SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5299

AS AMENDED BY THE HOUSE

Passed Legislature - 2015 Regular Session

State of Washington 64th Legislature 2015 Regular Session

By Senate Financial Institutions & Insurance (originally sponsored by Senators Benton, Mullet, Fain, Darneille, Hobbs, Angel, and Conway; by request of Department of Financial Institutions)

READ FIRST TIME 01/23/15.

AN ACT Relating to updating, clarifying, and strengthening 1 2 department of financial institutions' enforcement, licensing, and 3 examination statutes relating to residential mortgage lending, and enhancing the crime of mortgage fraud in the residential mortgage 4 5 lending process; amending RCW 18.44.021, 19.144.010, 19.144.080, 19.144.090. 19.146.010, 19.146.020, 19.146.0201, 6 19.146.030, 7 19.146.040, 19.146.070, 19.146.205, 19.146.220, 19.146.221, 19.146.265, 8 19.146.227, 19.146.228, 19.146.300, 19.146.390, 9 31.04.015, 31.04.027, 31.04.045, 31.04.075, 31.04.093, 31.04.102, 10 31.04.105, 31.04.145, 31.04.205, 31.04.221, 31.04.224, 31.04.247, 31.04.277, 31.04.290, and 31.04.520; reenacting and amending RCW 11 12 31.04.025; adding new sections to chapter 31.04 RCW; repealing RCW 13 19.146.290 and 19.146.330; and prescribing penalties.

14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

15 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.44.021 and 2012 c 124 s 1 are each amended to 16 read as follows:

17 (1) It shall be unlawful for any person to engage in business as 18 an escrow agent by performing escrows or any of the functions of an 19 escrow agent as described in RCW 18.44.011(7) within this state or 20 with respect to transactions that involve personal property or real 21 property located in this state unless such person possesses a valid license issued by the director pursuant to this chapter. The
 licensing requirements of this chapter shall not apply to:

3 (((1))(a) Any person doing business under the law of this state 4 or the United States relating to banks, trust companies, mutual 5 savings banks, savings and loan associations, credit unions, 6 insurance companies, or any federally approved agency or lending 7 institution under the national housing act (12 U.S.C. Sec. 1703).

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((((2))))(b) Any person licensed to practice law in this state if:

9 (((a)))<u>(i)</u> All escrow transactions are performed by the lawyer 10 while engaged in the practice of law, or by employees of the law 11 practice under the direct supervision of the lawyer while engaged in 12 the practice of law;

13 (((b)))(<u>ii</u>) All escrow transactions are performed under a legal 14 entity publicly identified and operated as a law practice; and

15 (((c)))<u>(iii)</u> All escrow funds are deposited to, maintained in, 16 and disbursed from a trust account in compliance with rules enacted 17 by the Washington supreme court regulating the conduct of lawyers.

18 (((3)))(c) Any real estate company, broker, or agent subject to 19 the jurisdiction of the director of licensing while performing acts 20 in the course of or incidental to sales or purchases of real or 21 personal property handled or negotiated by such real estate company, 22 broker, or agent: PROVIDED, That no compensation is received for 23 escrow services.

(((4)))(d) Any transaction in which money or other property is paid to, deposited with, or transferred to a joint control agent for disbursal or use in payment of the cost of labor, material, services, permits, fees, or other items of expense incurred in the construction of improvements upon real property.

29 (((5)))(e) Any receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, executor,
 30 administrator, guardian, or other person acting under the supervision
 31 or order of any superior court of this state or of any federal court.

32 (((6)))(f) Title insurance companies having a valid certificate 33 of authority issued by the insurance commissioner of this state and 34 title insurance agents having a valid license as a title insurance 35 agent issued by the insurance commissioner of this state.

36 (2) The director may at his or her discretion waive applicability 37 of the licensing provisions of this chapter if the director 38 determines it necessary to facilitate commerce or protect consumers. 39 The director may adopt rules interpreting this section. 1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 19.144.010 and 2008 c 108 s 2 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

3 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter 4 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

5 (1) "Adjustable rate mortgage" or "ARM" means a payment option
6 ARM or a hybrid ARM (commonly known as a 2/28 or 3/27 loan).

7 (2) "Application" means the same as in Regulation X, Real Estate
8 Settlement Procedures, 24 C.F.R. Sec. 3500, as used in an application
9 for a residential mortgage loan.

10 (3) "Borrower" means any person who consults with or retains a 11 person subject to this chapter in an effort to seek information about 12 obtaining a residential mortgage loan, regardless of whether that 13 person actually obtains such a loan.

14 (4) "Department" means the department of financial institutions.

15 (5) "Director" means the director of the department of financial 16 institutions.

17 (6) "Financial institution" means commercial banks and alien 18 banks subject to regulation under Title 30<u>A</u> RCW, savings banks 19 subject to regulation under Title 32 RCW, savings associations 20 subject to regulation under Title 33 RCW, credit unions subject to 21 regulation under chapter 31.12 RCW, consumer loan companies subject 22 to regulation under chapter 31.04 RCW, and mortgage brokers and 23 lenders subject to regulation under chapter 19.146 RCW.

(7) "Fully indexed rate" means the index rate prevailing at the
time a residential mortgage loan is made, plus the margin that will
apply after the expiration of an introductory interest rate.

(8) "Mortgage lending process" means the process through which a 27 person seeks or obtains a residential mortgage loan or residential 28 mortgage loan modification including, but not limited to, 29 solicitation, application, or origination; negotiation of terms; 30 third-party provider services; underwriting; signing and closing; and 31 32 funding of the loan. Documents involved in the mortgage lending process include, but shall not be limited to, uniform residential 33 loan applications or other loan applications, appraisal reports, 34 settlement statements, supporting personal documentation for loan 35 applications such as W-2 forms, verifications of income and 36 employment, bank statements, tax returns, payroll stubs, and any 37 required disclosures. 38

39 (9) "Negative amortization" means an increase in the principal 40 balance of a loan caused when the loan agreement allows the borrower

1 to make payments less than the amount needed to pay all the interest 2 that has accrued on the loan. The unpaid interest is added to the 3 loan balance and becomes part of the principal.

4 (((9)))(10) "Person" means individuals, partnerships,
5 associations, limited liability companies, limited liability
6 partnerships, trusts, corporations, and all other legal entities.

7 (((10)))(11) "Residential mortgage loan" means an extension of credit secured by residential real property located in this state 8 upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed, a single-9 family dwelling or multiple-family dwelling of four or less units. It 10 11 does not include a reverse mortgage or a borrower credit transaction 12 that is secured by rental property. It does not include a bridge loan. It does not include loans to individuals making or acquiring a 13 14 residential mortgage loan solely with his or her own funds for his or her own investment. For purposes of this subsection, a "bridge loan" 15 16 is any temporary loan, having a maturity of one year or less, for the 17 purpose of acquisition or construction of a dwelling intended to 18 become the borrower's principal dwelling.

19 (((11)))(12) "Residential mortgage loan modification" means a 20 change in one or more of a residential mortgage loan's terms or 21 conditions. Changes to a residential mortgage loan's terms or 22 conditions include, but are not limited to, forbearances; repayment 23 plans; changes in interest rates, loan terms, or loan types; 24 capitalizations of arrearages; or principal reductions.

25 (13) "The interagency guidance on nontraditional mortgage product risks" means the quidance document issued in September 2006 by the 26 office of the comptroller of the currency, the board of governors of 27 28 the federal reserve system, the federal deposit insurance 29 corporation, the office of thrift supervision, and the national credit union administration, and the guidance on nontraditional 30 31 mortgage product risks released in November 2006 by the conference of 32 state bank supervisors and the American association of residential 33 mortgage regulators.

34 (((12)))(14) "The statement on subprime mortgage lending" means 35 the guidance document issued in June 2007 by the office of the 36 comptroller of the currency, the board of governors of the federal 37 reserve system, the federal deposit insurance corporation, the office 38 of thrift supervision, and the national credit union administration, 39 and the statement on subprime mortgage lending released in July 2007 40 by the conference of state bank supervisors, the American association

of residential mortgage regulators, and the national association of
 consumer credit administrators.

