgage loan
originator or loan processor or underwriter only pursuant to his or her
official duties as an employee of such entity;

(p) A bona fide nonprofit organization which has received a
certificate of exemption pursuant to section 45-703.01; and

(q) Any employee of a bona fide nonprofit organization which has received a certificate of exemption pursuant to section 45-703.01 if such employee acts as a mortgage loan originator or mortgage loan processor or underwriter (i) only with respect to his or her work duties for the nonprofit organization and (ii) only with respect to residential mortgage

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1 loans with terms that are favorable to the borrower.

2 (2) It shall not be necessary to negate any of the exemptions 3 provided in this section in any complaint, information, indictment, or 4 other writ or proceedings brought under the Residential Mortgage 5 Licensing Act, and the burden of establishing the right to any exemption 6 shall be upon the person claiming the benefit of such exemption.

Sec. 57. Section 45-705, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is
amended to read:

9 45-705 (1) No person shall act as a mortgage banker or use the title 10 mortgage banker in this state unless he, she, or it is licensed as a 11 mortgage banker, is registered with the department as provided in section 12 45-704, is licensed <u>as an installment loan company</u> under the Nebraska 13 Installment Loan <u>and Sales Act</u>, or is otherwise exempt from the act 14 pursuant to section 45-703.

(2) Applicants for a license as a mortgage banker shall submit to 15 16 the department an application on a form prescribed by the department. The 17 application shall include, but not be limited to, (a) the applicant's corporate name and no more than one trade name or doing business as 18 designation which the applicant intends to use in this state, if 19 applicable, (b) the applicant's main office address, (c) all branch 20 office addresses at which business is to be conducted, (d) the names and 21 22 titles of each director and principal officer of the applicant, (e) the names of all shareholders, partners, or members of the applicant, (f) a 23 24 description of the activities of the applicant in such detail as the 25 department may require, (g) if the applicant is an individual, his or her social security number, and (h) fingerprints of any principal officer, 26 director, partner, member, or sole proprietor for submission to the 27 28 Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for a state, national, and 29 international criminal history record information check. 30

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(3) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall include

1 or be accompanied by, in a manner as prescribed by the director, (a) the 2 name and street address in this state of a registered agent appointed by 3 the licensee for receipt of service of process and (b) the written 4 consent of the registered agent to the appointment. A post office box 5 number may be provided in addition to the street address.

6 (4) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall be 7 accompanied by an application fee of four hundred dollars and, if 8 applicable, a seventy-five-dollar fee for each branch office listed in 9 the application and any processing fee allowed under subsection (2) of 10 section 45-748.

(5) The application for a license as a mortgage banker shall include 11 or be accompanied by, in a manner as prescribed by the director, a 12 background investigation of each applicant by means of fingerprints and a 13 check of his or her criminal history record information maintained by the 14 Federal Bureau of Investigation through the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing 15 System and Registry. If the applicant is a partnership, association, 16 17 corporation, or other form of business organization, the director shall require a criminal history record information check on each member, 18 director, or principal officer of each applicant or any individual acting 19 in the capacity of the manager of an office location. Fingerprints of any 20 principal officer, director, partner, member, or sole proprietor shall be 21 submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any other 22 23 governmental agency or entity authorized to receive such information for 24 a state, national, and international criminal history record information 25 check. The applicant shall be responsible for the direct costs associated criminal history record information checks performed. 26 with The information obtained thereby may be used by the director to determine the 27 applicant's eligibility for licensing under this section. Except as 28 authorized pursuant to subsection (2) of section 45-748, receipt of 29 criminal history record information by a private person or entity is 30 31 prohibited.

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1 (6) In order to reduce the points of contact which the Federal 2 Bureau of Investigation may have to maintain for purposes of subsection 3 (5) of this section, the director may use the Nationwide Mortgage 4 Licensing System and Registry as a channeling agent for requesting 5 information from and distributing information to the United States 6 Department of Justice or any other governmental agency.

7 (7) A license as a mortgage banker granted under the Residential
8 Mortgage Licensing Act shall not be assignable.

9 (8) An application is deemed filed when accepted as substantially10 complete by the director.

