

FINAL FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 18-0864

Prime Sponsors: Rep. Melton

Sen. Tate

Date: July 25, 2018

Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely

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BITCOIN DEALERS LICENSED AS MONEY TRANSMITTERS

Summary of Fiscal Impact:

No fiscal impact. This bill would have defined terms related to cryptocurrency

activities to exclude these activities from state regulation.

Appropriation Summary:

No appropriation was required.

Fiscal Note Status:

The fiscal note reflects the reengrossed bill. This bill was not enacted into law;

therefore, the impacts identified in this analysis do not take effect.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, cryptocurrency activities are not subject to any state regulation. This bill defines terms related to cryptocurrency exchanges and excludes cryptocurrency activity from the definition of an investment contract, which are regulated by the Division of Securities in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA).

Background

Virtual currency, or cryptocurrency, is used to make online financial transactions outside the regulated banking system. Transactions are recorded on a digital public ledger called a blockchain. To date, five states have enacted legislation related to cryptocurrency and blockchain technology including Arizona, Delaware, Illinois, Nevada, and Vermont. As of writing, there are approximately 130 cryptocurrency exchanges in existence.

Assessment of No Fiscal Impact

The bill codifies the state's current practice of not regulating virtual currencies. It will not affect the revenue or expenditures of any state or local government and is therefore assessed as having no fiscal impact.

Effective Date

The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee on April 30, 2018.

HB 18-1220

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State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology Law Public Safety Regulatory Agencies Secretary of State