3 **Sec. 3.** RCW 19.144.080 and 2010 c 35 s 12 are each amended to 4 read as follows:

5 (1) It is unlawful for any person in connection with ((making, brokering, obtaining, or modifying a residential))<u>the</u> mortgage 7 ((loan))<u>lending process</u> to directly or indirectly:

8 (((1))(a)(i) Employ any scheme, device, or artifice to defraud 9 or materially mislead any borrower during the lending process; 10 (((b)))(ii) defraud or materially mislead any lender, defraud or 11 materially mislead any person, or engage in any unfair or deceptive 12 practice toward any person ((in))related to the mortgage lending 13 process; or (((c)))(iii) obtain property by fraud or material 14 misrepresentation ((in))during the mortgage lending process;

15 (((2)))(b) Knowingly make any misstatement, misrepresentation, or 16 omission ((during))related to the mortgage lending process knowing 17 that it may be relied on by a mortgage lender, borrower, or any other 18 party related to the mortgage lending process;

19 (((3)))(c) Use or facilitate the use of any misstatement, 20 misrepresentation, or omission, knowing the same to contain a 21 misstatement, misrepresentation, or omission, ((during))related to 22 the mortgage lending process with the intention that it be relied on 23 by a mortgage lender, borrower, or any other party related to the 24 mortgage lending process; ((or))

(4))(d) Receive any proceeds or anything of value in connection with a residential mortgage closing that such person knew resulted from a violation of subsection (1), (2), or (3) of this section:

28 (e) File or cause to be filed with the county recorder or the 29 official registrar of deeds of any county of this state any document 30 such person knows to contain a material misstatement, 31 misrepresentation, or omission;

32 (f) Violate RCW 31.04.297(3); or 33 (g) Knowingly alter, destroy, shred, mutilate, or conceal a 34 record, document, or other object, or attempt to do so, with the 35 intent to impair the investigation and prosecution of this crime. 36 (2) Each crime prosecuted under this section shall be punished

37 <u>separately under chapter 9.94A RCW, unless it is the same criminal</u> 38 <u>conduct as any other crime under RCW 9.94A.589.</u>

1 (3) Every person who, in the commission of mortgage fraud as 2 described in this section, commits any other crime may be punished 3 for that other crime in addition to mortgage fraud, and may be 4 prosecuted for each crime separately.

5 **Sec. 4.** RCW 19.144.090 and 2008 c 108 s 10 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

7 (1) Any person who knowingly violates RCW 19.144.080 or who 8 knowingly aids or abets in the violation of RCW 19.144.080 is guilty 9 of a class B felony punishable under RCW 9A.20.021(1)(b). Mortgage 10 fraud is a serious level III offense per chapter 9.94A RCW.

11 (2) ((Any person who knowingly alters, destroys, shreds, 12 mutilates, or conceals a record, document, or other object, or 13 attempts to do so, with the intent to impair the investigation and 14 prosecution of this crime is guilty of a class B felony punishable 15 under RCW 9A.20.021(1)(b).

16 (3)) No information may be returned more than (a) five years 17 after the violation, or (b) three years after the actual discovery of 18 the violation, whichever date of limitation is later.

(3) For purposes of venue under this chapter, any violation of 19 RCW 19.144.080 and 31.04.297(3), is considered to have been 20 committed: (a) In the county in which the residential property for 21 22 which a residential mortgage loan is being sought is located; (b) in any county in which any act was performed in furtherance of the 23 24 violation; or (c) in any county in which a document containing a misstatement, misrepresentation, or omission of a material fact is 25 filed with the county recorder or the official registrar of deeds. 26

27 (4) Any person who violates this chapter is subject to civil28 forfeiture statutes.

29 (5) Any person who violates RCW 19.144.080 or 31.04.297(3) is 30 liable for civil damages of five thousand dollars or actual damages, 31 whichever is greater, including costs to repair the victim's credit 32 record and quiet title on the residential property that is involved 33 in the prosecution, and reasonable attorneys' fees as determined by 34 the court.

35 (6) In a proceeding under RCW 19.144.080 in which there has been 36 a conviction, the sentencing court may issue such orders as necessary 37 to correct a public record that contains false information resulting 38 from a violation of the referenced sections.

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1 Sec. 5. RCW 19.146.010 and 2013 c 30 s 1 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

3 Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions in 4 this section apply throughout this chapter.

5 (1) "Affiliate" means any person who directly or indirectly 6 through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or 7 is under common control with another person.

8 (2) (("Application" means the same as in Regulation X, Real
9 Estate Settlement Procedures, 24 C.F.R. Sec. 3500.

(3)) "Borrower" means any person who consults with or retains a 10 mortgage broker or loan originator in an effort to obtain or seek 11 advice or information on obtaining or applying to obtain a 12 13 residential mortgage loan, or а residential mortgage loan modification, for himself, herself, or persons including himself or 14 herself, regardless of whether the person actually obtains such a 15 16 loan.

17 (((4)))(3) "Computer loan information systems" or "CLI system" 18 means a real estate mortgage financing information system that 19 facilitates the provision of information to consumers by a mortgage 20 broker, loan originator, lender, real estate agent, or other person 21 regarding interest rates and other loan terms available from 22 different lenders.

23 (((+5)))(4) "Department" means the <u>state</u> department of financial 24 institutions.

((((6)))<u>(5)</u> "Designated broker" means ((a natural person))an individual designated as the person responsible for activities of the licensed mortgage broker in conducting the business of a mortgage broker under this chapter and who meets the experience and examination requirements set forth in RCW 19.146.210(1)(e).

30 (((7)))(6) "Director" means the director of financial 31 institutions.

32 (((+8)))(7) "Employee" means an individual who has an employment 33 relationship with a mortgage broker, and the individual is treated as 34 an employee by the mortgage broker for purposes of compliance with 35 federal income tax laws.

36 (((9)))(<u>8)</u> "Federal banking agencies" means the board of 37 governors of the federal reserve system, comptroller of the currency, 38 director of the office of thrift supervision, national credit union 39 administration, and federal deposit insurance corporation.

1 (((10) "Independent contractor" or "person who independently 2 contracts" means any person that expressly or impliedly contracts to 3 perform mortgage brokering services for another and that with respect 4 to its manner or means of performing the services is not subject to 5 the other's right of control, and that is not treated as an employee 6 by the other for purposes of compliance with federal income tax laws.

7 (11))(9) "License" means a single license issued under the 8 authority of this chapter.

9 <u>(10) "Licensee" means a person to whom one or more licenses have</u> 10 <u>been issued. "Licensee" also means any person, whether located within</u> 11 <u>or outside of this state, who fails to obtain a license required by</u> 12 <u>this chapter.</u>

(11)(a) "Loan originator" means ((a natural person))an individual 13 14 for direct or indirect compensation or gain, or in the who expectation of direct or indirect compensation or gain (i) takes a 15 16 residential mortgage loan application ((for a mortgage broker)), or 17 (ii) offers or negotiates terms of a residential mortgage loan. "Loan originator" also includes a person who holds themselves out to the 18 public as able to perform any of these activities. "Loan originator" 19 does not mean persons performing purely administrative or clerical 20 21 tasks for a mortgage broker. For the purposes of this subsection, "administrative or clerical tasks" means the receipt, collection, and 22 distribution of information common for the processing of a loan in 23 the mortgage industry and communication with a borrower to obtain 24 25 information necessary for the processing of a residential mortgage 26 loan. A person who holds himself or herself out to the public as able 27 to obtain a residential mortgage loan is not performing 28 administrative or clerical tasks.

(b) "Loan originator" also includes ((a natural person))an individual who for direct or indirect compensation or gain or in the expectation of direct or indirect compensation or gain performs residential mortgage loan modification services or holds himself or herself out as being able to perform residential mortgage loan modification services.

