

burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The updated Series 50 examination content outline aligns with the functions and associated tasks currently performed by Municipal Advisor Representatives and tests knowledge of the most current laws, rules, and regulations and skills relevant to those functions and associated tasks. As such, the proposed rule change would make the Series 50 examination more efficient and effective.

*C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others*

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

**III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action**

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>12</sup> and paragraph (f)(1) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>13</sup> At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

**IV. Solicitation of Comments**

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

*Electronic Comments*

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an email to [rule-comments@sec.gov](mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov). Please include File Number SR-MSRB-2016-08 on the subject line.

*Paper Comments*

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549.
- All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2016-08. This file number should be included on the subject line if email is used. To help the Commission process and review your

comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street NE., Washington, DC 20549 on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the MSRB. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2016-08 and should be submitted on or before July 26, 2016.

For the Commission, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>14</sup>

**Robert W. Errett,**  
*Deputy Secretary.*

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**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

[Release No. 34-78178; File No. SR-BYX-2012-019]

**Self-Regulatory Organization; BATS BYX-Exchange, Inc.; Order Granting an Extension to Limited Exemption From Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS in Connection With the Exchange's Retail Price Improvement Program**

June 28, 2016.

On November 27, 2012, the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") issued an order pursuant to its authority under Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS ("Sub-Penny Rule")<sup>1</sup> that granted the BATS BYX-Exchange, Inc. ("BYX" or the "Exchange") a limited exemption from the Sub-Penny Rule in connection with the operation of the Exchange's Retail

Price Improvement ("RPI") Program (the "Program"). The limited exemption was granted concurrently with the Commission's approval of the Exchange's proposal to adopt the Program for a one-year pilot term.<sup>2</sup> The exemption was granted coterminous with the effectiveness of the pilot Program and has been extended three times;<sup>3</sup> both the pilot Program and exemption are scheduled to expire on July 31, 2016.

The Exchange now seeks to extend the exemption until July 31, 2017.<sup>4</sup> The Exchange's request was made in conjunction with an immediately effective filing that extends the operation of the Program until July 31, 2017.<sup>5</sup> In its request to extend the exemption, the Exchange notes that the Program was implemented gradually over time. Accordingly, the Exchange has asked for additional time to allow itself and the Commission to analyze data concerning the Program, which the Exchange committed to provide to the Commission, as well as to allow additional opportunities for greater participation in the Program.<sup>6</sup> For this reason and the reasons stated in the Order originally granting the limited exemption, the Commission finds that extending the exemption, pursuant to its authority under Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS, is appropriate in the public interest and consistent with the protection of investors.

THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that, pursuant to Rule 612(c)

<sup>2</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68303 (November 27, 2012), 77 FR 71652 (December 3, 2012) ("RPI Approval Order") (SR-BXY-2012-019).

<sup>3</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 71249 (January 7, 2014), 79 FR 2229 (January 13, 2014) (SR-BYX-2014-001) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Period for the RPI); 71250 (January 7, 2014), 79 FR 2234 (January 13, 2014) (Order Granting an Extension to Limited Exemption From Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS in Connection With the Exchange's Retail Price Improvement Program); 74111 (January 22, 2015), 80 FR 4598 (January 28, 2015) (SR-BYX-2015-05) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Period for the RPI); and 74115 (January 22, 2015), 80 FR 4324 (January 27, 2015) (Order Granting an Extension to Limited Exemption From Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS in Connection With the Exchange's Retail Price Improvement Program); 76965 (January 22, 2016), 81 FR 4682 (January 27, 2016) (SR-BYX-2016-01) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Period for the RPI); 76953 (January 21, 2016), 81 FR 4728 (January 27, 2016) (Order Granting an Extension to Limited Exemption From Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS in Connection With the Exchange's Retail Price Improvement Program).

<sup>4</sup> See letter from Anders Franzon, Senior Vice President and Associate General Counsel, BYX, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission, dated June 23, 2016.

<sup>5</sup> See SR-BatsBYX-2016-15.

<sup>6</sup> See RPI Approval Order, *supra* note 2, at 77 FR at 71657.

<sup>12</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(1).

<sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

<sup>15</sup> 17 CFR 242.612(c).

of Regulation NMS, the Exchange is granted a limited exemption from Rule 612(c) of Regulation NMS that allows it to accept and rank orders priced equal to or greater than \$1.00 per share in increments of \$0.001, in connection with the operation of its RPI Program.