Sec. 58. Section 45-729, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

45-729 (1) The director shall not issue a mortgage loan originator
 license unless the director makes at a minimum the following findings:

(a) The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator license
revoked in any governmental jurisdiction, except that a subsequent formal
vacation of such revocation shall not be deemed a revocation;

(b) The applicant has not been convicted of, or pleaded guilty or
 nolo contendere or its equivalent to, in a domestic, foreign, or military
 court:

(i) A misdemeanor under any state or federal law which involves 21 dishonesty or fraud or which involves any aspect of the business of a 22 23 mortgage banker, depository institution, or installment loan company 24 unless such individual has received a pardon for such conviction or such conviction has been expunged, except that the director may consider the 25 underlying crime, facts, and circumstances of a pardoned or expunged 26 conviction in determining the applicant's eligibility for a license 27 pursuant to subdivision (c) of this subsection; or 28

(ii) Any felony under state or federal law unless such individual
has received a pardon for such conviction or such conviction has been
expunged, except that the director may consider the underlying crime,

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1 facts, and circumstances of a pardoned or expunged conviction in 2 determining the applicant's eligibility for a license pursuant to 3 subdivision (c) of this subsection;

4 (c) The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, 5 character, and general fitness such as to command the confidence of the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan 6 7 originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act. For purposes of this 8 9 subsection, an individual has shown that he or she is not financially responsible when he or she has shown a disregard in the management of his 10 or her own financial condition. The director may consider the following 11 factors in making a determination as to financial responsibility: 12

13 (i) The applicant's current outstanding judgments except judgments14 solely as a result of medical expenses;

15 (ii) The applicant's current outstanding tax liens or other16 government liens and filings;

17 (iii) The applicant's foreclosures within the past three years; and

18 (iv) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within the past19 three years by the applicant;

20 (d) The applicant has completed the prelicensing education
21 requirements described in section 45-730;

(e) The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test
 requirement described in section 45-731; and

(f) The applicant is covered by a surety bond as required pursuant
to section 45-724 or a supplemental surety bond as required pursuant to
section 45-338 45-1007.

(2)(a) If the director determines that a mortgage loan originator
license application should be denied, the director shall notify the
applicant in writing of the denial and of the reasons for the denial.

30 (b) The director shall not deny an application for a mortgage loan31 originator license because of the failure to submit information required

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1 under the act or rules and regulations adopted and promulgated under the 2 act without first giving the applicant an opportunity to correct the deficiency by supplying the missing information. 3

4 (c) If an applicant for a mortgage loan originator license does not 5 complete his or her license application and fails to respond to a notice or notices from the department to correct the deficiency or deficiencies 6 for a period of one hundred twenty days or more after the date the 7 department sends the initial notice after initial filing of 8 the 9 application, the department may deem the application as abandoned and may issue a notice of abandonment of the application to the applicant in lieu 10 of proceedings to deny the application. 11

(d) A decision of the director denying a mortgage loan originator 12 13 license application pursuant to the Residential Mortgage Licensing Act appealed. appeal shall be in accordance 14 may be The with the Administrative Procedure Act and rules and regulations adopted and 15 promulgated by the department. 16

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(3) A mortgage loan originator license shall not be assignable.

Sec. 59. Section 45-734, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 18 19 amended to read:

45-734 (1) A mortgage loan originator whose license is placed on 20 inactive status under this section shall not act as a mortgage loan 21 originator in this state until such time as the license is reactivated. 22

23 (2) The department shall place a mortgage loan originator license on 24 inactive status upon the occurrence of one of the following:

(a) Upon receipt of a notice from either the licensed mortgage 25 banker, registrant, installment loan company, or mortgage loan originator 26 that the mortgage loan originator's relationship as an employee or 27 28 independent agent of a licensed mortgage banker or installment loan company has been terminated; 29

(b) Upon the cancellation of the employing licensed mortgage 30 31 banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the cancellation of

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the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to <u>subsection</u> <u>(5)</u> subdivision (3)(b) of section <u>45-338</u> 4<u>5-1033</u> for failure to maintain the required surety bond;

4 (c) Upon the voluntary surrender of the employing licensed mortgage
5 banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the voluntary
6 surrender of the employing installment loan company's license pursuant to
7 section 45-341 45-1032;

8 (d) Upon the expiration of the employing licensed mortgage banker's 9 license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the expiration of the 10 employing installment loan company's license pursuant to <u>subsection (3)</u> 11 <u>subdivision (3)(a)</u> of section <u>45-340</u> <del>45-1033</del> if such mortgage loan 12 originator has renewed his or her license pursuant to section 45-732;

13 (e) Upon the revocation or suspension of the employing licensed 14 mortgage banker's license pursuant to section 45-742 or upon the 15 revocation or suspension of the employing installment loan company's 16 license pursuant to subsection (2) (1) of section 45-341 45-1033; or

(f) Upon the cancellation, surrender, or expiration of the employingregistrant's registration with the department.

