
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO SPECIAL PURPOSE DIGITAL CURRENCY LICENSURE.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that digital currency is
2 an asset that is primarily managed or stored electronically.
3 Digital currencies refer to digital currency, cryptocurrency, e-
4 money, network money, e-cash, and others as defined by various
5 governmental jurisdictions. Digital currency may be recorded on
6 a decentralized ledger on the internet or a centralized database
7 or ledger system owned by a company.

8 Digital currencies do not have physical form like banknotes
9 or minted coins. Digital currencies are also not commonly
10 issued by a governmental body and are generally not considered
11 legal tender.

12 Although digital currency has grown in popularity and
13 acceptance worldwide, there is little regulation of the industry
14 in the United States, with a few states treating digital
15 currency activities as within the scope of money transmitter
16 laws. The legislature further finds that the division of
17 financial institutions of the department of commerce and



1 consumer affairs and the Hawaii technology development
2 corporation are currently conducting a two-year sandbox pilot
3 program to study digital currency transactions, the digital
4 currency innovation lab program. This study allows companies to
5 conduct digital currency transactions without obtaining a money
6 transmitter license while the division of financial institutions
7 evaluates the need for a more permanent and comprehensive
8 oversight.

9 The data gathered through the digital currency innovation
10 lab program confirmed that digital currency transactions are not
11 best regulated through existing money transmitter laws and that
12 a new regulatory framework is appropriate.

13 The purpose of this Act is to establish a licensing program
14 for special purpose digital currency companies that will replace
15 the digital currency innovation lab but allow any company
16 participating in the digital currency innovation lab on June 30,
17 2022, to continue operations if a complete licensure application
18 is submitted to the division of financial institutions by
19 March 1, 2023.



1 SECTION 2. The Hawaii Revised Statutes is amended by
2 adding a new chapter to title 22, to be appropriately designated
3 and to read as follows:

4 **"CHAPTER**

5 **SPECIAL PURPOSE DIGITAL CURRENCY LICENSING ACT**

6 **PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

7 § -1 **Definitions.** As used in this chapter, unless the
8 context otherwise requires:

9 "Commissioner" means the commissioner of financial
10 institutions.

11 "Consumer" means a natural person who engages in a
12 transaction that is primarily for that natural person's
13 personal, family, or household purposes.

14 "Control of digital currency" means, when used in reference
15 to a transaction or relationship involving digital currency, the
16 power to execute unilaterally or prevent indefinitely a digital
17 currency transaction.

18 "Department" means the department of commerce and consumer
19 affairs.

20 "Digital currency" means any type of digital unit that is
21 used as a medium of exchange or a form of digitally stored



1 value. "Digital currency" includes digital units of exchange
2 that:

- 3 (1) Have a centralized repository or administrator;
- 4 (2) Are decentralized and have no centralized repository
5 or administrator; or
- 6 (3) May be created or obtained by computing or
7 manufacturing effort.

8 "Digital currency" does not include any of the following:

- 9 (1) Digital units that:
 - 10 (A) Are used solely within online gaming platforms;
 - 11 (B) Have no market or application outside of online
12 gaming platforms; and
 - 13 (C) Cannot be converted into or redeemed for fiat
14 currency or digital currency;
- 15 (2) Digital units that can be redeemed for goods,
16 services, discounts, or purchases as part of a
17 customer affinity or rewards program with the issuer
18 or other designated merchants, or can be redeemed for
19 digital units in another customer affinity or rewards
20 program, but cannot be converted into or redeemed for
21 fiat currency or digital currency; or



1 (3) Digital units used as part of prepaid cards.

2 "Digital currency administration" means issuing digital
3 currency with the authority to redeem the currency for money,
4 bank credit, or other digital currency.

5 "Digital currency business activity" means:

6 (1) Exchanging, transferring, or storing digital currency
7 or engaging in digital currency administration,
8 whether directly or through an agreement with a
9 digital currency control-services vendor;

10 (2) Holding electronic certificates representing interests
11 in a thing of value on behalf of another person or
12 issuing shares;

13 (3) Exchanging one or more digital representations of
14 value used within one or more online games, game
15 platforms, or family of games for:

16 (A) Digital currency offered by or on behalf of the
17 same publisher from which the original digital
18 representation of value was received; or

19 (B) Money or bank credit outside the online game,
20 game platform, or family of games offered by or
21 on behalf of the same publisher from which the



1 original digital representation of value was
2 received;

3 (4) Storing, holding, or maintaining custody or control of
4 digital currency on behalf of others;

5 (5) Buying and selling digital currency as a business;

6 (6) Performing exchange services as a business; or

7 (7) Controlling, administering, or issuing a digital
8 currency.

9 "Digital currency control-services vendor" means a person
10 who has control of digital currency solely under an agreement
11 with a person who, on behalf of another person, assumes control
12 of digital currency.

13 "Division" means the division of financial institutions of
14 the department of commerce and consumer affairs.

15 "Elder" means a person who is sixty-two years of age or
16 older.

17 "Exchange" means the conversion or change of fiat currency
18 or other value into digital currency, conversion or change of
19 digital currency into fiat currency or other value, or
20 conversion or change of one form of digital currency into
21 another form of digital currency.



1 "Licensee" means a person who is licensed or required to be
2 licensed under this chapter.

3 "NMLS" means a multi-state licensing system developed and
4 maintained by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors for the
5 state licensing and registration of state-licensed financial
6 services providers.

7 "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship,
8 partnership, corporation, limited liability company, limited
9 liability partnership, or other association of individuals,
10 however organized.

11 "Special purpose digital currency company" means a person
12 who holds a special purpose digital currency license under this
13 chapter.

14 "Stored value" means monetary value that is evidenced by an
15 electronic record.

16 "Tangible net worth" means total assets excluding
17 intangible assets, less total liabilities, in accordance with
18 United States Generally Accepted Accounting Principles.

19 "Transfer" means to assume control of digital currency from
20 or on behalf of a person and to:



1 (1) Credit the digital currency to the account of another
2 person;

3 (2) Move the digital currency from one account of a person
4 to another account of the same person; or

5 (3) Relinquish control of digital currency to another
6 person.

7 "United States dollar equivalent of digital currency" means
8 the equivalent value of a particular digital currency in United
9 States dollars shown on a digital currency exchange based in the
10 United States for a particular date or specified period.

11 § -2 **Exclusions.** This chapter shall not apply to:

12 (1) The exchange, transfer, or storage of digital currency
13 or to digital currency administration to the extent
14 regulated by the Electronic Fund Transfer Act of 1978
15 (15 U.S.C. sections 1693 through 1693r), Securities
16 Exchange Act of 1934 (15 U.S.C. sections 78a through
17 78oo), or Commodity Exchange Act (7 U.S.C. sections 1
18 through 27f);

19 (2) Activity by a person that:

20 (A) Contributes only connectivity software or
21 computing power to a decentralized digital



1 currency or to a protocol governing transfer of
2 the digital representation of value;

3 (B) Provides only data storage or security services
4 for a business engaged in digital currency
5 business activity and does not otherwise engage
6 in digital currency business activity on behalf
7 of another person; or

8 (C) Provides only to a person, who is otherwise
9 exempt from this chapter, digital currency as one
10 or more enterprise solutions used solely among
11 each other and has no agreement or relationship
12 with a person that is an end-user of digital
13 currency;

14 (3) A person using digital currency, including creating,
15 investing, buying or selling, or obtaining digital
16 currency as payment for the purchase or sale of goods
17 or services, solely for academic purposes;

18 (4) A person whose digital currency business activity with
19 or on behalf of persons is reasonably expected to be
20 valued, in the aggregate, on an annual basis at \$5,000



- 1 or less, measured by the United States dollar
2 equivalent of digital currency;
- 3 (5) An attorney to the extent of providing escrow services
4 to a person;
- 5 (6) A securities intermediary, as defined in section
6 490:8-102, or a commodity intermediary, as defined in
7 section 490:9-102;
- 8 (7) A digital currency control services vendor;
- 9 (8) A person that:
- 10 (A) Does not receive compensation from a person for:
- 11 (i) Providing digital currency products or
12 services; or
- 13 (ii) Conducting digital currency business
14 activity; or
- 15 (B) Is engaged in testing products or services with
16 the person's own funds or digital currency; or
- 17 (9) A financial institution chartered or licensed by
18 chapter 412.
- 19 The commissioner may determine whether a person or class of
20 persons shall be exempt from this chapter.



