As Reported by the House Financial Institutions Committee

133rd General Assembly

Regular Session 2019-2020

Sub. H. B. No. 38

Representative Hillyer

Cosponsors: Representatives Cross, Hood, Miller, J., Riedel, Weinstein

A BILL

То	amend sections 1321.52, 1322.01, 1322.07,	1
	1322.09, 1322.12, 1322.29, 1349.72, and 2913.11;	2
	to enact section 1319.17; and to repeal section	3
	1349.16 of the Revised Code relating to	4
	commercial credit reports, the General Loan Law,	5
	and the Residential Mortgage Loan Law.	6

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 1321.52, 1322.01, 1322.07,	7
1322.09, 1322.12, 1322.29, 1349.72, and 2913.11 be amended and	8
section 1319.17 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as	9
follows:	10
Sec. 1319.17. (A) As used in this section:	11
(1) "Business" means a sole proprietorship, partnership,	12
corporation, limited liability company, or other commercial	13
entity, whether for profit or not for profit.	14
(2) "Commercial credit report" means any report provided	15
to a business for a legitimate business purpose, relating to the	16
financial status or payment habits of a business that is the	17
subject of the report. "Commercial credit report" does not	18

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shall provide the subject's commercial credit report. The report	47
shall be provided to the subject at a cost not greater than what	48
is charged to third parties and may be printed or in electronic	49
form. The report shall be in a format routinely made available	50
to third parties. A commercial credit reporting agency may	51
protect the identity of sources of information to be used in	52
commercial credit reports.	53
(C) Within thirty days after receipt of a commercial	54
credit report, a representative of the subject of the report may	55
file with the commercial credit reporting agency a written	56
summary statement identifying each particular statement in the	57
report that the subject of the report believes contains an	58
inaccurate statement of fact and indicating the nature of the	59
disagreement with the statement. Within thirty days after	60
receipt of a subject's summary statement of disagreement, the	61
commercial credit reporting agency at no cost to the subject	62
shall do either of the following:	63
(1) Delete the disputed statement of fact from the report	64
and, thereafter, block any repeat reporting of that disputed	65
statement unless its accuracy has been verified;	66
(2) Include in the report a notice of the subject's	67
assertion that the statement of fact is inaccurate.	68
(D) Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide	69
a private right of action, including a class action, with	70
respect to any act or practice regulated under this section.	71
Sec. 1321.52. (A)(1) A registrant may make loans, other	72
than a residential mortgage loan as defined in section 1322.01	73
of the Revised Code, on terms and conditions provided by	74
sections 1321.51 to 1321.60 of the Revised Code.	75

(b) Pay all applicable charges to utilize the national

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multistate licensing system.	105
(2) Establish requirements as necessary for the use of the	106
national multistate licensing system to meet the purposes of	107
these sections, including:	108
(a) Background checks for:	109
(i) Criminal history through fingerprint or other	110
databases;	111
(ii) Civil or administrative records;	112
(iii) Credit history;	113
(iv) Any other information considered necessary by the	114
national multistate licensing system or the superintendent.	115
(b) The payment of fees to apply for or renew licenses	116
through the multistate licensing system;	117
(c) The setting or resetting of renewal or reporting	118
<pre>dates;</pre>	119
(d) Requirements for amending or surrendering a license or	120
any other such activities as the superintendent considers	121
necessary for participation in the national multistate licensing	122
system.	123
Sec. 1322.01. As used in this chapter:	124
(A) "Administrative or clerical tasks" mean the receipt,	125
collection, and distribution of information common for the	126
processing or underwriting of a loan in the mortgage industry,	127
without performing any analysis of the information, and	128
communication with a consumer to obtain information necessary	129
for the processing or underwriting of a residential mortgage	130
loan.	131