(3) If a mortgage loan originator license becomes inactive under this section, the license shall remain inactive until the license expires, the licenseholder surrenders the license, the license is revoked or suspended pursuant to section 45-742, or the license is reactivated.

(4) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, a mortgage loan originator who holds an inactive mortgage loan originator license may renew such inactive license if he or she remains otherwise eligible for renewal pursuant to section 45-732 except for being covered by a surety bond pursuant to subdivision (1)(f) of section 45-729. Such renewal shall not reactivate the license.

(5) A mortgage loan originator who holds an inactive mortgage loan
originator license that has been renewed one time may not renew such
inactive license for a second annual licensing period unless (a) the

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inactive license was reactivated after such inactive license was renewed or (b) the mortgage loan originator demonstrates good cause to the director to allow renewal of the inactive license for an additional annual licensing period.

5 (6) The department has the authority to reactivate a mortgage loan originator license upon receipt of a notice pursuant to section 45-735 6 7 that the mortgage loan originator licensee has been hired as a mortgage loan originator by a licensed mortgage banker, registrant, or installment 8 9 loan company and if such mortgage loan originator meets the conditions 10 for licensing at the time the reactivation notice is received, including, but not limited to, coverage by a surety bond pursuant to subdivision (1) 11 (f) of section 45-729. 12

13 Sec. 60. Section 45-804, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is 14 amended to read:

45-804 A credit services organization, a salesperson, an agent, or a representative of a credit services organization, or an independent contractor who sells or attempts to sell the services of a credit services organization shall not:

(1) Charge a buyer or receive from a buyer money or other valuable consideration before completing performance of all services, other than those described in subdivision (2) of this section, which the credit services organization has agreed to perform for the buyer unless the credit services organization has obtained a surety bond or established and maintained a surety account as provided in section 45-805;

(2) Charge a buyer or receive from a buyer money or other valuable
consideration for obtaining or attempting to obtain an extension of
credit that the credit services organization has agreed to obtain for the
buyer before the extension of credit is obtained;

(3) Charge a buyer or receive from a buyer money or other valuable
consideration solely for referral of the buyer to a retail seller who
will or may extend credit to the buyer if the credit that is or will be

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extended to the buyer is substantially the same as that available to the
 general public;

3 (4) Make or use a false or misleading representation in the offer or sale of the services of a credit services organization, including (a) 4 5 guaranteeing to erase bad credit or words to that effect unless the representation clearly discloses that this can be done only if the credit 6 7 history is inaccurate or obsolete and (b) guaranteeing an extension of credit regardless of the person's previous credit problem or credit 8 9 history unless the representation clearly discloses the eligibility requirements for obtaining an extension of credit; 10

(5) Engage, directly or indirectly, in a fraudulent or deceptive
act, practice, or course of business in connection with the offer or sale
of the services of a credit services organization;

14 (6) Make or advise a buyer to make a statement with respect to a 15 buyer's credit worthiness, credit standing, or credit capacity that is 16 false or misleading or that should be known by the exercise of reasonable 17 care to be false or misleading to a consumer reporting agency or to a 18 person who has extended credit to a buyer or to whom a buyer is applying 19 for an extension of credit;

(7) Advertise or cause to be advertised, in any manner whatsoever,
the services of a credit services organization without filing a
registration statement with the Secretary of State under section 45-806
unless otherwise provided by the Credit Services Organization Act; or

(8) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, charge any brokerage
fees or any other fees or charges whatsoever in connection with a loan
governed by the Nebraska Installment Loan <u>and Sales Act</u>.

27 Sec. 61. Section 69-2103, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,28 2024, is amended to read:

69-2103 For purposes of the Consumer Rental Purchase Agreement Act:
(1) Advertisement means a commercial message in any medium that
aids, promotes, or assists directly or indirectly a consumer rental

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purchase agreement but does not include in-store merchandising aids such
 as window signs and ceiling banners;

3 (2) Cash price means the price at which the lessor would have sold
4 the property to the consumer for cash on the date of the consumer rental
5 purchase agreement for the property;

6 (3) Consumer means a natural person who rents property under a
7 consumer rental purchase agreement;