1 § **-3 Powers of commissioner.** In addition to any other
2 powers provided by law, the commissioner may:

3 (1) Adopt rules pursuant to chapter 91 as the commissioner
4 deems necessary for the administration of this
5 chapter;

6 (2) Issue declaratory rulings or informal nonbinding
7 interpretations;

8 (3) Investigate and conduct hearings regarding any
9 violation of this chapter or any rule or order of, or
10 agreement with, the commissioner;

11 (4) Create fact-finding committees that may make
12 recommendations to the commissioner for the
13 commissioner's deliberations;

14 (5) Require an applicant or any of its control persons,
15 executive officers, directors, general partners, and
16 managing members to disclose their relevant criminal
17 history and request a criminal history record check to
18 be conducted by or through NMLS or pursuant to chapter
19 846. The information shall be accompanied by the
20 appropriate payment of the applicable fee for each
21 criminal history record check;



- 1 (6) Contract with or employ qualified persons, including
2 accountants, attorneys, investigators, examiners,
3 auditors, or other professionals who may be exempt
4 from chapter 76 and who shall assist the commissioner
5 in exercising the commissioner's powers and duties;
- 6 (7) Process and investigate complaints, subpoena witnesses
7 and documents, administer oaths, and receive
8 affidavits and oral testimony, including telephonic
9 communications, and do anything necessary or
10 incidental to the exercise of the commissioner's power
11 and duties, including the authority to conduct
12 contested case proceedings under chapter 91;
- 13 (8) Require a licensee to comply with any rule, guidance,
14 guideline, statement, supervisory policy or any
15 similar proclamation issued or adopted by the Federal
16 Deposit Insurance Corporation to the same extent and
17 in the same manner as a bank chartered by the State or
18 any policy position of the Conference of State Bank
19 Supervisors;
- 20 (9) Enter into agreements or relationships with other
21 government officials or regulatory associations to



1 improve efficiencies and reduce regulatory burden by
2 sharing resources, standardized or uniform methods or
3 procedures, and documents, records, information, or
4 evidence obtained under this chapter;

5 (10) Use, hire, contract, or employ public or privately
6 available analytical systems, methods, or software to
7 investigate or examine a licensee or person subject to
8 this chapter;

9 (11) Accept and rely on investigation or examination
10 reports made by other government officials, within or
11 without the State;

12 (12) Accept audit reports made by an independent certified
13 public accountant for the licensee or person subject
14 to this chapter during that part of the examination
15 covering the same general subject matter as the audit
16 and may incorporate the audit report in the report of
17 the examination, report of investigation, or other
18 writing of the commissioner; and

19 (13) Enter into agreements with, hire, retain, or contract
20 with private and governmental entities to develop and



1 create educational programs relating to special
2 purpose digital currency.

3 § -4 **License required.** (a) A person shall not engage
4 in digital currency business activity, or hold itself out as
5 being able to engage in digital currency business activity, with
6 or on behalf of a person unless the person is:

7 (1) Licensed in the State under this chapter; or

8 (2) Excluded from licensing under section -2.

9 (b) Any transaction made in violation of this section is
10 void, and no person shall have the right to collect, receive, or
11 retain any principal, interest, fees, or other charges in
12 connection with the transaction.

13 § -5 **Payment of fees.** All fees, fines, penalties, and
14 other charges collected pursuant to this chapter or by rule
15 shall be deposited with the director of commerce and consumer
16 affairs to the credit of the compliance resolution fund
17 established pursuant to section 26-9(o). Payments shall be made
18 through NMLS, to the extent allowed by NMLS.

19 **PART II. LICENSING**

20 § -6 **License; application; issuance.** (a) The
21 commissioner shall require all licensees to register with NMLS.



1 (b) Applicants for a license shall apply in a form as
2 prescribed by NMLS or by the commissioner. The application
3 shall contain, at a minimum, the following information:

4 (1) The legal name, trade names, and business address of:

5 (A) The applicant; and

6 (B) Every member, officer, principal, or director, if
7 the applicant is a partnership, association,
8 limited liability company, limited liability
9 partnership, or corporation;

10 (2) The principal place of business located in the United
11 States;

12 (3) The complete address of any other branch offices at
13 which the applicant currently proposes to engage in
14 digital currency business activity; and

15 (4) Other data, financial statements, and pertinent
16 information as the commissioner may require with
17 respect to the applicant or, if an applicant is not an
18 individual, each of the applicant's control persons,
19 executive officers, directors, general partners, and
20 managing members.



1 (c) To fulfill the purposes of this chapter, the
2 commissioner may enter into agreements or contracts with NMLS or
3 other entities to use NMLS to collect and maintain records and
4 process transaction fees or other fees related to licensees or
5 other persons subject to this chapter.

6 (d) For the purpose and to the extent necessary to
7 participate in NMLS, the commissioner may waive or modify, in
8 whole or in part, by rule or order, any or all of the
9 requirements of this chapter and establish new requirements as
10 reasonably necessary to participate in NMLS.

11 (e) In connection with an application for a license under
12 this chapter, the applicant, at a minimum, shall furnish to NMLS
13 information or material concerning the applicant's identity,
14 including:

- 15 (1) Fingerprints of the applicant or, if an applicant is
16 not an individual, each of the applicant's control
17 persons, executive officers, directors, general
18 partners, and managing members for submission to the
19 Federal Bureau of Investigation and any governmental
20 agency or entity authorized to receive the
21 fingerprints for a state, national, and international



1 criminal history background check, accompanied by the
2 applicable fee charged by the entities conducting the
3 criminal history background check; and

4 (2) Personal history and experience of the applicant or,
5 if an applicant is not an individual, each of the
6 applicant's control persons, executive officers,
7 directors, general partners, and managing members in a
8 form prescribed by NMLS, including the submission of
9 authorization for NMLS and the commissioner to obtain:

10 (A) An independent credit report obtained from a
11 consumer reporting agency described in section
12 603(p) of the Fair Credit Reporting Act, title 15
13 United States Code section 1681a(p); and

14 (B) Information related to any administrative, civil,
15 or criminal findings by any governmental
16 jurisdiction;

17 provided that the commissioner may use any information obtained
18 pursuant to this subsection or through NMLS to determine an
19 applicant's demonstrated financial responsibility, character,
20 and general fitness for licensure.



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

4 (g) The commissioner may use NMLS as an agent for
5 requesting and distributing information to and from any source
6 directed by the commissioner.

7 (h) An applicant for a license as a special purpose
8 digital currency company shall be registered with the business
9 registration division of the department to do business in the
10 State before a license pursuant to this chapter shall be
11 granted.

12 § -7 **Issuance of license; grounds for denial.** (a) The
13 commissioner shall investigate every applicant to determine the
14 financial responsibility, character, and general fitness of the
15 applicant. The commissioner shall issue the applicant a license
16 to engage in the digital currency business activity if the
17 commissioner determines that:

18 (1) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
19 not an individual, each of the applicant's control
20 persons, executive officers, directors, general
21 partners, and managing members, has never had a



1 digital currency license revoked in any jurisdiction;
2 provided that a subsequent formal vacation of a
3 revocation shall not be deemed a revocation;

4 (2) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
5 not an individual, each of the applicant's control
6 persons, executive officers, directors, general
7 partners, and managing members, has not been convicted
8 of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been granted
9 a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
10 law or the laws of any state to a felony in a
11 domestic, foreign, or military court:

12 (A) During the seven-year period preceding the date
13 of the application for licensing; or

14 (B) At any time preceding the date of application, if
15 the felony involved an act of fraud, dishonesty,
16 breach of trust, or money laundering; provided
17 that any pardon of a conviction shall not be
18 deemed a conviction for the purposes of this
19 section;

20 (3) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
21 not an individual, each of the applicant's control



1 persons, executive officers, directors, general
2 partners, and managing members, has demonstrated
3 financial responsibility, character, and general
4 fitness to command the confidence of the community and
5 to warrant a determination that the applicant shall
6 operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently, pursuant to
7 this chapter. For the purposes of this paragraph, a
8 person is not financially responsible when the person
9 has shown a disregard in the management of the
10 person's financial condition. A determination that a
11 person has shown a disregard in the management of the
12 person's financial condition may be based upon:

- 13 (A) Current outstanding judgments, except judgments
14 solely because of medical expenses;
- 15 (B) Current outstanding tax liens or other government
16 liens and filings, subject to applicable
17 disclosure laws and administrative rules;
- 18 (C) Foreclosures within the past three years; and
- 19 (D) A pattern of seriously delinquent accounts within
20 the past three years;



1 (4) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
2 not an individual, each of the applicant's control
3 persons, executive officers, directors, general
4 partners, and managing members, has not been convicted
5 of, pled guilty or nolo contendere to, or been granted
6 a deferred acceptance of a guilty plea under federal
7 law or the laws of any state to any misdemeanor
8 involving an act of fraud, dishonesty, breach of
9 trust, or money laundering;

10 (5) The applicant has satisfied the licensing requirements
11 of this chapter; and

12 (6) The applicant has the bond required by section -10.

13 (b) The applicant or, in the case of an applicant that is
14 not an individual, each of the applicant's control persons,
15 executive officers, directors, general partners, and managing
16 members shall submit authorization to the commissioner for the
17 commissioner to conduct background checks to determine or verify
18 the information in subsection (a) in each state where the person
19 has conducted digital currency business activity. Authorization
20 pursuant to this subsection shall include consent to provide



1 additional fingerprints, if necessary, to law enforcement or
2 regulatory bodies in other states.

