

**As Introduced**

**135th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2023-2024**

**H. B. No. 163**

**Representative Gross**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Williams, Seitz, Wiggam, Dean, Klopfenstein,  
Fowler Arthur, Claggett, McClain**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 1301.201 of the Revised Code to 1  
exclude central bank digital currencies from 2  
being treated as money under the Ohio Uniform 3  
Commercial Code. 4

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

**Section 1.** That section 1301.201 of the Revised Code be 5  
amended to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 1301.201.** General definitions [UCC 1-201] 7

(A) Unless the context otherwise requires, words or 8  
phrases defined in this section, or in the additional 9  
definitions contained in Chapter 1301., 1302., 1303., 1304., 10  
1305., 1307., 1308., 1309., or 1310. of the Revised Code, that 11  
apply to particular chapters or sections therein, have the 12  
meanings stated. 13

(B) Subject to definitions contained in Chapter 1301., 14  
1302., 1303., 1304., 1305., 1307., 1308., 1309., or 1310. of the 15  
Revised Code, that apply to particular chapters or sections 16  
therein: 17

- (1) "Action", in the sense of a judicial proceeding, 18  
includes recoupment, counterclaim, set-off, suit in equity, and 19  
any other proceeding in which rights are determined. 20
- (2) "Aggrieved party" means a party entitled to pursue a 21  
remedy. 22
- (3) "Agreement", as distinguished from "contract", means 23  
the bargain of the parties in fact, as found in their language 24  
or inferred from other circumstances, including course of 25  
performance, course of dealing, or usage of trade as provided in 26  
section 1301.303 of the Revised Code. 27
- (4) "Bank" means a person engaged in the business of 28  
banking and includes a savings bank, savings and loan 29  
association, credit union, and trust company. 30
- (5) "Bearer" means a person in control of a negotiable 31  
electronic document of title or a person in possession of a 32  
negotiable instrument, negotiable tangible document of title, or 33  
certificated security that is payable to bearer or indorsed in 34  
blank. 35
- (6) "Bill of lading" means a document of title evidencing 36  
the receipt of goods for shipment issued by a person engaged in 37  
the business of directly or indirectly transporting or 38  
forwarding goods. The term does not include a warehouse receipt. 39
- (7) "Branch" includes a separately incorporated foreign 40  
branch of a bank. 41
- (8) "Burden of establishing" a fact means the burden of 42  
persuading the trier of fact that the existence of the fact is 43  
more probable than its nonexistence. 44
- (9) "Buyer in ordinary course of business" means a person 45

that buys goods in good faith, without knowledge that the sale  
violates the rights of another person in the goods, and in the  
ordinary course from a person, other than a pawnbroker, in the  
business of selling goods of that kind. A person buys goods in  
the ordinary course if the sale to the person comports with the  
usual or customary practices in the kind of business in which  
the seller is engaged or with the seller's own usual or  
customary practices. A person that sells oil, gas, or other  
minerals at the wellhead or minehead is a person in the business  
of selling goods of that kind. A buyer in ordinary course of  
business may buy for cash, by exchange of other property, or on  
secured or unsecured credit, and may acquire goods or documents  
of title under a preexisting contract for sale. Only a buyer  
that takes possession of the goods or has a right to recover the  
goods from the seller under Chapter 1302. of the Revised Code  
may be a buyer in ordinary course of business. "Buyer in  
ordinary course of business" does not include a person that  
acquires goods in a transfer in bulk or as security for or in  
total or partial satisfaction of a money debt.

(10) "Central bank digital currency" means a digital  
currency, digital medium of exchange, or digital monetary unit  
of account issued by the United States federal reserve system, a  
federal agency, a foreign government, a foreign central bank, or  
a foreign reserve system, that is made directly available to a  
consumer by such entities. The term includes a digital currency,  
digital medium of exchange, or digital monetary unit of account  
issued by the United States federal reserve system, a federal  
agency, a foreign government, a foreign central bank, or a  
foreign reserve system, that is processed or validated directly  
by such entities.