35 (c) "Loan originator" does not include a person or entity that 36 only performs real estate brokerage activities and is licensed or 37 registered in accordance with applicable state law, unless the person 38 or entity is compensated by a lender, a mortgage broker, or other 39 mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such a lender, mortgage 40 broker, or other mortgage loan originator. For purposes of this

1 chapter, the term "real estate brokerage activity" means any activity 2 that involves offering or providing real estate brokerage services to 3 the public, including:

4 (i) Acting as a real estate agent or real estate broker for a 5 buyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property;

6 (ii) Bringing together parties interested in the sale, purchase,7 lease, rental, or exchange of real property;

8 (iii) Negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a 9 contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange 10 of real property, other than in connection with providing financing 11 with respect to such a transaction;

(iv) Engaging in any activity for which a person engaged in the activity is required to be registered or licensed as a real estate agent or real estate broker under any applicable law; and

(v) Offering to engage in any activity, or act in any capacity,
described in (c)(i) through (iv) of this subsection.

(d) "Loan originator" does not include a person or entity solely involved in extensions of credit relating to timeshare plans, as that term is defined in section 101(53D) of Title 11, United States Code.

20 (e) This subsection does not apply to employees of a housing 21 counseling agency approved by the United States department of housing 22 and urban development unless the employees of a housing counseling 23 agency are required under federal law to be licensed individually as 24 loan originators.

(12) "Loan processor" means an individual who performs clerical or support duties as an employee at the direction of and subject to the supervision and instruction of a person licensed, or exempt from licensing, under this chapter.

(13) "Lock-in agreement" means an agreement with a borrower made by a mortgage broker or loan originator, in which the mortgage broker or loan originator agrees that, for a period of time, a specific interest rate or other financing terms will be the rate or terms at which it will make a <u>residential mortgage</u> loan available to that borrower.

35 (14)"Mortgage broker" means any person who for direct or 36 indirect compensation or gain, or in the expectation of direct or indirect compensation or gain (a) assists a person in obtaining or 37 to applying obtain a residential mortgage loan or performs 38 residential mortgage loan modification services or (b) holds himself 39 or herself out as being able to assist a person in obtaining or 40

applying to obtain a residential mortgage loan or provide residential
 mortgage loan modification services.

3 (15) "Mortgage loan originator" has the same meaning as "loan 4 originator."

5 (16) "Nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry" means a 6 mortgage licensing system developed and maintained by the conference 7 of state bank supervisors ((and the American association of 8 residential mortgage regulators for the))for licensing and 9 registration ((of mortgage loan originators)).

10 (17) "Person" means ((<u>a natural person</u>))<u>an individual</u>, 11 corporation, company, limited liability ((corporation))<u>company</u>, 12 partnership, ((or)) association<u>, and all other legal entities</u>.

(18) "Principal" means any person who controls, directly or indirectly through one or more intermediaries, or alone or in concert with others, a ten percent or greater interest in a partnership, company, association, ((or)) corporation, <u>limited liability company</u>, and the owner of a sole proprietorship.

(19) "Residential mortgage loan" means any loan primarily for personal, family, or household use secured by a mortgage ((or)), deed of trust ((on))or other consensual security interest on a dwelling as defined in the truth in lending act, or residential real estate upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a ((singlefamily)) dwelling ((or multiple-family dwelling of four or less units)).

(20) "Residential mortgage loan modification" means a change in
one or more of a residential mortgage loan's terms or conditions.
Changes to a residential mortgage loan's terms or conditions include
but are not limited to forbearances; repayment plans; changes in
interest rates, loan terms, or loan types; capitalizations of
arrearages; or principal reductions.

(21) "Residential mortgage loan modification services" includes negotiating, attempting to negotiate, arranging, attempting to arrange, or otherwise offering to perform a residential mortgage loan modification. "Residential mortgage loan modification services" also includes the collection of data for submission to any entity performing mortgage loan modification services.

37 (22) "S.A.F.E. act" means the secure and fair enforcement for 38 mortgage licensing act of 2008, or Title V of the housing and 39 economic recovery act of 2008 ("HERA"), P.L. 110-289, effective July 40 30, 2008, codified at 12 U.S.C. Sec. 5101 et seq. 1 (23) "Third-party provider" means any person other than a 2 mortgage broker or lender who provides goods or services to the 3 mortgage broker in connection with the preparation of the borrower's 4 <u>residential mortgage</u> loan and includes, but is not limited to, credit 5 reporting agencies, title companies, appraisers, structural and pest 6 inspectors, or escrow companies.

7 (24) "Third-party residential mortgage loan modification 8 services" means residential mortgage loan modification services 9 offered or performed by any person other than the owner or servicer 10 of the loan.

11 (25) "Unique identifier" means a number or other identifier 12 assigned by protocols established by the nationwide mortgage 13 licensing system and registry.

14 **Sec. 6.** RCW 19.146.020 and 2013 c 30 s 2 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

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(1) The following are exempt from all provisions of this chapter:

17 (a) Any person doing business under the laws of the state of Washington or the United States, and any federally insured depository 18 institution doing business under the laws of any other state, 19 relating to commercial banks, bank holding companies, savings banks, 20 trust companies, savings and loan associations, credit unions, 21 insurance companies, or real estate investment trusts as defined in 22 23 26 U.S.C. Sec. 856 and the affiliates, subsidiaries, and service 24 corporations thereof;

(b) Any person doing business under the consumer loan act is exempt from this chapter only for that business conducted under the authority and coverage of the consumer loan act;

28 (c) An attorney licensed to practice law in this state. However, (i) all mortgage broker or loan originator services must be performed 29 30 by the attorney while engaged in the practice of law; (ii) all 31 mortgage broker or loan originator services must be performed under a business that is publicly identified and operated as a law practice; 32 and (iii) all funds associated with the transaction and received by 33 the attorney must be deposited in, maintained in, and disbursed from 34 a trust account to the extent required by rules enacted by the 35 Washington supreme court regulating the conduct of attorneys; 36

37 (d) Any person doing any act under order of any court, except for 38 a person subject to an injunction to comply with any provision of 39 this chapter or any order of the director issued under this chapter; 1 (e) A real estate broker or salesperson licensed by the state who 2 obtains financing for a real estate transaction involving a bona fide 3 sale of real estate in the performance of his or her duties as a real 4 estate broker and who receives only the customary real estate 5 broker's or salesperson's commission in connection with the 6 transaction;

7 (f) The United States of America, the state of Washington, any 8 other state, and any Washington city, county, or other political 9 subdivision, and any agency, division, or corporate instrumentality 10 of any of the entities in this subsection (1)(f);

11 (g) A real estate broker who provides only information regarding rates, terms, and lenders in connection with a CLI system, who 12 receives a fee for providing such information, who conforms to all 13 rules of the director with respect to the providing of such service, 14 and who discloses on a form approved by the director that to obtain a 15 loan the borrower must deal directly with a mortgage broker or 16 17 lender. However, a real estate broker shall not be exempt if he or she does any of the following: 18

19 (i) Holds himself or herself out as able to obtain a loan from a 20 lender;

21 (ii) Accepts a loan application, or submits a loan application to 22 a lender;

(iii) Accepts any deposit for third-party services or any loan
 fees from a borrower, whether such fees are paid before, upon, or
 after the closing of the loan;

26 (iv) Negotiates rates or terms with a lender on behalf of a 27 borrower; or

(v) Provides the disclosure required by RCW 19.146.030(1);

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29 (h) Registered mortgage loan originators, or any individual 30 required to be registered; ((and))

(i) A manufactured or modular home retailer employee who performs purely administrative or clerical tasks and who receives only the customary salary or commission from the employer in connection with the transaction; and

35 (j) Nonprofit housing organizations brokering residential 36 mortgage loans under housing programs that are funded in whole or in 37 part by federal or state programs if the primary purpose of the 38 programs is to assist low-income borrowers with purchasing, 39 repairing, or otherwise providing housing for low-income Washington 40 state residents. 1 (2) Any person otherwise exempted from the licensing provisions 2 of this chapter may voluntarily submit an application to the director 3 for a mortgage broker's license. The director shall review such 4 application and may grant or deny licenses to such applicants upon 5 the same grounds and with the same fees as may be applicable to 6 persons required to be licensed under this chapter.