3 (c) A license shall not be issued to an applicant:

4 (1) Whose license to conduct business under this chapter,
5 or any similar statute in any other jurisdiction, has
6 been suspended or revoked within five years of the
7 filing of the present application;

8 (2) Whose license to conduct digital currency business
9 activity has been revoked by an administrative order
10 issued by the commissioner or the commissioner's
11 designee, or the licensing authority of another state
12 or jurisdiction, for the period specified in the
13 administrative order;

14 (3) Who has advertised directly and purposefully to Hawaii
15 consumers or conducted transactions in violation of
16 this chapter; or

17 (4) Who has failed to complete an application for
18 licensure.

19 (d) A license issued in accordance with this chapter shall
20 remain in force and effect until surrendered, suspended, or



1 revoked, or until the license expires because of nonpayment of
2 the annual license renewal fee as required by this chapter.

3 § -8 **Anti-money laundering program.** (a) Each licensee
4 shall conduct an initial risk assessment that shall consider
5 legal, compliance, financial, and reputational risks associated
6 with the licensee's activities, services, customers,
7 counterparties, and geographic location and establish, maintain,
8 and enforce an anti-money laundering program based on the risk
9 assessment. The licensee shall conduct additional risk
10 assessments on an annual basis, or more frequently as risks
11 change, and modify its anti-money laundering program as
12 appropriate.

13 (b) The anti-money laundering program shall, at a minimum:

14 (1) Provide for a system of internal controls, policies,
15 and procedures designed to ensure ongoing compliance
16 with all applicable anti-money laundering laws, rules,
17 and regulations;

18 (2) Provide for independent testing on at least an annual
19 basis to determine compliance with, and the
20 effectiveness of, the anti-money laundering program,
21 which shall be conducted by a qualified external party



1 or qualified internal personnel of the licensee;
2 provided that the internal personnel shall not be
3 responsible for the design, installation, maintenance,
4 or operation of the anti-money laundering program, or
5 the policies and procedures that guide its operation;

6 (3) Designate a qualified individual who shall be
7 responsible for day-to-day operations and coordinating
8 and monitoring day-to-day compliance with the anti-
9 money laundering program. The qualified individual
10 shall:

11 (A) Monitor changes in anti-money laundering laws and
12 update the program accordingly;

13 (B) Maintain all records as required under this
14 section;

15 (C) Review all filings required under this section
16 before submission;

17 (D) Escalate matters to the board of directors,
18 senior management, or appropriate governing body
19 and seek outside counsel, as appropriate;



1 (E) Provide periodic reporting, at least annually, to
2 the board of directors, senior management, or
3 appropriate governing body; and

4 (F) Ensure compliance with relevant training
5 requirements; and

6 (4) Provide ongoing training for appropriate personnel to
7 ensure the personnel have an understanding of anti-
8 money laundering requirements, including the ability
9 to identify transactions required to be reported and
10 maintain records required to be maintained.

11 (c) The anti-money laundering program shall include a
12 written anti-money laundering policy reviewed and approved by
13 the licensee's board of directors or equivalent governing body.

14 (d) Each licensee, as part of its anti-money laundering
15 program, shall maintain records and make reports in the
16 following manner:

17 (1) Records of digital currency transactions. Each
18 licensee shall maintain the following information for
19 all digital currency transactions involving the
20 payment, receipt, exchange, conversion, purchase,
21 sale, transfer, or transmission of digital currency:



- 1 (A) The identity and physical addresses of the party
2 or parties to the transaction that are customers
3 or accountholders of the licensee and, to the
4 extent practicable, any other parties to the
5 transaction;
- 6 (B) The amount or value of the transaction, including
7 the denomination purchased, sold, or transferred;
- 8 (C) The method of payment;
- 9 (D) The date or dates on which the transaction was
10 initiated and completed; and
- 11 (E) A description of the transaction; and
- 12 (2) Monitoring for suspicious activity. Each licensee
13 shall monitor for transactions that might signify
14 money laundering, tax evasion, or other illegal or
15 criminal activity. Each licensee:
- 16 (A) Shall file suspicious activity reports in
17 accordance with applicable federal laws, rules,
18 and regulations; and
- 19 (B) If not subject to suspicious activity reporting
20 requirements under federal law, shall maintain a
21 report of transactions that indicate a possible



1 violation of law within thirty days from the
2 detection. Continuing suspicious activity shall
3 be reviewed on an ongoing basis and a suspicious
4 activity report shall be filed within one hundred
5 twenty days of the last filing describing
6 continuing activity.

7 (e) Each licensee shall maintain, as part of its anti-
8 money laundering program, a customer identification program in
9 compliance with the following:

10 (1) Identification and verification of account holders.

11 When opening an account for or establishing a service
12 relationship with, a customer each licensee shall, at
13 a minimum:

14 (A) Verify the customer's identity;

15 (B) Maintain records of the information used to
16 verify identity, including name, physical
17 address, and other identifying information; and

18 (C) Check customers against the Specially Designated
19 Nationals list maintained by the Office of
20 Foreign Asset Control of the United States
21 Treasury Department; and



(D) Exercise enhanced due diligence based on additional factors, such as for high risk customers, high-volume accounts, or accounts on which a suspicious activity report has been filed;

(2) Enhanced due diligence for accounts involving foreign entities. Licensees that maintain accounts for foreign persons and foreign licensees shall establish enhanced due diligence policies, procedures, and controls to detect money laundering, including assessing the risk presented by accounts based on the nature of the foreign business, the type and purpose of the activity, and the anti-money laundering and supervisory regime of the foreign jurisdiction;

(3) Prohibition on accounts with foreign shell entities. Licensees shall be prohibited from maintaining relationships of any type in connection with their digital currency business activity with entities that do not have a physical presence in any country; and

(4) Identification required for large transactions. Each licensee shall require verification of the identity of



1 any accountholder initiating a transaction with a
2 value greater than \$3,000.

3 (f) No licensee shall structure transactions, or assist in
4 the structuring of transactions, to evade reporting requirements
5 under this chapter.

6 (g) No licensee shall engage in, facilitate, or knowingly
7 allow the transfer or transmission of digital currency when the
8 action obfuscates or conceals the identity of an individual
9 customer or counterparty. Nothing in this section shall be
10 construed to require a licensee to make available to the general
11 public the fact or nature of the movement of digital currency by
12 individual customers or counterparties.

13 (h) Each licensee shall demonstrate that it has risk-based
14 policies, procedures, and practices.

15 (i) Each licensee shall have in place appropriate policies
16 and procedures to block or reject specific or impermissible
17 transactions that violate federal or state laws, rules, or
18 regulations.

19 § -9 **Cyber security program.** (a) Each licensee shall
20 establish and maintain an effective cyber security program to
21 ensure the availability and functionality of the licensee's



1 electronic systems and to protect those systems and any
2 sensitive data stored on those systems from unauthorized access,
3 use, or tampering. The cyber security program shall be designed
4 to perform the following five core cyber security functions:

5 (1) Identify internal and external cyber risks by, at a
6 minimum, identifying the information stored on the
7 licensee's systems, the sensitivity of the
8 information, and how and by whom the information may
9 be accessed;

10 (2) Protect the licensee's electronic systems, and the
11 information stored on those systems, from unauthorized
12 access, use, or other malicious acts through the use
13 of defensive infrastructure and the implementation of
14 policies and procedures;

15 (3) Detect systems intrusions, data breaches, unauthorized
16 access to systems or information, malware, and other
17 cyber security events;

18 (4) Respond to detected cyber security events to mitigate
19 any negative effects; and

20 (5) Recover from cyber security events and restore normal
21 operations and services.



(b) Each licensee shall implement a written cyber security policy setting forth the licensee's policies and procedures for the protection of its electronic systems and customer and counterparty data stored on those systems, which shall be reviewed and approved by the licensee's board of directors or equivalent governing body at least annually. The cyber security policy must address the following areas:

- (1) Information security;
- (2) Data governance and classification;
- (3) Access controls;
- (4) Business continuity and disaster recovery planning and resources;
- (5) Capacity and performance planning;
- (6) Systems operations and availability concerns;
- (7) Systems and network security;
- (8) Systems and application development and quality assurance;
- (9) Physical security and environmental controls;
- (10) Customer data privacy;
- (11) Vendor and third-party service provider management;



(12) Monitoring and implementing changes to core protocols not directly controlled by the licensee, as applicable; and

(13) Incident response.

(c) Each licensee shall designate a qualified employee to be responsible for overseeing and implementing the licensee's cyber security program and enforcing its cyber security policy.

(d) Each licensee shall submit to the commissioner a report that is presented to the licensee's board of directors or equivalent governing body, at least annually, assessing the availability, functionality, and integrity of the licensee's electronic systems, identifying relevant cyber risks to the licensee, assessing the licensee's cyber security program, and proposing steps for the redress of any inadequacies identified in the report.