~~(10)~~ (11) "Conspicuous", with reference to a term, means

so written, displayed, or presented that a reasonable person 77  
against which it is to operate ought to have noticed it. Whether 78  
a term is "conspicuous" or not is for decision by the court. 79  
Conspicuous terms include the following: 80

(a) A heading in capitals equal to or greater in size than 81  
the surrounding text, or in contrasting type, font, or color to 82  
the surrounding text of the same or lesser size; and 83

(b) Language in the body of a record or display in larger 84  
type than the surrounding text, or in contrasting type, font, or 85  
color to the surrounding text of the same size, or set off from 86  
surrounding text of the same size by symbols or other marks that 87  
call attention to the language. 88

~~(11)~~ (12) "Consumer" means an individual who enters into a 89  
transaction primarily for personal, family, or household 90  
purposes. 91

~~(12)~~ (13) "Contract", as distinguished from "agreement", 92  
means the total legal obligation that results from the parties' 93  
agreement as determined by Chapters 1301., 1302., 1303., 1304., 94  
1305., 1307., 1308., 1309., and 1310. of the Revised Code as 95  
supplemented by any other applicable laws. 96

~~(13)~~ (14) "Creditor" includes a general creditor, a 97  
secured creditor, a lien creditor, and any representative of 98  
creditors, including an assignee for the benefit of creditors, a 99  
trustee in bankruptcy, a receiver in equity, and an executor or 100  
administrator of an insolvent debtor's or assignor's estate. 101

~~(14)~~ (15) "Defendant" includes a person in the position of 102  
defendant in a counterclaim, cross-claim, or third-party claim. 103

~~(15)~~ (16) "Delivery" with respect to an electronic 104  
document of title means voluntary transfer of control and with 105

respect to an instrument, a tangible document of title, or 106  
chattel paper, means voluntary transfer of possession. 107

~~(16)~~ (17) "Document of title" means a record (i) that in 108  
the regular course of business or financing is treated as 109  
adequately evidencing that the person in possession or control 110  
of the record is entitled to receive, control, hold, and dispose 111  
of the record and the goods the record covers and (ii) that 112  
purports to be issued by or addressed to a bailee and to cover 113  
goods in the bailee's possession which are either identified or 114  
are fungible portions of an identified mass. The term includes a 115  
bill of lading, transport document, dock warrant, dock receipt, 116  
warehouse receipt, and order for delivery of goods. An 117  
electronic document of title means a document of title evidenced 118  
by a record consisting of information stored in an electronic 119  
medium. A tangible document of title means a document of title 120  
evidenced by a record consisting of information that is 121  
inscribed on a tangible medium. 122

~~(17)~~ (18) "Fault" means a default, breach, or wrongful act 123  
or omission. 124

~~(18)~~ (19) "Fungible goods" means: 125

(a) Goods of which any unit, by nature or usage of trade, 126  
is the equivalent of any other like unit; or 127

(b) Goods that by agreement are treated as equivalent. 128

~~(19)~~ (20) "Genuine" means free of forgery or 129  
counterfeiting. 130

~~(20)~~ (21) "Good faith," except as otherwise provided in 131  
Chapter 1305. of the Revised Code, means honesty in fact and the 132  
observance of reasonable commercial standards of fair dealing. 133

<del>(21)</del> -(22) "Holder" means:	134
(a) The person in possession of a negotiable instrument	135
that is payable either to bearer or to an identified person that	136
is the person in possession;	137
(b) The person in possession of a negotiable tangible	138
document of title if the goods are deliverable either to bearer	139
or to the order of the person in possession; or	140
(c) The person in control of a negotiable electronic	141
document of title.	142
<del>(22)</del> -(23) "Insolvency proceeding" includes an assignment	143
for the benefit of creditors or other proceeding intended to	144
liquidate or rehabilitate the estate of the person involved.	145
<del>(23)</del> -(24) "Insolvent" means:	146
(a) Having generally ceased to pay debts in the ordinary	147
course of business other than as a result of a bona fide	148
dispute;	149
(b) Being unable to pay debts as they become due; or	150
(c) Being insolvent within the meaning of federal	151
bankruptcy law.	152
<del>(24)</del> -(25) "Money" means a medium of exchange currently	153
authorized or adopted by a domestic or foreign government. The	154
term includes a monetary unit of account established by an	155
intergovernmental organization or by agreement between two or	156
more countries. <u>The term does not include a central bank digital</u>	157
<u>currency.</u>	158
<del>(25)</del> -(26) "Organization" means a person other than an	159
individual.	160

~~(26)~~(27) "Party", as distinguished from "third party", 161  
means a person that has engaged in a transaction or made an 162  
agreement subject to Chapters 1301., 1302., 1303., 1304., 1305., 163  
1307., 1308., 1309., and 1310. of the Revised Code. 164