7 (a) Upon receipt of a license under this subsection, the licensee 8 is required to continue to maintain a valid license, is subject to 9 all provisions of this chapter, and has no further right to claim 10 exemption from the provisions of this chapter except as provided in 11 (b) of this subsection.

(b) Any licensee under this subsection who would otherwise be exempted from the requirements of licensing by this section may apply to the director for exemption from licensing. The director shall adopt rules for reviewing such applications and shall grant exemptions from licensing to applications which are consistent with those rules and consistent with the other provisions of this chapter.

18 Sec. 7. RCW 19.146.0201 and 2013 c 30 s 3 are each amended to 19 read as follows:

It is a violation of this chapter for ((a)) loan originators((or)), mortgage brokers,((required to be licensed under))officers, directors, employees, independent contractors, or any other person subject to this chapter to:

(1) Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device, or artificeto defraud or mislead borrowers or lenders or to defraud any person;

26 (2) <u>Directly or indirectly engage</u> in any unfair or deceptive 27 practice toward any person;

28 (3) <u>Directly or indirectly obtain</u> property by fraud or 29 misrepresentation;

30 (4) Solicit or enter into a contract with a borrower that 31 provides in substance that the mortgage broker may earn a fee or 32 commission through the mortgage broker's "best efforts" to obtain a 33 loan even though no loan is actually obtained for the borrower;

34 (5) Solicit, advertise, or enter into a contract for specific 35 interest rates, points, or other financing terms unless the terms are 36 actually available at the time of soliciting, advertising, or 37 contracting a person exempt from licensing under from RCW 19.146.020(1)(f) or a lender with whom the mortgage broker maintains 38

1 a written correspondent or loan broker agreement under RCW
2 19.146.040;

3 (6) Fail to make disclosures to loan applicants and 4 noninstitutional investors as required by RCW 19.146.030 and any 5 other applicable state or federal law;

6 (7) Make, in any manner, any false or deceptive statement or 7 representation with regard to the rates, points, or other financing 8 terms or conditions for a residential mortgage loan or engage in bait 9 and switch advertising;

10 (8) Negligently make any false statement or knowingly and 11 willfully make any omission of material fact in connection with any 12 reports filed by a ((mortgage broker))<u>licensee</u> or in connection with 13 any investigation conducted by the department;

(9) Make any payment, directly or indirectly, to any appraiser of
a property, for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment
of the appraiser with respect to the value of the property;

17 (10) Advertise any rate of interest without conspicuously 18 disclosing the annual percentage rate implied by such rate of 19 interest;

20 (11) Fail to comply with state and federal laws applicable to the 21 activities governed by this chapter;

(12) Fail to pay third-party providers no later than thirty days after the recording of the loan closing documents or ninety days after completion of the third-party service, whichever comes first, unless otherwise agreed or unless the third-party service provider has been notified in writing that a bona fide dispute exists regarding the performance or quality of the third-party service;

(13) Collect, charge, attempt to collect or charge or use or propose any agreement purporting to collect or charge any fee prohibited by RCW 19.146.030 or 19.146.070;

(14)(a) Except when complying with (b) and (c) of this subsection, act as a loan originator in any transaction (i) in which the loan originator acts or has acted as a real estate broker or salesperson or (ii) in which another person doing business under the same licensed real estate broker acts or has acted as a real estate broker or salesperson;

(b) Prior to providing mortgage services to the borrower, a loan originator, in addition to other disclosures required by this chapter and other laws, ((shall))must provide to the borrower the following written disclosure:

1 THIS IS TO GIVE YOU NOTICE THAT I OR ONE OF MY ASSOCIATES 2 HAVE/HAS ACTED AS A REAL ESTATE BROKER OR SALESPERSON 3 REPRESENTING THE BUYER/SELLER IN THE SALE OF THIS PROPERTY TO 4 YOU. I AM ALSO A LOAN ORIGINATOR, AND WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE 5 MORTGAGE SERVICES TO YOU IN CONNECTION WITH YOUR LOAN TO 6 PURCHASE THE PROPERTY.

YOU ARE NOT REQUIRED TO USE ME AS A LOAN ORIGINATOR IN
CONNECTION WITH THIS TRANSACTION. YOU ARE FREE TO COMPARISON
SHOP WITH OTHER MORTGAGE BROKERS AND LENDERS, AND TO SELECT
ANY MORTGAGE BROKER OR LENDER OF YOUR CHOOSING; and

(c) A real estate broker or salesperson licensed under chapter 11 12 18.85 RCW who also acts as a mortgage broker ((shall))must carry on 13 such mortgage broker business activities and ((shall))must maintain such person's mortgage broker business records separate and apart 14 from the real estate broker activities conducted pursuant to chapter 15 18.85 RCW. Such activities ((shall be deemed))are separate and apart 16 17 even if they are conducted at an office location with a common entrance and mailing address, so long as each business is clearly 18 19 identified by a sign visible to the public, each business is 20 physically separated within the office facility, and no deception of 21 the public as to the separate identities of the broker business firms 22 results. This subsection (14)(c) ((shall))does not require a real estate broker or salesperson licensed under chapter 18.85 RCW who 23 also acts as a mortgage broker to maintain a physical separation 24 within the office facility for the conduct of its real estate and 25 mortgage broker activities where the director determines 26 that 27 maintaining such physical separation would constitute an undue 28 financial hardship upon the mortgage broker and is unnecessary for the protection of the public; ((or))29

30 (15) Fail to comply with any provision of RCW 19.146.030 through 31 19.146.080 or any rule adopted under those sections;

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(16) Originate loans from any unlicensed location;

33 (17) Solicit or accept from any borrower at or near the time a 34 loan application is taken, and in advance of any foreclosure of the 35 borrower's existing residential mortgage loan or loans, any 36 instrument of conveyance of any interest in the borrower's primary 37 dwelling that is the subject of the residential mortgage loan or 38 loans; or

1 (18) Make a residential mortgage loan unless the loan is table 2 funded.

3 **Sec. 8.** RCW 19.146.030 and 2006 c 19 s 5 are each amended to 4 read as follows:

5 (1) Within three business days following receipt of a loan application ((or any moneys)) from a borrower, a mortgage broker or б loan originator ((on behalf of the mortgage broker shall))must 7 provide to ((each))the borrower a full written disclosure containing 8 an itemization and explanation of all fees and costs that the 9 10 borrower is required to pay in connection with obtaining а residential mortgage loan, and specifying the fee or fees which inure 11 to the benefit of the mortgage broker and other such disclosures as 12 may be required by rule. A good faith estimate of a fee or cost 13 ((shall))must be provided if the exact amount of the fee or cost is 14 15 not determinable. ((This subsection shall not be construed to require 16 disclosure of the distribution or breakdown of loan fees, discount, 17 or points between the mortgage broker and any lender or investor.))