(e) Each licensee's cyber security program shall, at a minimum, include the following audit functions:

(1) Penetration testing. Each licensee shall conduct penetration testing of its electronic systems, and vulnerability assessment of those systems based on the licensee's risk assessment;



(2) Audit trail. Each licensee shall maintain audit trail systems that:

(A) Track and maintain data that allows for the complete and accurate reconstruction of all financial transactions and accounting;

(B) Protect the integrity of data stored and maintained as part of the audit trail from alteration or tampering;

(C) Protect the integrity of hardware from alteration or tampering, including by limiting electronic and physical access permissions to hardware and maintaining logs of physical access to hardware that allows for event reconstruction;

(D) Log system events including, at minimum, access and alterations made to the audit trail systems by the systems or by an authorized user, and all system administrator functions performed on the systems; and

(E) Maintain records produced as part of the audit trail in accordance with the recordkeeping requirements set forth in this chapter.



1 (f) Each licensee's cyber security program shall, at
2 minimum, include written procedures, guidelines, and standards
3 reasonably designed to ensure the security of all applications
4 utilized by the licensee.

5 (g) Each licensee shall:

6 (1) Employ cyber security personnel adequate to manage the
7 licensee's cyber security risks and to perform the
8 core cyber security functions specified in subsections
9 (a)(1) through (a)(5);

10 (2) Provide and require cyber security personnel to attend
11 regular cyber security update and training sessions;
12 and

13 (3) Require key cyber security personnel to take steps to
14 stay abreast of changing cyber security threats and
15 countermeasures.

16 § -10 Fees; bond. (a) A special purpose digital
17 currency company shall pay the following fees to the division
18 through NMLS to obtain and maintain a valid license under this
19 chapter:

20 (1) Initial nonrefundable application fee of \$9,000;

21 (2) Nonrefundable renewal application fee of \$1,000; and



(3) Fees collected by NMLS for the processing of the application, including any applicable fees charged by the entities conducting:

(A) The criminal history background check of each of the applicant's control persons, executive officers, directors, general partners, and managing members for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and any governmental agency or entity authorized to receive the fingerprints for a state, national, and international criminal history background check; and

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

(b) The applicant shall file and maintain a surety bond, approved by the commissioner, executed by the applicant as obligor and by a surety company authorized to operate as a surety in the State, whose liability as a surety does not exceed, in the aggregate, the penal sum of the bond. The penal



1 sum of the bond shall be a minimum of \$500,000, based upon the
2 annual United States dollar equivalent of digital currency as
3 reported in the annual renewal report.

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

9 (1) The licensee as obligor shall faithfully conform to
10 and abide by this chapter and all the rules adopted
11 under this chapter; and

12 (2) The bond shall pay to the State and any person or
13 persons having a cause of action against the licensee
14 as obligor all moneys that may become due and payable
15 to the State and those persons under and by virtue of
16 this chapter.

17 § -11 **Renewal of license; annual report.** (a) Every
18 licensee shall be assessed an annual fee, paid quarterly based
19 on the Hawaii total value of transactions in United States
20 dollar equivalent of digital currency activity as reported in
21 the quarterly reports. The quarterly fees shall be assessed the



1 quarter after the applicant is licensed in accordance with the
2 following:

3 (1) For licensees with total value of transactions in
4 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency
5 under \$10,000, the quarterly assessment shall be
6 \$2,500;

7 (2) For licensees with total value of transactions in
8 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency
9 between \$10,000.01 and \$15,000, the quarterly
10 assessment shall be \$3,750;

11 (3) For licensees with total value of transactions in
12 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency
13 between 15,000.01 and \$25,000, the quarterly
14 assessment shall be \$6,250;

15 (4) For licensees with total value of transactions in
16 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency
17 between \$25,000.01 and \$35,000, the quarterly
18 assessment shall be \$8,750; and

19 (5) For licensees with total value of transactions in
20 United States dollar equivalent of digital currency



1 over \$35,000.01, the quarterly assessment shall be
2 \$12,500.

3 (b) The assessments shall be paid quarterly on
4 February 15, May 15, August 15, and November 15 of each year
5 based on the licensee's quarterly reports as of the previous
6 December 31, March 31, June 30, and September 30, respectively.

7 (c) The digital assets shall be based on the United States
8 dollar value of cryptocurrency assets held on behalf of
9 customers, calculated on United States dollars from the
10 company's quarterly report based on the trading price of the
11 asset on the licensee's platform as of 4:30 p.m. Hawaii Standard
12 Time.

13 (d) The annual audited financial statement report shall be
14 filed in accordance with NMLS policy. The annual audited
15 financial report shall include balance sheets, statement of
16 income or loss, statement of changes in shareholders' equity,
17 and statement of cash flows or, if a licensee is a wholly owned
18 subsidiary of another corporation, the consolidated audited
19 annual financial statement of the parent corporation in lieu of
20 the licensee's audited annual financial statement.



1 (e) The quarterly reports shall be filed in a form
2 prescribed by the commissioner and shall include:

3 (1) A report detailing the special purpose digital
4 currency company's activities in the State since the
5 prior reporting period, including:

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

7 (B) The number of transactions processed;

8 (C) The total value of transactions in United States
9 dollar equivalent of digital currency;

10 (D) The number of system outages;

11 (E) A chart of accounts, including a description of
12 each account; and

13 (F) Any other information that the commissioner may
14 require related to performance metrics and the
15 efficacy of the special purpose digital currency
16 license program;

17 (2) Any material changes to any of the information
18 submitted by the licensee on its original application
19 that have not previously been reported to the
20 commissioner on any other report required to be filed
21 under this chapter;



1 (3) Disclosure of any pending or final suspension,
2 revocation, or other enforcement action by any state
3 or governmental authority; and

4 (4) Any other information the commissioner may require.

5 (f) A license may be renewed by continuing to meet the
6 licensing requirements of sections -6, -7, and -8,
7 filing a completed renewal statement on a form prescribed by
8 NMLS or by the commissioner, paying a renewal fee, and meeting
9 the requirements of this section.

10 (g) At renewal, a licensee that has not filed an annual
11 financial statement or quarterly reports that have been deemed
12 complete by the commissioner, or paid the quarterly assessments
13 and has not been granted an extension of time to do so by the
14 commissioner, shall have its license suspended on the renewal
15 date. The licensee shall have thirty days after its license is
16 suspended to file the annual financial statement or quarterly
17 reports or pay the quarterly assessments, plus a late filing fee
18 of \$250 for each day after suspension that the commissioner does
19 not receive the annual financial statement, quarterly reports,
20 and the quarterly assessment. The commissioner, for good cause,
21 may reduce or suspend the \$250 per day late filing fee.



1 § **-12 Authorized places of business; principal place of**
2 **business.** (a) Every special purpose digital currency company
3 licensed under this chapter shall have and maintain a principal
4 place of business in the United States, regardless of whether
5 the special purpose digital currency company maintains its
6 principal office outside of the United States.

7 (b) The principal place of business of the special purpose
8 digital currency company shall be identified in NMLS.

9 § **-13 Sale or transfer of license; change of control.**

10 (a) No special purpose digital currency company license shall
11 be transferred, except as provided in this section.

12 (b) A person or group of persons requesting approval of a
13 proposed change of control of a licensee shall submit to the
14 commissioner an application requesting approval of a proposed
15 change of control of the licensee, accompanied by a
16 nonrefundable application fee of \$10,000.

17 (c) After review of a request for approval under
18 subsection (b), the commissioner may require the licensee or
19 person or group of persons requesting approval of a proposed
20 change of control of the licensee, or both, to provide
21 additional information concerning the persons who shall assume



1 control of the licensee. The additional information shall be
2 limited to similar information required of the licensee or
3 persons in control of the licensee as part of its original
4 license or renewal application. The information shall include,
5 for the five-year period prior to the date of the application
6 for change of control of the licensee, a history of material
7 litigation and criminal convictions of each person who, upon
8 approval of the application for change of control, will be a
9 principal of the licensee. Authorization shall also be given to
10 conduct criminal history record checks of those persons,
11 accompanied by the appropriate payment of the applicable fee for
12 each record check.

13 (d) The commissioner shall approve a request for change of
14 control under subsection (b) if, after investigation, the
15 commissioner determines that the person or group of persons
16 requesting approval has the competence, experience, character,
17 and general fitness to control the licensee or person in control
18 of the licensee in a lawful and proper manner, and that the
19 interests of the public will not be jeopardized by the change of
20 control.



1 (e) The following persons shall be exempt from the
2 requirements of subsection (b), but the licensee regardless
3 shall notify the commissioner when a change of control results
4 in the following:

5 (1) A person who acts as a proxy for the sole purpose of
6 voting at a designated meeting of the security holders
7 or holders of voting interests of a licensee or person
8 in control of a licensee;

9 (2) A person who acquires control of a licensee by devise
10 or descent;

11 (3) A person who acquires control as a personal
12 representative, custodian, guardian, conservator,
13 trustee, or as an officer appointed by a court of
14 competent jurisdiction or by operation of law; or

15 (4) A person whom the commissioner, by rule or order,
16 exempts in the public interest.