mortgage loan originator license under this chapter.	215
(U) "Loan commitment" means a statement transmitted in	216
writing or electronically by a mortgage lender setting forth the	217
terms and conditions upon which the mortgage lender is willing	218
to make a particular residential mortgage loan to a particular	219
borrower.	220
(V) "Loan processor or underwriter" means an individual	221
who, with respect to the origination of a residential mortgage	222
loan, performs administrative or clerical tasks as an employee	223
at the direction of and subject to the supervision of a mortgage-	224
lender or mortgage broker. For purposes of this division,	225
"origination of a residential mortgage loan" means all	226
activities related to a residential mortgage loan, from the-	227
taking of a loan application through the completion of all	228
required loan closing documents and the funding of the loan any	229
of the following activities at the direction or subject to the	230
supervision of a licensed mortgage loan originator or registered	231
<pre>mortgage loan originator:</pre>	232
(1) Receiving, collecting, distributing, or analyzing	233
information common for the processing or underwriting of a	234
residential mortgage loan;	235
(2) Communicating with a borrower to obtain the	236
information necessary for the processing or underwriting of a	237
loan, to the extent the communication does not include offering	238
or negotiating loan rates or terms or counseling borrowers about	239
residential mortgage loan rates or terms .	240
(W) "Mortgage" means the consensual interest in real	241
property located in this state, including improvements to that	242
property, securing a debt evidence by a mortgage, trust	243

indenture, deed of trust, or other lien on real property.	244
(X) "Mortgage broker" means an entity that obtains,	245
attempts to obtain, or assists in obtaining a mortgage loan for	246
a borrower from a mortgage lender in return for consideration or	247
in anticipation of consideration. For purposes of this division,	248
"attempting to obtain or assisting in obtaining" a mortgage loan	249
includes referring a borrower to a mortgage lender, soliciting	250
or offering to solicit a mortgage loan on behalf of a borrower,	251
or negotiating or offering to negotiate the terms or conditions	252
of a mortgage loan with a mortgage lender on behalf of a	253
borrower.	254
(Y) "Mortgage lender" means an entity that consummates a	255
residential mortgage loan, advances funds, offers to advance	256
funds, or commits to advancing funds for a residential mortgage	257
loan applicant.	258
(Z)(1) "Mortgage loan originator" means an individual who	259
for compensation or gain, or in the expectation of compensation	260
or gain, does any of the following:	261
(a) Takes a residential mortgage loan application;	262
(b) Assists or offers to assist a buyer in obtaining or	263
applying to obtain a residential mortgage loan by, among other	264
things, advising on loan terms, including rates, fees, and other	265
costs;	266
(c) Offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage	267
loan;	268
(d) Issues or offers to issue a commitment for a	269
residential mortgage loan to a buyer.	270
(2) "Mortgage loan originator" does not include any of the	271

following:	272
(a) An individual who performs purely administrative or	273
clerical tasks on behalf of a mortgage loan originator;	274
(b) A person licensed under Chapter 4735. of the Revised	275
Code, or under the similar law of another state, who performs	276
only real estate brokerage activities permitted by that license,	277
provided the person is not compensated by a mortgage lender,	278
mortgage broker, mortgage loan originator, or by any agent	279
thereof;	280
(c) A person solely involved in extensions of credit	281
relating to timeshare plans, as that term is defined in 11	282
U.S.C. 101;	283
(d) An employee of a mortgage lender or mortgage broker	284
who acts solely as a loan processor or underwriter and who does	285
not represent to the public, through advertising or other means	286
of communicating, including the use of business cards,	287
stationery, brochures, signs, rate lists, or other promotional	288
items, that the employee can or will perform any of the	289
activities of a mortgage loan originator;	290
(e) A licensed attorney who negotiates the terms of a	291
residential mortgage loan on behalf of a client as an ancillary	292
matter to the attorney's representation of the client, unless	293
the attorney is compensated by a mortgage lender, a mortgage	294
broker, or another mortgage loan originator, or by any agent	295
thereof;	296
(f) Any person engaged in the retail sale of manufactured	297
homes, mobile homes, or industrialized units if, in connection	298
with financing those retail sales, the person only assists the	299
borrower by providing or transmitting the loan application and	300