18 (2) The written disclosure ((shall))must contain the following 19 information:

(a) The annual percentage rate, finance charge, amount financed, 20 total amount of all payments, number of payments, amount of each 21 payment, amount of points or prepaid interest and the conditions and 22 23 terms under which any loan terms may change between the time of 24 disclosure and closing of the loan; and if a variable rate, the 25 circumstances under which the rate may increase, any limitation on the increase, the effect of an increase, and an example of the 26 27 payment terms resulting from an increase. Disclosure in compliance with the requirements of the truth-in-lending act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 28 1601 and Regulation Z, 12 C.F.R. ((Sec. 226))Part 1026, as now or 29 30 hereafter amended, ((shall be deemed to comply)) is in compliance with the disclosure requirements of this subsection; 31

(b) The itemized costs of any credit report, appraisal, title 32 report, title insurance policy, mortgage insurance, escrow fee, 33 34 property tax, insurance, structural or pest inspection, and any other 35 third-party provider's costs associated with the residential mortgage loan. Disclosure through good faith estimates of settlement services 36 37 and special information booklets in compliance with the requirements of the real estate settlement procedures act, 12 U.S.C. Sec. 2601, 38 and Regulation X, 24 C.F.R. ((Sec. 3500))Part 1024, as now or 39

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1 hereafter amended, ((shall be deemed to comply))is in compliance with 2 the disclosure requirements of this subsection;

3 (c) If applicable, the cost, terms, duration, and conditions of a 4 lock-in agreement and whether a lock-in agreement has been entered, 5 and whether the lock-in agreement is guaranteed by the mortgage 6 broker or lender, and if a lock-in agreement has not been entered, 7 disclosure in a form acceptable to the director that the disclosed 8 interest rate and terms are subject to change;

9 (d) <u>If applicable, a</u> statement that if the borrower is unable to 10 obtain a loan for any reason, the mortgage broker must, within five 11 days of a written request by the borrower, give copies of any 12 appraisal, title report, or credit report paid for by the borrower to 13 the borrower, and transmit the appraisal, title report, or credit 14 report to any other mortgage broker or lender to whom the borrower 15 directs the documents to be sent;

16 (e) Whether and under what conditions any lock-in fees are 17 refundable to the borrower; and

(f) A statement providing that moneys paid by the borrower to the mortgage broker for third-party provider services are held in a trust account and any moneys remaining after payment to third-party providers will be refunded.

(3) If subsequent to the written disclosure being provided under 22 this section, a mortgage broker or loan originator enters into a 23 lock-in agreement with a borrower or represents to the borrower that 24 25 the borrower has entered into a lock-in agreement, then no less than 26 three business days thereafter including Saturdays, the mortgage broker or loan originator ((shall))must deliver or send by first-27 class mail to the borrower a written confirmation of the terms of the 28 29 lock-in agreement, which ((shall))must include a copy of the disclosure made under subsection (2)(c) of this section. 30

31 (4) A mortgage broker or loan originator on behalf of a mortgage broker ((shall))must not charge any fee that inures to the benefit of 32 the mortgage broker if it exceeds the fee disclosed on the written 33 disclosure pursuant to this section, unless (a) the need to charge 34 the fee was not reasonably foreseeable at the time the written 35 36 disclosure was provided and (b) the mortgage broker or loan originator on behalf of a mortgage broker has provided to the 37 borrower, no less than three business days prior to the signing of 38 39 the loan closing documents, a clear written explanation of the fee 40 and the reason for charging a fee exceeding that which was previously

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disclosed. However, if the borrower's closing costs on the final settlement statement, excluding prepaid escrowed costs of ownership as defined by rule, does not exceed the total closing costs in the most recent good faith estimate, excluding prepaid escrowed costs of ownership as defined by rule, no other disclosures ((shall be))are required by this subsection.

7 **Sec. 9.** RCW 19.146.040 and 2006 c 19 s 6 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

9 (1) Every contract between a mortgage broker, or a loan 10 originator, and a borrower ((shall))<u>must</u> be in writing and ((shall)) 11 contain the entire agreement of the parties.

(2) Any contract under this section entered by a loan originator
 ((shall be)) is binding on the mortgage broker.

14 (3) A mortgage broker ((shall))must have a written 15 ((correspondent or)) loan broker agreement with a lender before any 16 solicitation of, or contracting with, the public.

17 **Sec. 10.** RCW 19.146.070 and 2006 c 19 s 8 are each amended to 18 read as follows:

19 (1) Except as otherwise permitted by this section, a mortgage broker ((shall))must not receive a fee, commission, or compensation 20 of any kind in connection with the preparation, negotiation, and 21 22 brokering of a residential mortgage loan unless a borrower actually 23 obtains a loan from a lender on the terms and conditions agreed upon 24 by the borrower and mortgage broker. A loan originator may not accept 25 a fee, commission, or compensation of any kind from borrowers in connection with the preparation, negotiation, and brokering of a 26 27 residential mortgage loan.

28

(2) A mortgage broker may:

(a) If the mortgage broker has obtained for the borrower a 29 written commitment from a lender for a loan on the terms and 30 conditions agreed upon by the borrower and the mortgage broker, and 31 the borrower fails to close on the loan through no fault of the 32 33 mortgage broker, charge a fee not to exceed three hundred dollars for 34 services rendered, preparation of documents, or transfer of documents 35 in the borrower's file which were prepared or paid for by the borrower if the fee is not otherwise prohibited by the Truth-in-36 Lending Act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1601, and Regulation Z, 12 C.F.R. ((Sec. 37 226))Part 1026, as now or hereafter amended; or 38

1 (b) Solicit or receive fees for third party provider goods or 2 services in advance. Fees for any goods or services not provided must 3 be refunded to the borrower and the mortgage broker may not charge 4 more for the goods and services than the actual costs of the goods or 5 services charged by the third party provider.

6 (3) A loan originator may not solicit or receive fees for a 7 third-party provider of goods or services except that a loan 8 originator may transfer funds from a borrower to a licensed mortgage 9 broker, exempt mortgage broker, or third-party provider, if the loan 10 originator does not deposit, hold, retain, or use the funds for any 11 purpose other than the payment of bona fide fees to third-party 12 providers.

13 **Sec. 11.** RCW 19.146.205 and 2009 c 528 s 4 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1) Application for a mortgage broker license under this chapter must be made to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and in the form prescribed by the director. The application ((shall))must contain at least the following information:

19 (a) The name, address, date of birth, and social security number 20 of the applicant, and any other names, dates of birth, or social 21 security numbers previously used by the applicant, unless waived by 22 the director;

(b) If the applicant is a partnership $((\Theta r))_{,}$ association, <u>or</u> limited liability company the name, address, date of birth, and social security number of each general partner $((\Theta r))_{,}$ principal, <u>or</u> <u>member</u> of the association, and any other names, dates of birth, or social security numbers previously used by the members, unless waived by the director;

(c) If the applicant is a corporation, the name, address, date of 29 30 birth, and social security number of each officer, director, registered agent, and each principal stockholder, and any other 31 names, dates of birth, or social security numbers previously used by 32 officers, directors, registered agents, 33 the and principal stockholders unless waived by the director; 34

35 (d) The street address, county, and municipality where the 36 principal business office is to be located;

(e) The name, address, date of birth, and social security number
 of the applicant's designated broker, and any other names, dates of
 birth, or social security numbers previously used by the designated

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broker and a complete set of the designated broker's fingerprints
 taken by an authorized law enforcement officer; and

3 (f)(<u>i</u>) Such other information regarding the applicant's or 4 designated broker's background, financial responsibility, experience, 5 character, and general fitness as the director may require by rule.

6 (ii) The director may waive one or more requirements of this
7 section or permit an applicant to submit other information in lieu of
8 the required information.

(2) As a part of or in connection with an application for any 9 license under this section, or periodically upon license renewal, the 10 applicant ((shall))must furnish information concerning his or her 11 12 identity, including fingerprints for submission to the Washington state patrol, the federal bureau of investigation, the nationwide 13 mortgage licensing system and registry, or any governmental agency or 14 entity authorized to receive this information for a state and 15 16 national criminal history background check; personal history; 17 experience; business record; purposes; and other pertinent facts, as the director may reasonably require. As part of or in connection with 18 19 an application for a license under this chapter, the director is authorized to receive criminal history record information that 20 includes nonconviction data as defined in RCW 10.97.030. 21 The department may only disseminate nonconviction data obtained under 22 this section to criminal justice agencies. This section does not 23 apply to financial institutions regulated under chapters 31.12 and 24 25 31.13 RCW and Titles 30A, 32, and 33 RCW.

(3) In order to reduce the points of contact which the federal bureau of investigation may have to maintain, the director may use the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as a channeling agent for requesting information from and distributing information to the department of justice or any governmental agency.

(4) In order to reduce the points of contact which the director may have to maintain, the director may use the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as a channeling agent for requesting and distributing information to and from any source so directed by the director.