17 (f) Before filing a request for approval for a change of
18 control, a person may request, in writing, a determination from
19 the commissioner as to whether the person would be considered a
20 person in control of a licensee upon consummation of a proposed
21 transaction. If the commissioner determines that the person



1 would not be a person in control of a licensee, the commissioner
2 shall enter an order to that effect and the proposed person and
3 transaction shall not be subject to subsections (b) through (d).

4 (g) Subsection (b) shall not apply to public offerings of
5 securities.

6 § -14 Ownership and control of digital currency. (a) A
7 licensee that has control of digital currency for one or more
8 persons shall maintain control of digital currency in each type
9 of digital currency sufficient to satisfy the aggregate
10 entitlements of the persons to the type of digital currency.

11 (b) If a licensee violates subsection (a), the property
12 interests of the persons in the digital currency shall be pro
13 rata property interests in the type of digital currency to which
14 the persons shall be entitled, without regard to the time the
15 persons became entitled to the digital currency or the licensee
16 obtained control of the digital currency.

17 (c) The digital currency referred to in this section
18 shall:

19 (1) Be held for the persons entitled to the digital
20 currency;

21 (2) Not be property of the licensee; and



(3) Not be subject to the claims of creditors of the licensee.

(d) To the extent a licensee stores, holds, or maintains custody or control of digital currency on behalf of another person, the licensee shall hold digital currency of the same type and amount as that which is owed or obligated to that other person.

(e) Each licensee shall be prohibited from selling, transferring, assigning, lending, hypothecating, pledging, or otherwise using or encumbering assets, including digital currency, stored, held, or maintained by, or under the custody or control of, the licensee on behalf of another person except for the sale, transfer, or assignment of the assets at the direction of that other person.

PART III. DISCLOSURES, ADVERTISING, AND RECORDKEEPING

§ -15 **Required disclosures.** (a) A licensee that engages in digital currency business activity shall provide to a person who uses the licensee's products or service the disclosures required by subsection (b) and any additional disclosure the commissioner determines reasonably necessary for the protection of persons. The commissioner shall determine the



1 time and form required for disclosure. A disclosure required by
2 this section shall be made separately from any other information
3 provided by the licensee and kept by the person in a clear and
4 conspicuous manner in a record. A licensee may propose for the
5 commissioner's approval alternate disclosures as more
6 appropriate for its digital currency business activity.

7 (b) Before establishing a relationship with a person, a
8 licensee shall disclose the following, to the extent applicable
9 to the digital currency business activity the licensee will
10 undertake with the person:

11 (1) A schedule of fees and charges the licensee may
12 assess, how fees and charges will be calculated if
13 they are not set in advance and disclosed, and the
14 timing of the fees and charges;

15 (2) That the product or service provided by the licensee:

16 (A) Is not covered by a form of insurance; or

17 (B) Is otherwise guaranteed against loss by:

18 (i) An agency of the United States, including
19 the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or
20 the Securities Investor Protection
21 Corporation;



- 1 (ii) The full United States dollar equivalent of
2 digital currency purchased from the licensee
3 or for control of digital currency by the
4 licensee; or
- 5 (iii) Private insurance against theft or loss,
6 including cyber theft or theft by other
7 means;
- 8 (3) The irrevocability of a transfer or exchange;
- 9 (4) The method for the person to update the person's
10 contact information with the licensee;
- 11 (5) That the date or time when the transfer or exchange is
12 made, and the person's account is debited may differ
13 from the date or time when the person initiates the
14 instruction to make the transfer or exchange;
- 15 (6) The person's right to receive a receipt or other
16 evidence of the transfer or exchange;
- 17 (7) The person's right to at least thirty days' prior
18 notice of a change in the licensee's fee schedule,
19 other terms and conditions of operating its digital
20 currency business activity with the person and the
21 policies applicable to the person's account; and



1 (8) That digital currency is not money.

2 (c) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (d), at the
3 end of a digital currency transaction with or on behalf of a
4 person, a licensee shall provide the person a confirmation in a
5 record that contains:

6 (1) The name and contact information of the licensee,
7 including information the person may need to ask a
8 question or file a complaint;

9 (2) The type, value, date, precise time, and amount of the
10 transaction; and

11 (3) The fee charged for the transaction, including any
12 charge for conversion of digital currency to money,
13 bank credit, or other digital currency.

14 § -16 Records, net worth requirement. (a) A licensee
15 engaged in digital currency business activities shall maintain
16 at all times a tangible net worth of not less than \$500,000 or
17 an amount determined by the commissioner necessary to ensure
18 safe and sound operation.

19 (b) Each licensee shall make, keep, preserve, and make
20 available for inspection by the commissioner the books,
21 accounts, and other records required in subsection (c). A



1 licensee shall maintain records required by subsection (c) in a
2 form that enables the commissioner to determine whether the
3 licensee is in compliance with this chapter, any court order,
4 and law of the State other than this chapter.

5 (c) A licensee shall maintain, for all digital currency
6 business activity with or on behalf of a person five years after
7 the date of the activity, a record of:

8 (1) Each transaction of the licensee with or on behalf of
9 the person or for the licensee's or person's account
10 in the State, including:

11 (A) The identity of the person;

12 (B) The form of the transaction;

13 (C) The amount, date, and payment instructions given
14 by the person; and

15 (D) The account number, name, and United States
16 Postal Service address of the resident, and, to
17 the extent feasible, other parties to the
18 transaction;

19 (2) The aggregate number of transactions and aggregate
20 value of transactions by the licensee with or on
21 behalf of the person and for the licensee's account in



1 the State, expressed in United States dollar
2 equivalent of digital currency for the previous twelve
3 calendar months;

4 (3) Each transaction in which the licensee exchanges one
5 form of digital currency for money or another form of
6 digital currency with or on behalf of the person;

7 (4) A general ledger posted at least monthly that lists
8 all assets, liabilities, capital, income, ownership
9 equity, and expenses of the licensee;

10 (5) Each business-call report the licensee is required to
11 create or provide to the division or NMLS;

12 (6) Bank statements and bank reconciliation records for
13 the licensee and the name, account number, and United
14 States Postal Service address of each bank the
15 licensee uses in the conduct of its digital currency
16 business activity with or on behalf of the person;

17 (7) Communications and documentation related to
18 investigations of customer complaints; and

19 (8) A report of any digital currency business activity
20 transaction with or on behalf of a person which the
21 licensee was unable to complete.



1 § **-17 Advertising and marketing.** (a) Each licensee
2 engaged in digital currency business activity shall not
3 advertise its products, services, or activities in the State or
4 to Hawaii consumers without including the name of the licensee
5 and the legend that the licensee is "Licensed to engage in
6 Digital Currency Business Activity by the Hawaii Division of
7 Financial Institutions."

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

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

20 (d) In all advertising and marketing materials, each
21 licensee and any person or entity acting on its behalf, shall



1 not, directly or by implication, make any false, misleading, or
2 deceptive representations or omissions.

3 § **-18 Confidentiality.** (a) Except as otherwise
4 provided in title 12 United States Code section 5111, the
5 requirements under any federal or state law regarding the
6 privacy or confidentiality of any information or material
7 provided to NMLS, and any privilege arising under federal or
8 state law, including the rules of any federal or state court,
9 with respect to the information or material shall continue to
10 apply to the information or material after the information or
11 material has been disclosed to NMLS. The information and
12 material may be shared with all state and federal regulatory
13 officials with oversight authority over transactions subject to
14 this chapter, without the loss of privilege or the loss of
15 confidentiality protections provided by federal or state law.

16 (b) For the purposes of this section, the commissioner
17 shall be authorized to enter into agreements or sharing
18 arrangements with other governmental agencies, the Conference of
19 State Bank Supervisors, or other associations representing
20 governmental agencies as established by rule or order of the
21 commissioner.



1 (c) Information or material that is subject to a privilege
2 or confidentiality under subsection (a) shall not be subject to:

3 (1) Disclosure under chapter 92F; or

4 (2) Subpoena or discovery, or admission into evidence, in
5 any private civil action or administrative process,
6 unless any privilege is determined by NMLS to be
7 applicable to the information or material; provided
8 that the person to whom the information or material
9 pertains waives, in whole or in part, in the
10 discretion of the person, that privilege.

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

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

19 (f) This section shall not apply to information or
20 material relating to the employment history of, and publicly



1 adjudicated disciplinary and enforcement actions against, any
2 persons that are included in NMLS for access by the public.