does not do any of the following:	301
(i) Offer or negotiate the residential mortgage loan rates	302
or terms;	303
(ii) Provide any counseling with borrowers about	304
residential mortgage loan rates or terms;	305
(iii) Receive any payment or fee from any company or	306
individual for assisting the borrower obtain or apply for	307
financing to purchase the manufactured home, mobile home, or	308
industrialized unit;	309
(iv) Assist the borrower in completing a residential	310
mortgage loan application.	311
(g) An individual employed by a nonprofit organization	312
that is recognized as tax exempt under 26 U.S.C. 501(c)(3) and	313
whose primary activity is the construction, remodeling, or	314
rehabilitation of homes for use by low-income families, provided	315
that the nonprofit organization makes no-profit mortgage loans	316
or mortgage loans at zero per cent interest to low-income	317
families and no fees accrue directly to the nonprofit	318
organization or individual employed by the nonprofit	319
organization from those mortgage loans and that the United	320
States department of housing and urban development does not deny	321
this exemption.	322
(AA) "Mortgage servicer" means an entity a person that,	323
for itself or on behalf of the holder of a mortgage loan, holds	324
the servicing rights for more than five mortgage loans, records	325
mortgage payments on its books for more than five mortgage	326
loans, or performs other functions to carry out the mortgage	327
holder's obligations or rights under the mortgage agreement for	328
more than five mortgage loans including, when applicable, the	329

receipt of funds from the mortgagor to be held in escrow for	330
payment of real estate taxes and insurance premiums and the	331
distribution of such funds to the taxing authority and insurance	332
company.	333
(BB) "Nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry"	334
means a licensing system developed and maintained by the	335
conference of state bank supervisors and the American	336
association of residential mortgage regulators, or their	337
successor entities, for the licensing and registration of	338
persons providing non-depository financial services.	339
(CC) "Nontraditional mortgage product" means any mortgage	340
product other than a thirty-year fixed rate mortgage.	341
(DD) "Person" means an individual, sole proprietorship,	342
corporation, company, limited liability company, partnership,	343
limited liability partnership, trust, or association.	344
(EE) "Real estate brokerage activity" means any activity	345
that involves offering or providing real estate brokerage	346
services to the public, including all of the following:	347
(1) Acting as a real estate salesperson or real estate	348
broker for a buyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property;	349
(2) Bringing together parties interested in the sale,	350
purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property;	351
(3) Negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a	352
contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or	353
exchange of real property, other than in connection with	354
providing financing for any such transaction;	355
(4) Engaging in any activity for which a person engaged in	356
that activity is required to be licensed as a real estate	357

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(2) A registrant shall maintain an office location for the	415
transaction of business as a mortgage lender, mortgage servicer,	416
or mortgage broker in this any state of the United States.	417
Registrants are not required to maintain a physical location in	418
this state.	419
(B)(1) No individual shall act as a mortgage loan	420
originator without first having obtained a license from the	421
superintendent. A mortgage loan originator shall be employed by	422
or associated with a mortgage lender, mortgage broker, or entity	423
holding a valid letter of exemption under division (B)(1) of	424
section 1322.05 of the Revised Code, but shall not be employed	425
by or associated with more than one registrant or entity holding	426
a valid letter of exemption under division (B)(1) of section	427
1322.05 of the Revised Code at any one time.	428
(2) An individual acting under the individual's authority	429
as a registered mortgage loan originator shall not be required	430
to be licensed under division (B)(1) of this section.	431
(3) An individual who holds a valid temporary mortgage	432
loan originator license issued pursuant to section 1322.24 of	433
the Revised Code may engage in the business of a mortgage loan	434
originator in accordance with this chapter during the term of	435
the temporary license.	436
Sec. 1322.09. (A) (1) An application for a certificate of	437
registration shall be in writing, under oath, and in a form	438
prescribed by the superintendent of financial institutions that	439
complies with the requirements of the nationwide mortgage	440
licensing system and registry. The application shall be	441
accompanied by a nonrefundable application fee of five hundred	442
dollars for each location of an office to be maintained by the	443