36 (5) At the time of filing an application for a license under this 37 chapter, each applicant ((shall))<u>must</u> pay to the director through the 38 nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry the appropriate 39 application fee in an amount determined by rule of the director in 40 accordance with RCW 43.24.086 to cover, but not exceed, the cost of

processing and reviewing the application. The director ((shall))must deposit the moneys in the financial services regulation fund, unless the consumer services account is created as a dedicated, nonappropriated account, in which case the director ((shall))must deposit the moneys in the consumer services account.

6 (6)(a) Except as provided in (b) of this subsection, each applicant for a mortgage broker's license ((shall))must file and 7 maintain a surety bond, in an amount which the director deems 8 adequate to protect the public interest, executed by the applicant as 9 obligor and by a surety company authorized to do a surety business in 10 11 this state as surety. The bonding requirement as established by the 12 director ((shall))must take the form of a range of bond amounts which ((shall)) vary according to the annual loan origination volume of the 13 14 licensee. The bond ((shall))must run to the state of Washington as obligee, and ((shall))must run first to the benefit of the borrower 15 and then to the benefit of the state and any person or persons who 16 17 suffer loss by reason of the applicant's or its loan originator's 18 violation of any provision of this chapter or rules adopted under 19 this chapter. The bond ((shall))must be conditioned that the obligor as licensee will faithfully conform to and abide by this chapter and 20 21 all rules adopted under this chapter, and ((shall))must reimburse all 22 persons who suffer loss by reason of a violation of this chapter or rules adopted under this chapter. Borrowers ((shall))must be given 23 priority over the state and other persons. The state and other third 24 25 parties ((shall))must be allowed to receive distribution pursuant to 26 a valid claim against the remainder of the bond. In the case of claims made by any person or entity who is not a borrower, no final 27 28 judgment may be entered prior to one hundred eighty days following the date the claim is filed. The bond ((shall))must be continuous and 29 may be canceled by the surety upon the surety giving written notice 30 31 to the director of its intent to cancel the bond. The cancellation 32 ((shall))must be effective thirty days after the notice is received by the director. Whether or not the bond is renewed, continued, 33 reinstated, reissued, or otherwise extended, replaced, or modified, 34 including increases or decreases in the penal sum, it ((shall be))is 35 considered one continuous obligation, and the surety upon the bond 36 ((shall not be)) is not liable in an aggregate or cumulative amount 37 exceeding the penal sum set forth on the face of the bond. In no 38 39 event ((shall)) is the penal sum, or any portion thereof, at two or 40 more points in time be added together in determining the surety's

1 liability. The bond ((shall))is not be liable for any penalties 2 imposed on the licensee, including, but not limited to, any increased 3 damages or attorneys' fees, or both, awarded under RCW 19.86.090. The 4 applicant may obtain the bond directly from the surety or through a 5 group bonding arrangement involving a professional organization 6 comprised of mortgage brokers if the arrangement provides at least as 7 much coverage as is required under this subsection.

(b) If the director determines that the bond required in (a) of 8 reasonably available, is not 9 this subsection the director ((shall))must waive the requirements for such a bond. The mortgage 10 11 recovery fund account is created in the custody of the state 12 treasurer. The director is authorized to charge fees to fund the account. All fees charged under this section, except those retained 13 by the director for administration of the ((fund [account]))account, 14 must be deposited into the mortgage recovery fund 15 account. 16 Expenditures from the account may be used only for the same purposes 17 as the surety bond as described in (a) of this subsection. Only the 18 director or the director's designee may authorize expenditures from 19 the account. The account is subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an appropriation is not required for 20 21 expenditures. A person entitled to receive payment from the mortgage 22 recovery ((fund [account]))account may only receive reimbursement after a court of competent jurisdiction has determined the actual 23 damages caused by the licensee. The director may determine by rule 24 25 the procedure for recovery; the amount each mortgage broker must pay 26 through the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry for deposit in the mortgage recovery ((fund [account]))account; and the 27 28 amount necessary to administer the ((fund [account]))account.

29 **Sec. 12.** RCW 19.146.220 and 2014 c 36 s 2 are each amended to 30 read as follows:

(1) The director may enforce all laws and rules relating to the
 licensing of mortgage brokers and loan originators, grant or deny
 licenses to mortgage brokers and loan originators, and hold hearings.

(2) The director may impose fines ((Or))and order restitution and
 refunds against licensees ((Or)), employees, independent contractors,
 agents of licensees, and other persons subject to this chapter,
 ((Or))and may deny, condition, suspend, decline to renew, decline to
 reactivate, or revoke licenses for:

39

(a) Violations of orders, including cease and desist orders;

(b) False statements or omission of material information on the
 application that, if known, would have allowed the director to deny
 the application for the original license;

4 (c) Failure to pay a fee required by the director or maintain the 5 required bond;

6 (d) Failure to comply with any directive, order, or subpoena of 7 the director; or

8

(e) Any violation of this chapter.

9 (3) ((The director may impose fines on an employee, loan 10 originator, independent contractor, or agent of the licensee, or 11 other person subject to this chapter for:

12 (a) Any violations of this chapter; or

13 (b) Failure to comply with any directive or order of the 14 director.

15 (4))) The director may issue orders directing a licensee, its 16 employee, loan originator, independent contractor, agent, or other 17 person subject to this chapter to cease and desist from conducting 18 business <u>or take such other affirmative action as is necessary to</u> 19 comply with this chapter.

20 (((5)))(4) The director may issue orders removing from office or 21 prohibiting from participation in the conduct of the affairs of a 22 licensed mortgage broker, or both, any officer, principal, employee, 23 or loan originator of any licensed mortgage broker or any person 24 subject to licensing under this chapter for:

25

(a) Any violation of this chapter;

(b) False statements or omission of material information on the
 application that, if known, would have allowed the director to deny
 the application for the original license;

(c) Conviction of a gross misdemeanor involving dishonesty or
 financial misconduct or a felony after obtaining a license; or

31 (d) Failure to comply with any directive or order of the 32 director.

(((6)))(5) Each day's continuance of a violation or failure to comply with any directive or order of the director is a separate and distinct violation or failure.

(((7)))(6) The statute of limitations on actions not subject to RCW 4.16.160 that are brought under this chapter by the director is five years.

39 (((8)))(7) The director ((shall))<u>must</u> establish by rule standards 40 for licensure of applicants licensed in other jurisdictions. 1 (((9)))(8) The director ((shall)) must immediately suspend the license or certificate of a person who has been certified pursuant to 2 RCW 74.20A.320 by the department of social and health services as a 3 person who is not in compliance with a support order. If the person 4 has continued to meet all other requirements for reinstatement during 5 б the suspension, reissuance of the license or certificate ((shall be)) is automatic upon the director's receipt of a release issued by 7 the department of social and health services stating that the 8 licensee is in compliance with the order. 9

10 **Sec. 13.** RCW 19.146.221 and 1994 c 33 s 13 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

(1) The director may, at his or her discretion ((and as provided 12 13 for in RCW 19.146.220(2))), take any action ((specified in RCW 19.146.220(1)) as provided for in this chapter to enforce this 14 15 chapter. If the person subject to such action does not appear in 16 person or by counsel at the time and place designated for any administrative hearing that may be held on the action then the person 17 18 shall be deemed to consent to the action. If the person subject to the action consents, or if after hearing the director finds by a 19 20 preponderance of the evidence that any grounds for sanctions under 21 this chapter exist, then the director may impose any sanction authorized by this chapter. 22

23 (2) The director may recover the state's costs and expenses for 24 prosecuting violations of this chapter including staff time spent 25 preparing for and attending administrative hearings and reasonable 26 attorneys' fees, unless, after a hearing, the director determines no 27 violation occurred.