3 **PART IV. ENFORCEMENT**

4 **§ -19 Enforcement authority; violations; penalties. (a)**

5 To ensure the effective supervision and enforcement of this
6 chapter, the commissioner may take any disciplinary action as
7 specified in subsection (b) against an applicant or licensee if
8 the commissioner finds that:

9 (1) The applicant or licensee has violated this chapter,
10 or any rule or order lawfully made pursuant to this
11 chapter;

12 (2) The applicant has failed to disclose facts or
13 conditions that would have clearly justified the
14 commissioner in denying an application for licensure,
15 had these facts or conditions been known to exist at
16 the time the application was made;

17 (3) The applicant or licensee has failed to provide
18 information required by the commissioner within a
19 reasonable time, as specified by the commissioner;

20 (4) The applicant or licensee has failed to provide or
21 maintain proof of financial responsibility;



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



1 (10) A final judgment has been entered against the
2 applicant or licensee for violations of this chapter,
3 any state or federal law concerning a digital currency
4 license or money transmitters, or any state or federal
5 law prohibiting unfair or deceptive acts or practices;
6 or

7 (11) The applicant or licensee has failed, in a timely
8 manner as specified by the commissioner, to take or
9 provide proof of the corrective action required by the
10 commissioner after an investigation or examination
11 pursuant to sections -3 and -20.

12 (b) After a finding of one or more of the conditions under
13 subsection (a), the commissioner may take any or all the
14 following actions:

15 (1) Deny an application for licensure, including an
16 application for a branch office license;

17 (2) Revoke the license;

18 (3) Suspend or condition the license in accordance with
19 section -23;



1 (4) Issue an order to the licensee to cease and desist
2 from engaging in any act specified under subsection
3 (a) or in accordance with section -24;

4 (5) Order the licensee to make refunds to consumers of
5 excess charges under this chapter; or

6 (6) Impose penalties of up to \$10,000 for each violation
7 in accordance with section -26.

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



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

6 (e) No revocation, suspension, consent order, or surrender
7 of a license shall impair or affect the obligation of any
8 preexisting lawful contract between the licensee and any
9 consumer.

10 (f) The commissioner may reinstate a license, terminate a
11 suspension, or grant a new license to a person whose license has
12 been revoked or suspended if no fact or condition then exists
13 that would clearly justify the commissioner in revoking,
14 suspending, or refusing to grant a license.

15 (g) The commissioner may impose an administrative fine on
16 a licensee or person subject to this chapter if the commissioner
17 finds on the record after notice and opportunity for hearing
18 that the licensee or person subject to this chapter has violated
19 or failed to comply with any requirement of this chapter or any
20 rule prescribed by the commissioner under this chapter or order
21 issued under the authority of this chapter.



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

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

9 § -20 **Investigation and examination authority.** (a) In
10 addition to the authority granted under section -3, the
11 commissioner may conduct investigations and examinations in
12 accordance with this section. The commissioner may access,
13 receive, and use any books, accounts, records, files, documents,
14 information, or evidence that the commissioner deems relevant to
15 the investigation or examination, regardless of the location,
16 possession, control, or custody of the documents, information,
17 or evidence.

18 (b) For the purposes of investigating violations or
19 complaints arising under this chapter, or for the purposes of
20 examination, the commissioner may review, investigate, or
21 examine any licensee or person subject to this chapter as often



1 as necessary to carry out the purposes of this chapter. The
2 commissioner may direct, subpoena, or order the attendance of,
3 and examine under oath, all persons whose testimony may be
4 required about digital currency transactions or the business or
5 subject matter of any investigation or examination and may
6 direct, subpoena, or order the person to produce books,
7 accounts, records, files, and any other documents the
8 commissioner deems relevant to the inquiry.

9 (c) Each licensee or person subject to this chapter shall
10 provide to the commissioner, upon request, the books and records
11 relating to the operations of the licensee or person subject to
12 this chapter. The commissioner shall have access to the books
13 and records and shall be permitted to interview the control
14 persons, executive officers, directors, general partners,
15 managing members, principals, managers, employees, independent
16 contractors, agents, and consumers of the licensee or person
17 subject to this chapter concerning their business.

18 (d) Each licensee or person subject to this chapter shall
19 make or compile reports or prepare other information, as
20 directed by the commissioner, to carry out the purposes of this
21 section, including:



1 (1) Accounting compilations;

2 (2) Information lists and data concerning digital currency
3 transactions in a format prescribed by the
4 commissioner; or

5 (3) Other information that the commissioner deems
6 necessary.

7 (e) In conducting any investigation or examination
8 authorized by this chapter, the commissioner may control access
9 to any documents and records of the licensee or person under
10 investigation or examination. The commissioner may take
11 possession of the documents and records or place a person in
12 exclusive charge of the documents and records. During the
13 period of control, no person shall remove or attempt to remove
14 any of the documents and records except pursuant to a court
15 order or with the consent of the commissioner. Unless the
16 commissioner has reasonable grounds to believe the documents or
17 records of the licensee or person under investigation or
18 examination have been, or are at risk of being, altered or
19 destroyed for the purposes of concealing a violation of this
20 chapter, the licensee or owner of the documents and records



1 shall have access to the documents or records as necessary to
2 conduct its ordinary business affairs.

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

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

11 (h) The commissioner may charge an investigation or
12 examination fee, payable to the commissioner, based upon the
13 cost per hour per examiner for all licensees and persons subject
14 to this chapter investigated or examined by the commissioner or
15 the commissioner's staff. The hourly fee shall be \$60 or an
16 amount established by rule pursuant to chapter 91. In addition
17 to the investigation or examination fee, the commissioner may
18 charge any person who is investigated or examined by the
19 commissioner or the commissioner's staff pursuant to this
20 section additional amounts for travel, per diem, mileage, and



1 other reasonable expenses incurred in connection with the
2 investigation or examination, payable to the commissioner.

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

9 § -21 **Prohibited practices.** (a) It shall be a
10 violation of this chapter for a licensee, its control persons,
11 executive officers, directors, general partners, managing
12 members, employees, or independent contractors, or any other
13 person subject to this chapter to:

14 (1) Engage in any act that limits or restricts the
15 application of this chapter;

16 (2) Use a customer's digital currency account number to
17 prepare, issue, or create a digital currency
18 transaction on behalf of the consumer without the
19 customer's authorization;



- 1 (3) Charge, collect, or receive, directly or indirectly,
2 charges for negotiating digital currency transactions
3 except those explicitly authorized in this chapter;
- 4 (4) Fail to make disclosures as required by this chapter
5 and any other applicable federal or state law,
6 including rules or regulations adopted pursuant to
7 federal or state law;
- 8 (5) Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device, or
9 artifice to defraud or mislead any consumer, or any
10 person;
- 11 (6) Directly or indirectly engage in unfair or deceptive
12 acts, practices, or advertising in connection with a
13 digital currency business activity toward any person;
- 14 (7) Directly or indirectly obtain digital assets by fraud
15 or misrepresentation;
- 16 (8) Conduct digital currency business activity to any
17 person physically located in the State through the use
18 of the Internet, facsimile, telephone, kiosk, or other
19 means without first obtaining a license under this
20 chapter;



- 1 (9) Make, in any manner, any false or deceptive statement
2 or representation, including with regard to the rates,
3 fees, or other financing terms or conditions for
4 digital currency activity, or engage in bait and
5 switch advertising;
- 6 (10) Make any false statement or knowingly make any
7 omission of material fact in connection with any
8 reports filed with the division by a licensee or in
9 connection with any investigation conducted by the
10 division;
- 11 (11) Conduct digital currency business activity from any
12 unlicensed location;
- 13 (12) Draft funds from any depository financial institution
14 without written approval of the consumer; provided
15 that nothing in this paragraph shall prohibit the
16 conversion of a negotiable instrument into an
17 electronic form for processing through the Automated
18 Clearing House or similar system;
- 19 (13) Fail to comply with all applicable federal and state
20 laws relating to the activities governed by this
21 chapter; or



1 (14) Fail to pay any fee, assessment, or moneys due to the
2 department.

3 (b) In addition to any other penalties provided for under
4 this chapter, any digital currency transaction in violation of
5 subsection (a) shall be void and unenforceable.

6 § -22 **Voluntary surrender of license.** (a) A licensee
7 may voluntarily cease business and surrender its license by
8 giving written notice through NMLS to the commissioner of its
9 intent to surrender its license. Prior to the surrender date of
10 a license, the licensee shall have either completed all pending
11 digital currency transactions or assigned each pending digital
12 currency transaction to another licensee.

13 (b) Notice to the commissioner shall be provided at least
14 thirty days before the surrender of the license and shall
15 include:

16 (1) The date of surrender;

17 (2) The name, address, telephone number, facsimile number,
18 and electronic mail address of a contact individual
19 with knowledge and authority sufficient to communicate
20 with the commissioner regarding all matters relating



1 to the licensee during the period that it was licensed
2 pursuant to this chapter;

3 (3) The reason or reasons for surrender;

4 (4) The total dollar amount of the licensee's outstanding
5 digital currency transactions in the State, and the
6 individual amounts of each outstanding digital
7 currency transactions, and the name, address, and
8 contact telephone number of the licensee to whom each
9 outstanding digital currency transaction was assigned;

10 (5) A list of the licensee's Hawaii authorized branch
11 offices, if any, as of the date of surrender;

12 (6) Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of
13 its Hawaii authorized branch offices, if any, that the
14 branch offices may no longer conduct digital currency
15 business activity on the licensee's behalf; and

16 (7) Confirmation that the licensee has notified each of
17 its digital currency accounts, if any, that the
18 digital currency account is being transferred and the
19 name, address, telephone number, and any other contact
20 information of the licensee or entity described in



1 section -20 to whom the digital currency was
2 assigned.