The limited and temporary exemption extended by this Order is subject to modification or revocation if at any time the Commission determines that such action is necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Responsibility for compliance with any applicable provisions of the federal securities laws must rest with the persons relying on the exemptions that are the subject of this Order.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.<sup>7</sup>

**Robert W. Errett,**  
Deputy Secretary.

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## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-78182; File No. SR-FINRA-2016-020]

### Self-Regulatory Organizations; Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Extend the Implementation of FINRA Rule 4240 (Margin Requirements for Credit Default Swaps)

June 28, 2016.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”)<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on June 15, 2016, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (“FINRA”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC” or “Commission”) the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by FINRA. FINRA has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a “non-controversial” rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,<sup>3</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

FINRA is proposing to extend to July 18, 2017 the implementation of FINRA Rule 4240. FINRA Rule 4240 implements an interim pilot program with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps that are security-based swaps.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on FINRA’s Web site at <http://www.finra.org>, at the principal office of FINRA and at the Commission’s Public Reference Room.

#### II. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, FINRA included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. FINRA has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

##### A. Self-Regulatory Organization’s Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

###### 1. Purpose

On May 22, 2009, the Commission approved FINRA Rule 4240,<sup>4</sup> which implements an interim pilot program (the “Interim Pilot Program”) with respect to margin requirements for certain transactions in credit default swaps (“CDS”).<sup>5</sup> On May 20, 2015, FINRA filed a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness extending the implementation of FINRA Rule 4240 to July 18, 2016.<sup>6</sup>

As explained in the Approval Order, FINRA Rule 4240, coterminous with certain Commission actions, was intended to address concerns arising from systemic risk posed by CDS, including, among other things, risks to the financial system arising from the

lack of a central clearing counterparty to clear and settle CDS.<sup>7</sup> On July 21, 2010, President Obama signed into law the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”),<sup>8</sup> Title VII of which established a comprehensive new regulatory framework for swaps and security-based swaps,<sup>9</sup> including certain CDS. The new legislation was intended, among other things, to enhance the authority of regulators to implement new rules designed to reduce risk, increase transparency, and promote market integrity with respect to such products.

Pursuant to Title VII of the Dodd-Frank Act, the CFTC and the Commission are engaged in ongoing rulemaking with respect to swaps and security-based swaps.<sup>10</sup> The Commission has, among other things, proposed rules with respect to capital, margin and segregation requirements for security-based swap dealers and major security-based swap participants and capital requirements for broker-dealers.<sup>11</sup> FINRA believes it is appropriate to extend the Interim Pilot Program for a limited period, to July 18, 2017, in light of the continuing

<sup>7</sup> See Approval Order, 74 FR at 25588-89.

<sup>8</sup> See Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Pub. L. 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010).

<sup>9</sup> The terms “swap” and “security-based swap” are defined in Sections 721 and 761 of the Dodd-Frank Act. The Commodity Futures Trading Commission (“CFTC”) and the Commission jointly have approved rules to further define these terms. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67453 (July 18, 2012), 77 FR 48208 (August 13, 2012) (Joint Final Rule; Interpretations; Request for Comment on an Interpretation: Further Definition of “Swap,” “Security-Based Swap,” and “Security-Based Swap Agreement”); Mixed Swaps; Security-Based Swap Agreement Recordkeeping. See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66868 (April 27, 2012), 77 FR 30596 (May 23, 2012) (Joint Final Rule; Joint Interim Final Rule; Interpretations: Further Definition of “Swap Dealer,” “Security-Based Swap Dealer,” “Major Swap Participant,” “Major Security-Based Swap Participant” and “Eligible Contract Participant”).

<sup>10</sup> See, e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 67177 (June 11, 2012), 77 FR 35625 (June 14, 2012) (Notice of Statement of General Policy with Request for Public Comment: Statement of General Policy on the Sequencing of the Compliance Dates for Final Rules Applicable to Security-Based Swaps Adopted Pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act).

<sup>11</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 68071 (October 18, 2012), 77 FR 70214 (November 23, 2012) (Proposed Rule: Capital, Margin, and Segregation Requirements for Security-Based Swap Dealers and Major Security-Based Swap Participants and Capital Requirements for Broker-Dealers). See also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 71958 (April 17, 2014), 79 FR 25194 (May 2, 2014) (Proposed Rule: Recordkeeping and Reporting Requirements for Security-Based Swap Dealers, Major Security-Based Swap Participants, and Broker-Dealers; Capital Rule for Certain Security-Based Swap Dealers).

<sup>7</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(83).

<sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>4</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 59955 (May 22, 2009), 74 FR 25586 (May 28, 2009) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2009-012) (“Approval Order”).

<sup>5</sup> In March 2012, the SEC approved amendments to FINRA Rule 4240 that, among other things, limit at this time the rule’s application to credit default swaps that are security-based swaps. See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 66527 (March 7, 2012), 77 FR 14850 (March 13, 2012) (Order Approving File No. SR-FINRA-2012-015).

<sup>6</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 75069 (May 29, 2015), 80 FR 31931 (June 4, 2015) (Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of File No. SR-FINRA-2015-013).