28 **Sec. 14.** RCW 19.146.227 and 1994 c 33 s 14 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

30 Whenever the director determines that the public is likely to be substantially injured by delay in issuing a cease and desist order, 31 the director may immediately issue a temporary cease and desist 32 order. The order may direct the licensee to discontinue any violation 33 34 of this chapter and take such affirmative action as is necessary to comply with this chapter, may include a summary suspension of the 35 licensee's license, and may order the licensee to immediately cease 36 37 the conduct of business under this chapter. The order ((shall)) 38 becomes effective at the time specified in the order. Every temporary

1 cease and desist order ((shall))must include a provision that a 2 hearing will be held, within fourteen days unless otherwise specified 3 in chapter 34.05 RCW, upon request to determine whether the order 4 will become permanent.

If it appears that a person has engaged in an act or practice 5 б constituting a violation of a provision of this chapter, or a rule or 7 order under this chapter, the director, with or without prior administrative proceedings, may bring an action in the superior court 8 9 to enjoin the acts or practices and to enforce compliance with this chapter or any rule or order under this chapter. Upon proper showing, 10 11 injunctive relief or temporary restraining orders ((shall))must be granted. The director ((shall not be)) is not required to post a bond 12 13 in any court proceedings.

14 **Sec. 15.** RCW 19.146.228 and 2009 c 528 s 5 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 The director ((shall))<u>must</u> establish fees sufficient to cover, 17 but not exceed, the costs of administering this chapter. These fees 18 may include:

19 (1) An annual assessment paid by each licensee on or before a20 date specified by rule;

(2) An investigation fee to cover the costs of any investigation of the books and records of a licensee or other person subject to this chapter; and

(3) An application fee to cover the costs of processingapplications made to the director under this chapter.

26 Mortgage brokers ((and)), loan originators ((shall)), and any 27 person subject to licensing under this chapter must not be charged investigation fees for the processing of complaints when the 28 investigation determines that no violation of this chapter occurred 29 30 or when the mortgage broker or loan originator provides a remedy satisfactory to the complainant and the director and no order of the 31 director is issued. All moneys, fees, and penalties collected under 32 the authority of this chapter ((shall))must be deposited into the 33 34 financial services regulation fund, unless the consumer services 35 account is created as a dedicated, nonappropriated account, in which 36 case all moneys, fees, and penalties collected under this chapter 37 ((shall))must be deposited in the consumer services account.

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1 **Sec. 16.** RCW 19.146.265 and 1997 c 106 s 19 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

A licensed mortgage broker may apply to the director for 3 authority to establish one or more branch offices under the same or 4 different name as the main office upon the payment of a fee as 5 б prescribed by the director by rule. ((Provided that))The applicant ((is))must be in good standing with the department, as defined in 7 rule by the director, and the director ((shall))must promptly issue a 8 ((duplicate)) license for each of the branch offices showing the 9 location of the main office and the particular branch. ((Each 10 duplicate license shall be prominently displayed in the office for 11 12 which it is issued.))

13 Sec. 17. RCW 19.146.300 and 2009 c 528 s 9 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1) Application for a loan originator license under this chapter must be made to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and in the form prescribed by the director. The application ((shall))must contain at least the following information:

(a) The name, address, date of birth, and social security number of the loan originator applicant, and any other names, dates of birth, or social security numbers previously used by the loan originator applicant, unless waived by the director; and

(b) Such other information regarding the loan originator applicant's background, experience, character, and general fitness as the director may require by rule <u>or as deemed necessary by the</u> <u>nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry</u>.

27 (2)(a) As part of or in connection with an application for any license under this section, or periodically upon license renewal, the 28 originator applicant ((shall))<u>must</u> furnish 29 loan information 30 concerning his or her identity, including fingerprints for submission to the Washington state patrol, the federal bureau of investigation, 31 the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry, or any 32 governmental agency or entity authorized to receive this information 33 for a state and national criminal history background check; personal 34 35 history; experience; business record; purposes; and other pertinent facts, as the director may reasonably require. As part of or in 36 connection with an application for a license under this chapter, or 37 periodically upon license renewal, the director is authorized to 38 receive criminal history record information that includes 39

1 nonconviction data as defined in RCW 10.97.030. The department may 2 only disseminate nonconviction data obtained under this section to 3 criminal justice agencies. This section does not apply to financial 4 institutions regulated under chapters 31.12 and 31.13 RCW and Titles 5 30<u>A</u>, 32, and 33 RCW.

6 (b) In order to reduce the points of contact which the federal 7 bureau of investigation may have to maintain, the director may use 8 the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry as a channeling 9 agent for requesting information from and distributing information to 10 the department of justice or any governmental agency.

11 (c) In order to reduce the points of contact which the director 12 may have to maintain, the director may use the nationwide mortgage 13 licensing system and registry as a channeling agent for requesting 14 and distributing information to and from any source so directed by 15 the director.

(d) As part of or in connection with an application for a license 16 17 under this section, the loan originator applicant must furnish to the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry personal history 18 and experience in a form prescribed by the nationwide mortgage 19 registry, including the 20 licensing system and submission of 21 authorization for the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry and the director to obtain: 22

(i) An independent credit report obtained from a consumer reporting agency described in section 603(p) of the federal fair credit reporting act; and

(ii) Information related to any administrative, civil, orcriminal findings by any governmental jurisdiction.

(3) At the time of filing an application for a license under this chapter, each loan originator applicant ((shall))must pay to the director the appropriate application fee in an amount determined by rule of the director in accordance with RCW 19.146.228 to cover the cost of processing and reviewing the application. The director ((shall))must deposit the moneys in the financial services regulation fund.

35 (4) The director must establish by rule procedures for accepting36 and processing incomplete applications.

37 Sec. 18. RCW 19.146.390 and 2009 c 528 s 17 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

Each mortgage broker licensee ((shall))must submit ((to))call reports through the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry ((reports of condition, which must be in the))in a form and ((must contain))containing the information as prescribed by the director or as deemed necessary by the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry ((may require)).

7 **Sec. 19.** RCW 31.04.015 and 2013 c 29 s 1 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

9 The definitions set forth in this section apply throughout this 10 chapter unless the context clearly requires a different meaning.

(1) "Add-on method" means the method of precomputing interest payable on a loan whereby the interest to be earned is added to the principal balance and the total plus any charges allowed under this chapter is stated as the loan amount, without further provision for the payment of interest except for failure to pay according to loan terms. The director may adopt by rule a more detailed explanation of the meaning and use of this method.

18 (2) "Applicant" means a person applying for a license under this19 chapter.

20 (3) "Borrower" means any person who consults with or retains a licensee or person subject to this chapter in an effort to obtain, or 21 who seeks information about obtaining a loan, regardless of whether 22 23 that person actually obtains such a loan. "Borrower" includes a 24 person who consults with or retains a licensee or person subject to this chapter in an effort to obtain, or who seeks information about 25 obtaining a residential mortgage loan modification, regardless of 26 27 whether that person actually obtains a residential mortgage loan modification. 28

(4) "Depository institution" has the same meaning as in section 3
 of the federal deposit insurance act on July 26, 2009, and includes
 credit unions.

32

(5) "Director" means the director of financial institutions.

33 (6) "Federal banking agencies" means the board of governors of 34 the federal reserve system, comptroller of the currency, director of 35 the office of thrift supervision, national credit union 36 administration, and federal deposit insurance corporation.

37 (7) "Individual servicing a mortgage loan" means a person on 38 behalf of a lender or servicer licensed by this state, who collects 39 or receives payments including payments of principal, interest,

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1 escrow amounts, and other amounts due, on existing obligations due and owing to the licensed lender or servicer for a residential 2 mortgage loan when the borrower is in default, or in reasonably 3 foreseeable likelihood of default, working with the borrower and the 4 licensed lender or servicer, collects data and makes decisions 5 б necessary to modify either temporarily or permanently certain terms 7 of those obligations, or otherwise finalizing collection through the foreclosure process. 8

9 (8) "Insurance" means life insurance, disability insurance, 10 property insurance, involuntary unemployment insurance, and such 11 other insurance as may be authorized by the insurance commissioner.

(9) "License" means a single license issued under the authorityof this chapter ((with respect to a single place of business)).