3 (c) Voluntary surrender of a license shall be effective
4 upon the date of surrender specified on the written notice to
5 the commissioner as required by this section; provided that the
6 licensee has met all the requirements of voluntary surrender and
7 has returned the original license issued.

8 § -23 **Suspension or revocation of licenses.** The
9 commissioner may suspend or revoke a license if the commissioner
10 finds that:

11 (1) Any fact or condition exists that, if it had existed
12 at the time when the licensee applied for its license,
13 would have been grounds for denying the licensee's
14 application;

15 (2) The licensee's tangible net worth becomes inadequate
16 and the licensee, after ten days written notice from
17 the commissioner, fails to take steps as the
18 commissioner deems necessary to remedy a deficiency;

19 (3) The licensee knowingly violates any material provision
20 of this chapter or any rule or order validly adopted
21 by the commissioner under authority of this chapter;



- 1 (4) The licensee is conducting its business in an unsafe
2 or unsound manner;
- 3 (5) The licensee is insolvent;
- 4 (6) The licensee has suspended payment of its obligations,
5 has made an assignment for the benefit of its
6 creditors, or has admitted, in writing, its inability
7 to pay its debts as they become due;
- 8 (7) The licensee has filed for bankruptcy, reorganization,
9 arrangement, or other relief under any bankruptcy law;
- 10 (8) The licensee refuses to permit the commissioner to
11 make any examination authorized by this chapter; or
- 12 (9) The competence, experience, character, or general
13 fitness of the licensee indicates that it is not in
14 the public interest to allow the licensee to have a
15 license.

16 § -24 Orders to cease and desist. (a) If the
17 commissioner determines a violation of this chapter or a rule
18 adopted or an order issued under this chapter by a licensee or
19 authorized delegate is:



1 (1) Likely to cause immediate and irreparable harm to the
2 licensee, the licensee's customers, or the public as a
3 result of the violation; or

4 (2) Cause insolvency or significant dissipation of assets
5 of the licensee,

6 the commissioner may issue an order requiring the licensee to
7 cease and desist from the violation. The order becomes
8 effective upon service of the order upon the licensee.

9 (b) An order to cease and desist shall remain effective
10 and enforceable pending the completion of an administrative
11 proceeding pursuant to chapter 91.

12 (c) A licensee that is served with an order to cease and
13 desist may petition the circuit court for a judicial order
14 setting aside, limiting, or suspending the enforcement,
15 operation, or effectiveness of the order pending the completion
16 of an administrative proceeding pursuant to section -29 or
17 -30.

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



1 (e) The commissioner may apply to the circuit court for an
2 appropriate order to protect the public interest.

3 § -25 **Consent orders.** The commissioner may enter into a
4 consent order at any time with a person to resolve a matter
5 arising under this chapter. A consent order shall be signed by
6 the person to whom the order is issued or by the person's
7 authorized representative and shall indicate agreement with the
8 terms contained in the order. A consent order may provide that
9 it does not constitute an admission by a person that this
10 chapter or a rule adopted or an order issued under this chapter
11 has been violated.

12 § -26 **Civil penalties.** The commissioner may assess a
13 fine against a person who violates this chapter or a rule
14 adopted or an order issued under this chapter in an amount not
15 to exceed \$10,000 per violation, plus the State's costs and
16 expenses for the investigation and prosecution of the matter,
17 including reasonable attorneys' fees.

18 § -27 **Criminal penalties.** (a) A person who
19 intentionally makes a false statement, misrepresentation, or
20 false certification in a record filed or required to be
21 maintained under this chapter; intentionally makes a false



1 entry; or who omits a material entry in a record shall be guilty
2 of a class C felony, and shall be subject to a fine in an amount
3 up to \$10,000.

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

11 § -28 **Unlicensed persons.** (a) If the commissioner has
12 reason to believe that a person has violated or is violating
13 section -4, the commissioner may issue an order to show cause
14 why an order to cease and desist should not be issued requiring
15 that the person cease and desist from the violation of section
16 -4.

17 (b) If the commissioner has reason to believe that a
18 person has violated or is violating section -4, the
19 commissioner may petition the circuit court for the issuance of
20 a temporary restraining order if the public would be irreparably
21 harmed.



1 (c) An order to cease and desist becomes effective upon
2 service of the order upon the person.

3 (d) An order to cease and desist remains effective and
4 enforceable pending the completion of an administrative
5 proceeding pursuant to section -29.

6 (e) A person who is served with an order to cease and
7 desist for violating section -4 may petition the circuit court
8 for a judicial order setting aside, limiting, or suspending the
9 enforcement, operation, or effectiveness of the order to cease
10 and desist pending the completion of an administrative
11 proceeding pursuant to section -29.

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

15 § -29 **Administrative procedures.** All administrative
16 proceedings under this chapter shall be conducted in accordance
17 with chapter 91.

18 § -30 **Hearings.** Except as otherwise provided in
19 sections -11(g) and -23, the commissioner may not suspend
20 or revoke a license, issue an order to cease and desist, suspend



1 or revoke the designation of a licensee, or assess a civil
2 penalty without notice and an opportunity to be heard.

3 § **-31 Division functions.** (a) The division shall
4 exercise all administrative functions of the State in relation
5 to the regulation, supervision, and licensing of special purpose
6 digital currency companies.

7 (b) The division shall interpret and carry out the
8 provisions of this chapter."

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

12 ""Monetary value" means a medium of exchange, whether or
13 not redeemable in money[-], except as defined as digital
14 currency under chapter ."

15 SECTION 4. Section 846-2.7, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
16 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

17 "(b) Criminal history record checks may be conducted by:

18 (1) The department of health or its designee on operators
19 of adult foster homes for individuals with
20 developmental disabilities or developmental



1 disabilities domiciliary homes and their employees, as
2 provided by section 321-15.2;

3 (2) The department of health or its designee on
4 prospective employees, persons seeking to serve as
5 providers, or subcontractors in positions that place
6 them in direct contact with clients when providing
7 non-witnessed direct mental health or health care
8 services as provided by section 321-171.5;

9 (3) The department of health or its designee on all
10 applicants for licensure or certification for,
11 operators for, prospective employees, adult
12 volunteers, and all adults, except adults in care, at
13 healthcare facilities as defined in section 321-15.2;

14 (4) The department of education on employees, prospective
15 employees, and teacher trainees in any public school
16 in positions that necessitate close proximity to
17 children as provided by section 302A-601.5;

18 (5) The counties on employees and prospective employees
19 who may be in positions that place them in close
20 proximity to children in recreation or child care
21 programs and services;



- 1 (6) The county liquor commissions on applicants for liquor
2 licenses as provided by section 281-53.5;
- 3 (7) The county liquor commissions on employees and
4 prospective employees involved in liquor
5 administration, law enforcement, and liquor control
6 investigations;
- 7 (8) The department of human services on operators and
8 employees of child caring institutions, child placing
9 organizations, and foster boarding homes as provided
10 by section 346-17;
- 11 (9) The department of human services on prospective
12 adoptive parents as established under section 346-19.7;
- 13 (10) The department of human services or its designee on
14 applicants to operate child care facilities, household
15 members of the applicant, prospective employees of the
16 applicant, and new employees and household members of
17 the provider after registration or licensure as
18 provided by section 346-154, and persons subject to
19 section 346-152.5;
- 20 (11) The department of human services on persons exempt
21 pursuant to section 346-152 to be eligible to provide



1 child care and receive child care subsidies as
2 provided by section 346-152.5;

3 (12) The department of health on operators and employees of
4 home and community-based case management agencies and
5 operators and other adults, except for adults in care,
6 residing in community care foster family homes as
7 provided by section 321-15.2;

8 (13) The department of human services on staff members of
9 the Hawaii youth correctional facility as provided by
10 section 352-5.5;

11 (14) The department of human services on employees,
12 prospective employees, and volunteers of contracted
13 providers and subcontractors in positions that place
14 them in close proximity to youth when providing
15 services on behalf of the office or the Hawaii youth
16 correctional facility as provided by section 352D-4.3;

17 (15) The judiciary on employees and applicants at detention
18 and shelter facilities as provided by section 571-34;

19 (16) The department of public safety on employees and
20 prospective employees who are directly involved with
21 the treatment and care of persons committed to a



1 correctional facility or who possess police powers
2 including the power of arrest as provided by section
3 353C-5;