8 (4) Consumer rental purchase agreement means an agreement which is 9 for the use of property by a consumer primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, which is for an initial period of four months or 10 less, whether or not there is any obligation beyond the initial period, 11 which is automatically renewable with each payment, and which permits the 12 consumer to become the owner of the property. A consumer rental purchase 13 14 agreement in compliance with the act shall not be construed to be a lease or agreement which constitutes a credit sale as defined in 12 C.F.R. 15 1026.2(a)(16), as such regulation existed on January 1, 2024, and 15 16 17 U.S.C. 1602(h), as such section existed on January 1, 2024, or a lease which constitutes a consumer lease as defined in 12 C.F.R. 1013.2, as 18 such regulation existed on January 1, 2024. Consumer rental purchase 19 agreement does not include: 20

21 (a) Any lease for agricultural, business, or commercial purposes;

22 (b) Any lease made to an organization;

(c) A lease or agreement which constitutes an installment sale or
 installment <u>sales</u> contract as defined in section 45-335;

(d) A security interest as defined in subdivision (35) of section
1-201, Uniform Commercial Code; and

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(e) A home solicitation sale as defined in section 69-1601;

(5) Consummation means the occurrence of an event which causes a
 consumer to become contractually obligated on a consumer rental purchase
 agreement;

31 (6) Department means the Department of Banking and Finance;

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1 (7) Lease payment means a payment to be made by the consumer for the 2 right of possession and use of the property for a specific lease period 3 but does not include taxes imposed on such payment;

4 (8) Lease period means a week, month, or other specific period of
5 time, during which the consumer has the right to possess and use the
6 property after paying the lease payment and applicable taxes for such
7 period;

8 (9) Lessor means a person who in the ordinary course of business 9 operates a commercial outlet which regularly leases, offers to lease, or 10 arranges for the leasing of property under a consumer rental purchase 11 agreement;

(10) Property means any property that is not real property under the
laws of this state when made available for a consumer rental purchase
agreement; and

(11) Total of payments to acquire ownership means the total of all 15 charges imposed by the lessor and payable by the consumer as a condition 16 17 of acquiring ownership of the property. Total of payments to acquire payments and any initial nonrefundable 18 ownership includes lease 19 administrative fee or required delivery charge but does not include taxes, late charges, reinstatement fees, or charges for optional products 20 21 or services.

Sec. 62. Section 76-2711, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is amended to read:

76-2711 Homeowner means the owner of a residence in foreclosure,
including a vendee under a contract for deed to real property as defined
in section 45-335 45-1002.

27 Sec. 63. This act becomes operative on October 1, 2025.

Sec. 64. Original sections 8-319, 8-330, 8-601, 8-820.01, 44-1703,
45-101.04, 45-1,110, 45-334, 45-335, 45-336, 45-337, 45-338, 45-339,
45-340, 45-341, 45-342, 45-343, 45-344, 45-345, 45-347, 45-348, 45-350,
45-351, 45-352, 45-353, 45-355, 45-356, 45-702, 45-703, 45-705, 45-729,

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45-734, 45-804, and 76-2711, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and
 sections 45-346, 45-354, and 69-2103, Revised Statutes Cumulative
 Supplement, 2024, are repealed.

The following sections are outright repealed: Sections 4 Sec. 65. 45-351.01, 45-1001, 45-1004, 45-1007, 45-1008, 45-1009, 45-1010, 45-1011, 5 45-1012, 45-1013, 45-1014, 45-1015, 45-1016, 45-1017, 45-1019, 45-1020, 6 45-1021, 45-1022, 45-1023, 45-1024, 45-1025, 45-1026, 45-1027, 45-1028, 7 8 45-1029, 45-1030, 45-1031, 45-1032, 45-1033, 45-1033.02, 45-1034, 45-1035, 45-1036, 45-1037, 45-1038, 45-1039, 45-1040, 45-1041, 45-1042, 9 45-1043, 45-1044, 45-1045, 45-1046, 45-1047, 45-1048, 45-1049, 45-1050, 10 45-1051, 45-1052, 45-1053, 45-1054, 45-1055, 45-1056, 45-1057, 45-1058, 11 45-1059, 45-1060, 45-1061, 45-1062, 45-1063, 45-1064, 45-1065, 45-1066, 12 45-1067, 45-1068, 45-1069, and 45-1070, Reissue Revised Statutes of 13 Nebraska, and sections 45-346.01, 45-1002, 45-1003, 45-1005, 45-1006, 14 45-1018, and 45-1033.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement, 2024. 15

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