applicant in accordance with division (A) of section 1322.07 of

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the applicant to advance sufficient lunds to pay the actual	4/3
expenses of the investigation, if it appears that these expenses	474
will exceed five hundred dollars. The superintendent shall	475
provide the applicant with an itemized statement of the actual	476
expenses that the applicant is required to pay.	477
(C) In connection with applying for a certificate of	478
registration, the applicant shall furnish to the nationwide	479
mortgage licensing system and registry information concerning	480
the applicant's identity, including all of the following:	481
(1) The applicant's fingerprints for submission to the	482
federal bureau of investigation, and any other governmental	483
agency or entity authorized to receive such information, for	484
purposes of a state, national, and international criminal	485
history background check;	486
(2) Personal history and experience in a form prescribed	487
by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry, along	488
with authorization for the superintendent and the nationwide	489
mortgage licensing system and registry to obtain both of the	490
following:	491
(a) An independent credit report from a consumer reporting	492
agency;	493
(b) Information related to any administrative, civil, or	494
criminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.	495
(D) The superintendent shall pay all funds advanced and	496
application and renewal fees and penalties the superintendent	497
receives pursuant to this section and section 1322.10 of the	498
Revised Code to the treasurer of state to the credit of the	499
consumer finance fund created in section 1321.21 of the Revised	500
Code.	501

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- (E) If an application for a certificate of registration 502 does not contain all of the information required under this 503 section, and if that information is not submitted to the 504 superintendent or to the nationwide mortgage licensing system 505 and registry within ninety days after the superintendent or the 506 nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry requests the 507 information in writing, including by electronic transmission or 508 facsimile, the superintendent may consider the application 509 withdrawn. 510 511
- (F) A certificate of registration and the authority granted under that certificate is not transferable or assignable and cannot be franchised by contract or any other means.
- (G)(1) The superintendent may establish relationships or 514 enter into contracts with the nationwide mortgage licensing 515 system and registry, or any entities designated by it, to 516 collect and maintain records and process transaction fees or 517 other fees related to mortgage lender, mortgage servicer, or 518 mortgage broker certificates of registration or the persons 519 associated with a mortgage lender, mortgage servicer, or 520 521 mortgage broker.
- (2) For purposes of this section and to reduce the points 522 of contact that the federal bureau of investigation may have to 523 maintain, the division of financial institutions may use the 524 nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as a 525 channeling agent for requesting information from and 526 distributing information to the United States department of 527 justice or other governmental agencies. 528
- (3) For purposes of this section and to reduce the points
 of contact that the division may have to maintain, the division
 may use the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as
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writing of the new designation;	561
(3) Submit any additional information that the	562
superintendent requires to establish that the newly designated	563
operations manager meets the requirements set forth in this	564
section.	565
(D) The registrant shall cease operations if it is without	566
an operations manager approved by the superintendent for more	567
than one hundred eighty days unless otherwise authorized in	568
writing by the superintendent due to exigent circumstances.	569
Sec. 1322.29. (A) A registrant or entity holding a valid	570
letter of exemption under division (B)(1) of section 1322.05 of	571
the Revised Code shall supervise all business of a mortgage loan	572
originator conducted at the principal office, any branch office,	573
or other location used by the individual mortgage loan	574
originator.	575
(B) If a mortgage loan originator's employment or	576
association is terminated for any reason, the licensee may	577
request the transfer of the license to another mortgage lender	578
or mortgage broker by submitting a transfer application, along	579
with a fifteen-dollar fee and any fee required by the national	580
mortgage licensing system and registry, to the superintendent of	581
financial institutions or may request the superintendent in	582
writing to hold the license in escrow. Any licensee whose	583
license is held in escrow shall cease activity as a mortgage	584
loan originator. A licensee whose license is held in escrow	585
shall be required to apply for renewal annually and to comply	586
with the annual continuing education requirement.	587
(C) A registrant may employ or be associated with a	588
mortgage loan originator on a temporary basis pending the	589