4 (17) The board of private detectives and guards on
5 applicants for private detective or private guard
6 licensure as provided by section 463-9;

7 (18) Private schools and designated organizations on
8 employees and prospective employees who may be in
9 positions that necessitate close proximity to
10 children; provided that private schools and designated
11 organizations receive only indications of the states
12 from which the national criminal history record
13 information was provided pursuant to section 302C-1;

14 (19) The public library system on employees and prospective
15 employees whose positions place them in close
16 proximity to children as provided by section
17 302A-601.5;

18 (20) The State or any of its branches, political
19 subdivisions, or agencies on applicants and employees
20 holding a position that has the same type of contact
21 with children, vulnerable adults, or persons committed



1 to a correctional facility as other public employees
2 who hold positions that are authorized by law to
3 require criminal history record checks as a condition
4 of employment as provided by section 78-2.7;

5 (21) The department of health on licensed adult day care
6 center operators, employees, new employees,
7 subcontracted service providers and their employees,
8 and adult volunteers as provided by section 321-15.2;

9 (22) The department of human services on purchase of
10 service contracted and subcontracted service providers
11 and their employees serving clients of the adult
12 protective and community services branch, as provided
13 by section 346-97;

14 (23) The department of human services on foster grandparent
15 program, senior companion program, and respite
16 companion program participants as provided by section
17 346-97;

18 (24) The department of human services on contracted and
19 subcontracted service providers and their current and
20 prospective employees that provide home and community-
21 based services under section 1915(c) of the Social



1 Security Act, title 42 United States Code section
2 1396n(c), or under any other applicable section or
3 sections of the Social Security Act for the purposes
4 of providing home and community-based services, as
5 provided by section 346-97;

6 (25) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
7 proposed directors and executive officers of a bank,
8 savings bank, savings and loan association, trust
9 company, and depository financial services loan
10 company as provided by section 412:3-201;

11 (26) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
12 proposed directors and executive officers of a
13 nondepository financial services loan company as
14 provided by section 412:3-301;

15 (27) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on the
16 original chartering applicants and proposed executive
17 officers of a credit union as provided by section
18 412:10-103;

19 (28) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:
20 (A) Each principal of every non-corporate applicant
21 for a money transmitter license;



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



1 (A) An applicant for a mortgage loan originator
2 license, or license renewal; and

3 (B) Each control person, executive officer, director,
4 general partner, and managing member of an
5 applicant for a mortgage loan originator company
6 license or license renewal,

7 as provided by chapter 454F;

8 (32) The state public charter school commission or public
9 charter schools on employees, teacher trainees,
10 prospective employees, and prospective teacher
11 trainees in any public charter school for any position
12 that places them in close proximity to children, as
13 provided in section 302D-33;

14 (33) The counties on prospective employees who work with
15 children, vulnerable adults, or senior citizens in
16 community-based programs;

17 (34) The counties on prospective employees for fire
18 department positions that involve contact with
19 children or vulnerable adults;



1 (35) The counties on prospective employees for emergency
2 medical services positions that involve contact with
3 children or vulnerable adults;

4 (36) The counties on prospective employees for emergency
5 management positions and community volunteers whose
6 responsibilities involve planning and executing
7 homeland security measures including viewing,
8 handling, and engaging in law enforcement or
9 classified meetings and assisting vulnerable citizens
10 during emergencies or crises;

11 (37) The State and counties on employees, prospective
12 employees, volunteers, and contractors whose position
13 responsibilities require unescorted access to secured
14 areas and equipment related to a traffic management
15 center;

16 (38) The State and counties on employees and prospective
17 employees whose positions involve the handling or use
18 of firearms for other than law enforcement purposes;

19 (39) The State and counties on current and prospective
20 systems analysts and others involved in an agency's
21 information technology operation whose position



responsibilities provide them with access to
proprietary, confidential, or sensitive information;

(40) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:

(A) Applicants for real estate appraiser licensure or
certification as provided by chapter 466K;

(B) Each person who owns more than ten per cent of an
appraisal management company who is applying for
registration as an appraisal management company,
as provided by section 466L-7; and

(C) Each of the controlling persons of an applicant
for registration as an appraisal management
company, as provided by section 466L-7;

(41) The department of health or its designee on all
license applicants, licensees, employees, contractors,
and prospective employees of medical cannabis
dispensaries, and individuals permitted to enter and
remain in medical cannabis dispensary facilities as
provided under sections 329D-15(a)(4) and
329D-16(a)(3);

(42) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
applicants for nurse licensure or license renewal,



1 reactivation, or restoration as provided by sections
2 457-7, 457-8, 457-8.5, and 457-9;

3 (43) The county police departments on applicants for
4 permits to acquire firearms pursuant to section 134-2
5 and on individuals registering their firearms pursuant
6 to section 134-3;

7 (44) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on:

8 (A) Each of the controlling persons of the applicant
9 for licensure as an escrow depository, and each
10 of the officers, directors, and principals who
11 will be in charge of the escrow depository's
12 activities upon licensure; and

13 (B) Each of the controlling persons of an applicant
14 for proposed change in control of an escrow
15 depository licensee, and each of the officers,
16 directors, and principals who will be in charge
17 of the licensee's activities upon approval of the
18 application,

19 as provided by chapter 449;

20 (45) The department of taxation on current or prospective
21 employees or contractors who have access to federal



1 tax information in order to comply with requirements
2 of federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided
3 by section 231-1.6;

4 (46) The department of labor and industrial relations on
5 current or prospective employees or contractors who
6 have access to federal tax information in order to
7 comply with requirements of federal law, regulation,
8 or procedure, as provided by section 383-110;

9 (47) The department of human services on current or
10 prospective employees or contractors who have access
11 to federal tax information in order to comply with
12 requirements of federal law, regulation, or procedure,
13 as provided by section 346-2.5;

14 (48) The child support enforcement agency on current or
15 prospective employees or contractors who have access
16 to federal tax information in order to comply with
17 federal law, regulation, or procedure, as provided by
18 section 576D-11.5;

19 (49) The department of the attorney general on current or
20 prospective employees or agents of contractors who
21 have access to federal tax information to comply with



1 requirements of federal law, regulation, or procedure,
2 as provided by section 28-17;

3 ~~[+]~~ (50) ~~[+]~~ The department of commerce and consumer affairs
4 on each control person, executive officer, director,
5 general partner, and managing member of an installment
6 loan licensee, or an applicant for an installment loan
7 license, as provided in chapter 480J;

8 ~~[+]~~ (51) ~~[+]~~ The University of Hawaii on current and
9 prospective employees and contractors whose duties
10 include ensuring the security of campus facilities and
11 persons; ~~[and]~~

12 (52) The department of commerce and consumer affairs on
13 each control person, executive officer, director,
14 general partner, and managing member of a special
15 purpose digital currency company licensee, or an
16 applicant for a special purpose digital currency
17 license, as provided in chapter ; and

18 ~~[+]~~ (52) ~~[+]~~ (53) Any other organization, entity, or the State,
19 its branches, political subdivisions, or agencies as
20 may be authorized by state law."



1 SECTION 5. (a) The companies participating in the digital
2 currency innovation lab shall be allowed to continue operations
3 until their applications are acted upon by the division of
4 financial institutions if the completed application under
5 chapter is submitted to the division of financial
6 institutions by March 1, 2023.

7 (b) A company authorized to participate in the digital
8 currency innovation lab as of June 30, 2022, and whose
9 application for licensure under chapter has been submitted
10 to the division of financial institutions on or before March 1,
11 2023, shall be exempt from the requirements of section -4,
12 Hawaii Revised Statutes, in section 2 of this Act for a period
13 of six months from the date the application is deemed complete
14 or until the commissioner approves or denies the application,
15 whichever occurs first. The commissioner of financial
16 institutions, for good cause, may reduce or extend the six-month
17 period. Submission of an application for licensure shall be
18 evidenced through NMLS to the commissioner.

19 SECTION 6. The department of commerce and consumer affairs
20 may employ necessary personnel without regard to chapter 76,
21 Hawaii Revised Statutes, including three full-time examiners, to



1 assist with the implementation and continuing function of this
2 Act.

3 SECTION 7. There is appropriated out of the compliance
4 resolution fund established pursuant to section 26-9(o), Hawaii
5 Revised Statutes, the sum of \$500,000 or so much thereof as may
6 be necessary for fiscal year 2022-2023 to implement the special
7 purpose digital currency licensing program established by this
8 Act.

9 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of
10 commerce and consumer affairs for the purposes of this Act.

11 SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed
12 and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

13 SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050;
14 provided that the special purpose digital currency licensing
15 requirements established by section 2 of this Act shall take
16 effect on January 1, 2023.

17



Report Title:

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

Description:

Beginning 1/1/2023, establishes a program for the licensure, regulation, and oversight of special purpose digital currency companies. Extends operations of companies in the digital currency innovation lab pilot program under certain circumstances. Appropriates funds out of the compliance resolution fund to implements the program. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

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