~~(27)~~(28) "Person" means an individual, corporation, 165  
business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability 166  
company, association, joint venture, government, governmental 167  
subdivision, agency, or instrumentality, public corporation, or 168  
any other legal or commercial entity. 169

~~(28)~~(29) "Present value" means the amount as of a date 170  
certain of one or more sums payable in the future, discounted to 171  
the date certain by use of either an interest rate specified by 172  
the parties if that rate is not manifestly unreasonable at the 173  
time the transaction is entered into or, if an interest rate is 174  
not so specified, a commercially reasonable rate that takes into 175  
account the facts and circumstances at the time the transaction 176  
is entered into. 177

~~(29)~~(30) "Purchase" means taking by sale, lease, 178  
discount, negotiation, mortgage, pledge, lien, security 179  
interest, issue or reissue, gift, or any other voluntary 180  
transaction creating an interest in property. 181

~~(30)~~(31) "Purchaser" means a person that takes by 182  
purchase. 183

~~(31)~~(32) "Record" means information that is inscribed on 184  
a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other 185  
medium and is retrievable in perceivable form. 186

~~(32)~~(33) "Remedy" means any remedial right to which an 187  
aggrieved party is entitled with or without resort to a 188  
tribunal. 189

~~(33)~~ (34) "Representative" means a person empowered to act 190  
for another, including an agent, an officer of a corporation or 191  
association, and a trustee, executor, or administrator of an 192  
estate. 193

~~(34)~~ (35) "Right" includes remedy. 194

~~(35)~~ (36) "Security interest" means an interest in 195  
personal property or fixtures which secures payment or 196  
performance of an obligation. "Security interest" includes any 197  
interest of a consignor and a buyer of accounts, chattel paper, 198  
a payment intangible, or a promissory note in a transaction that 199  
is subject to Chapter 1309. of the Revised Code. "Security 200  
interest" does not include the special property interest of a 201  
buyer of goods on identification of those goods to a contract 202  
for sale under section 1302.42 of the Revised Code, but a buyer 203  
may also acquire a "security interest" by complying with Chapter 204  
1309. of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in 205  
section 1302.49 of the Revised Code, the right of a seller or 206  
lessor of goods under Chapter 1302. or 1310. of the Revised Code 207  
to retain or acquire possession of the goods is not a "security 208  
interest", but a seller or lessor may also acquire a "security 209  
interest" by complying with Chapter 1309. of the Revised Code. 210  
The retention or reservation of title by a seller of goods 211  
notwithstanding shipment or delivery to the buyer under section 212  
1302.42 of the Revised Code is limited in effect to a 213  
reservation of a "security interest." Whether a transaction in 214  
the form of a lease creates a "security interest" is determined 215  
pursuant to section 1301.203 of the Revised Code. 216

~~(36)~~ (37) "Send" in connection with any writing, record, 217  
or notice means: 218

(a) To deposit in the mail or deliver for transmission by 219



any other usual means of communication with postage or cost of 220  
transmission provided for and properly addressed and, in the 221  
case of an instrument, to an address specified thereon or 222  
otherwise agreed, or if there be none to any address reasonable 223  
under the circumstances; or 224

(b) In any other way to cause to be received any record or 225  
notice within the time it would have arrived if properly sent. 226

~~(37)~~ (38) "Signed" includes using any symbol executed or 227  
adopted with present intention to adopt or accept a writing. 228

~~(38)~~ (39) "State" means a state of the United States, the 229  
District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin 230  
Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the 231  
jurisdiction of the United States. 232

~~(39)~~ (40) "Surety" includes a guarantor or any other 233  
secondary obligor. 234

~~(40)~~ (41) "Term" means a portion of an agreement that 235  
relates to a particular matter. 236

~~(41)~~ (42) "Unauthorized signature" means a signature made 237  
without actual, implied, or apparent authority. The term 238  
includes a forgery. 239

~~(42)~~ (43) "Warehouse receipt" means a document of title 240  
issued by a person engaged in the business of storing goods for 241  
hire. 242

~~(43)~~ (44) "Writing" includes printing, typewriting, or any 243  
other intentional reduction to tangible form. "Written" has a 244  
corresponding meaning. 245

**Section 2.** That existing section 1301.201 of the Revised 246  
Code is hereby repealed. 247