transfer of the mortgage loan originator's license to the	590
registrant, if the registrant receives written confirmation from	591
the superintendent that the mortgage loan originator is licensed	592
under this chapter.	593
(D) Notwithstanding divisions (A) to (C) of this section,	594
if a licensee is employed by or associated with a person or	595
entity holding a valid letter of exemption under division (B)(1)	596
of section 1322.05 of the Revised Code, all of the following	597
apply:	598
(1) The licensee shall maintain and display a copy of the	599
mortgage loan originator license at the office where the	600
licensee principally transacts business.	601
(2) If and if the mortgage loan originator's employment or	602
association is terminated, the mortgage loan originator shall	603
notify the superintendent within five business days after	604
termination. The licensee may request the transfer of the	605
license to another person or entity holding a valid letter of	606
exemption under division (B)(1) of section 1322.05 of the	607
Revised Code by submitting a transfer application, along with a	608
fifteen-dollar fee and any fee required by the national mortgage	609
licensing system and registry, to the superintendent or may	610
request the superintendent in writing to hold the license in	611
escrow. A licensee whose license is held in escrow shall cease	612
activity as a mortgage loan originator. A licensee whose license	613
is held in escrow shall be required to apply for renewal	614
annually and to comply with the annual continuing education	615
requirement.	616
(E) A licensee may seek to be employed by or associated	617
with a registrant or a person or entity holding a valid letter	618
of exemption under division (B)(1) of section 1322.05 of the	619

Revised Code, if the mortgage lender, mortgage broker, or person	620
or entity receives written confirmation from the superintendent	621
that the mortgage loan originator is licensed under this	622
chapter.	623
Sec. 1349.72. (A) Before Not less than thirty days prior	624
to a person collecting filing a foreclosure action to collect on	625
a debt secured by residential real property—collects or attempts—	626
to collect any part of the debt, the person shall first send a	627
written notice as described in division (B) of this section via	628
United States mail to the residential address of the debtor, if	629
both of the following apply:	630
(1) The debt is a second secured by a mortgage or junior	631
lien on the debtor's residential real property that is not in	632
the first mortgage position.	633
(2) The debt <u>has either been accelerated or</u> is in default	634
in accordance with the terms set forth in the promissory note.	635
(B) The written notice <u>may be included on</u> , or accompany,	636
any other communication, and shall be printed in at least	637
twelve-point type and <pre>state-include</pre> the following:	638
(1) The name and contact information of the person	639
collecting the debt;	640
(2) The A statement of the amount of the debt;	641
(3) A statement that the debtor has a right to engage an	642
attorney;	643
(4) A statement that the debtor may qualify for debt	644
relief under Chapter 7 or 13 of the United States Bankruptcy	645
Code, 11 U.S.C. Chapter 7 or 13, as amended;	646
(5) A statement that a debtor that qualifies under Chapter	647

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13 of the United States Bankruptcy Code may be able to protect	648
their residential real property from foreclosure.	649
(C) Upon written request of the debtor, the owner of the	650
debt shall provide a copy of the note and the loan history to	651
the debtor.	652
(D)(1) As used in this division $_{\mathcal{T}}$:	653
(a) "bona Bona fide error" means an unintentional	654
clerical, calculation, computer malfunction or programming, or	655
printing error.	656
(b) "Restitution" means either of the following:	657
(i) A waiver of all fees, costs, or expenses proximately	658
associated with the failure to provide the notice to the debtor;	659
<u>or</u>	660
(ii) Actual damages.	661
(2) Any owner of debt subject to divisions (A), (B), and	662
(C) of this section shall not be held civilly liable in any	663
action, if all of the following are met:	664
(a) The owner of the debt shows by a preponderance of	665
evidence that the compliance failure was not intentional and	666
resulted from a bona fide error notwithstanding the maintenance	667
of procedures reasonably adapted to avoid any such error.	668
(b) Within sixty days after discovering the error, and	669
prior to the initiation of any action, the owner of the debt	670
notifies the debtor of the error and the manner in which the	671
owner of the debt intends to make full restitution to the	672
debtor.	673
(c) The owner of the debt promptly makes reasonable	674

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restitution to the debtor.	675
(3) If, in the event of a compliance failure, the owner of	676
the debt does not meet the conditions set forth in division (D)	677
(2) of this section, a debtor injured by the error has a cause	678
of action to recover damages. Such an action shall not, however,	679
be maintained as a class action.	680
Sec. 2913.11. (A) As used in this section:	681
(1) "Check" includes any form of debit from a demand	682
deposit account, including, but not limited to any of the	683
following:	684
(a) A check, bill of exchange, draft, order of withdrawal,	685
or similar negotiable or non-negotiable instrument;	686
(b) An electronic check, electronic transaction, debit	687
card transaction, check card transaction, substitute check, web	688
check, or any form of automated clearing house transaction.	689
(2) "Issue a check" means causing any form of debit from a	690
demand deposit account.	691
(B) No person, with purpose to defraud, shall issue or	692
transfer or cause to be issued or transferred a check or other	693
negotiable instrument, knowing that it will be dishonored or	694
knowing that a person has ordered or will order stop payment on	695
the check or other negotiable instrument.	696
(C) For purposes of this section, a person who issues or	697
transfers a check or other negotiable instrument is presumed to	698
know that it will be dishonored if either of the following	699
occurs:	700
(1) The drawer had no account with the drawee at the time	701
of issue or the stated date whichever is later.	702

(2) The check or other negotiable instrument was properly	703
refused payment for insufficient funds upon presentment within	704
thirty days after issue or the stated date, whichever is later,	705
and the liability of the drawer, indorser, or any party who may	706
be liable thereon is not discharged by payment or satisfaction	707
within ten days after receiving notice of dishonor.	708
(D) For purposes of this section, a person who issues or	709
transfers a check, bill of exchange, or other draft is presumed	710
to have the purpose to defraud if the drawer fails to comply	711
with section 1349.16 of the Revised Code by doing any of the	712
following when opening a checking account intended for personal,	713
family, or household purposes at a financial institution:	714
(1) Falsely stating that the drawer has not been issued a	715
valid driver's or commercial driver's license or identification-	716
card issued under section 4507.50 of the Revised Code;	717
(2) Furnishing such license or card, or another	718
identification document that contains false information;	719
(3) Making a false statement with respect to the drawer's	720
current address or any additional relevant information-	721
reasonably required by the financial institution.	722
(E)—In determining the value of the payment for purposes	723
of division $\frac{(F)-(E)}{(E)}$ of this section, the court may aggregate all	724
checks and other negotiable instruments that the offender issued	725
or transferred or caused to be issued or transferred in	726
violation of division (A) of this section within a period of one	727
hundred eighty consecutive days.	728
$\frac{(F)-(E)}{(E)}$ Whoever violates this section is guilty of passing	729
bad checks. Except as otherwise provided in this division,	730
passing bad checks is a misdemeanor of the first degree. If the	731

check or checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments	732
are issued or transferred to a single vendor or single other	733
person for the payment of one thousand dollars or more but less	734
than seven thousand five hundred dollars or if the check or	735
checks or other negotiable instrument or instruments are issued	736
or transferred to multiple vendors or persons for the payment of	737
one thousand five hundred dollars or more but less than seven	738
thousand five hundred dollars, passing bad checks is a felony of	739
the fifth degree. If the check or checks or other negotiable	740
instrument or instruments are for the payment of seven thousand	741
five hundred dollars or more but less than one hundred fifty	742
thousand dollars, passing bad checks is a felony of the fourth	743
degree. If the check or checks or other negotiable instrument or	744
instruments are for the payment of one hundred fifty thousand	745
dollars or more, passing bad checks is a felony of the third	746
degree.	747
Section 2. That existing sections 1321.52, 1322.01,	748
1322.07, 1322.09, 1322.12, 1322.29, 1349.72, and 2913.11 of the	749
Revised Code are hereby repealed.	750
Section 3. That section 1349.16 of the Revised Code is	751
hereby repealed.	752