14 (10) "Licensee" means a person to whom one or more licenses have 15 been issued. <u>"Licensee" also means any person, whether located within</u> 16 <u>or outside of this state, who fails to obtain a license required by</u> 17 <u>this chapter.</u>

18 (11) "Loan" means a sum of money lent at interest or for a fee or 19 other charge and includes both open-end and closed-end loan 20 transactions.

(12) "Loan processor or underwriter" means an individual who performs clerical or support duties as an employee at the direction of and subject to the supervision and instruction of a person licensed, or exempt from licensing, under this chapter.

(13) "Making a loan" means advancing, offering to advance, ormaking a commitment to advance funds to a borrower for a loan.

(14) "Mortgage broker" means the same as defined in RCW 19.146.010, except that for purposes of this chapter, a licensee or person subject to this chapter cannot receive compensation as both a consumer loan licensee making the loan and as a consumer loan licensee acting as the mortgage broker in the same loan transaction.

32 (15)(a) "Mortgage loan originator" means an individual who for qain (i) takes a residential mortgage 33 compensation or loan application, or (ii) offers or negotiates terms of a residential 34 mortgage loan. <u>"Mortgage loan originator" also includes individuals</u> 35 who hold themselves out to the public as able to perform any of these 36 activities. "Mortgage loan originator" does not 37 include any individual who performs purely administrative or clerical tasks; and 38 39 does not include a person or entity solely involved in extensions of 40 credit relating to timeshare plans, as that term is defined in

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section 101(53D) of Title 11, United States Code. For the purposes of this definition, administrative or clerical tasks means the receipt, collection, and distribution of information common for the processing of a loan in the mortgage industry and communication with a consumer to obtain information necessary for the processing of a residential mortgage loan.

7 (b) "Mortgage loan originator" also includes an individual who 8 for <u>direct or indirect</u> compensation or gain performs residential 9 mortgage loan modification services or holds himself or herself out 10 as being able to perform residential mortgage loan modification 11 services.

12 (c) "Mortgage loan originator" does not include a person or entity that only performs real estate brokerage activities and is 13 14 licensed or registered in accordance with applicable state law, unless the person or entity is compensated by a lender, a mortgage 15 16 broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of such a 17 lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator. For the 18 purposes of chapter 120, Laws of 2009, the term "real estate 19 brokerage activity" means any activity that involves offering or providing real estate brokerage services to the public, including: 20

(i) Acting as a real estate agent or real estate broker for abuyer, seller, lessor, or lessee of real property;

(ii) Bringing together parties interested in the sale, purchase,lease, rental, or exchange of real property;

(iii) Negotiating, on behalf of any party, any portion of a contract relating to the sale, purchase, lease, rental, or exchange of real property, other than in connection with providing financing with respect to such a transaction;

(iv) Engaging in any activity for which a person engaged in the activity is required to be registered or licensed as a real estate agent or real estate broker under any applicable law; and

32 (v) Offering to engage in any activity, or act in any capacity,
33 described in (c)(i) through (iv) of this subsection.

(d) This subsection does not apply to employees of a housing counseling agency approved by the United States department of housing and urban development unless the employees of a housing counseling agency are required under federal law to be individually licensed as mortgage loan originators.

(16) "Nationwide ((multistate))mortgage licensing system" means a
 licensing system developed and maintained by the conference of state

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1 bank supervisors ((and the American association of residential 2 mortgage regulators for the))for licensing and registration ((of 3 mortgage loan originators and other licensing types)).

4 (17) "Officer" means an official appointed by the company for the 5 purpose of making business decisions or corporate decisions.

6 (18) "Person" includes individuals, partnerships, associations,
7 limited liability companies, limited liability partnerships, trusts,
8 corporations, and all other legal entities.

9 (19) "Principal" means any person who controls, directly or 10 indirectly through one or more intermediaries, alone or in concert 11 with others, a ten percent or greater interest in a partnership; 12 company; association or corporation; or a limited liability company, 13 and the owner of a sole proprietorship.

14 (20) "Registered mortgage loan originator" means any individual who meets the definition of mortgage loan originator and is an 15 16 employee of a depository institution; a subsidiary that is owned and 17 controlled by a depository institution and regulated by a federal 18 banking agency; or an institution regulated by the farm credit 19 administration and is registered with, and maintains a unique identifier through, the nationwide ((multistate))mortgage licensing 20 21 system.

(21) "Residential mortgage loan" means any loan primarily for personal, family, or household use that is secured by a mortgage, deed of trust, or other ((equivalent)) consensual security interest on a dwelling, as defined in ((section 103(v) of)) the truth in lending act, or residential real estate upon which is constructed or intended to be constructed a dwelling.

(22) "Residential mortgage loan modification" means a change in one or more of a residential mortgage loan's terms or conditions. Changes to a residential mortgage loan's terms or conditions include but are not limited to forbearances; repayment plans; changes in interest rates, loan terms, or loan types; capitalizations of arrearages; or principal reductions.

34 (23) "Residential mortgage loan modification services" includes 35 negotiating, attempting to negotiate, arranging, attempting to 36 arrange, or otherwise offering to perform a residential mortgage loan 37 modification for compensation or gain. "Residential mortgage loan 38 modification services" also includes the collection of data for 39 submission to an entity performing mortgage loan modification 40 services.

(24) "S.A.F.E. act" means the secure and fair enforcement for
 mortgage licensing act of 2008, Title V of the housing and economic
 recovery act of 2008 ("HERA"), P.L. 110-289, effective July 30, 2008.
 (25) "Senior officer" means an officer of a licensee at the vice

5 president level or above.

(26) "Service or servicing a loan" means on behalf of the lender 6 7 or investor of a residential mortgage loan: (a) Collecting or receiving payments on existing obligations due and owing to the 8 lender or investor, including payments of principal, interest, escrow 9 amounts, and other amounts due; (b) collecting fees due to the 10 11 servicer; (c) working with the borrower and the licensed lender or 12 servicer to collect data and make decisions necessary to modify certain terms of those obligations either temporarily or permanently; 13 14 (d) otherwise finalizing collection through the foreclosure process; 15 or (e) servicing a reverse mortgage loan.

16 (27) "Service or servicing a reverse mortgage loan" means, 17 pursuant to an agreement with the owner of a reverse mortgage loan: 18 Calculating, collecting, or receiving payments of interest or other 19 amounts due; administering advances to the borrower; and providing 20 account statements to the borrower or lender.

(28) "Simple interest method" means the method of computing interest payable on a loan by applying the annual percentage interest rate or its periodic equivalent to the unpaid balances of the principal of the loan outstanding for the time outstanding.

25 (a) On a nonresidential loan each payment is applied first to any 26 unpaid penalties, fees, or charges, then to accumulated interest, and 27 the remainder of the payment applied to the unpaid balance of the principal until paid in full. In using such method, interest 28 29 ((shall))<u>must</u> not be payable in advance nor compounded. The prohibition on compounding interest does not apply to reverse 30 31 mortgage loans made in accordance with the Washington state reverse 32 mortgage act. The director may adopt by rule a more detailed explanation of the meaning and use of this method. 33

34 (b) On a residential mortgage loan payments are applied as 35 determined in the security instrument.

36 (29) "Third-party residential mortgage loan modification 37 services" means residential mortgage loan modification services 38 offered or performed by any person other than the owner or servicer 39 of the loan.

1 (30) "Third-party service provider" means any person other than 2 the licensee or a mortgage broker who provides goods or services to 3 the licensee or borrower in connection with the preparation of the 4 borrower's loan and includes, but is not limited to, credit reporting 5 agencies, real estate brokers or salespersons, title insurance 6 companies and agents, appraisers, structural and pest inspectors, or 7 escrow companies.

8 (31) "Unique identifier" means a number or other identifier 9 assigned by protocols established by the nationwide 10 ((multistate))mortgage licensing system.

11 (32) "Affiliate" means any person who, directly or indirectly 12 through one or more intermediaries, controls, or is controlled by, or 13 is under common control with another person.

14 <u>(33) "Department" means the state department of financial</u>
15 <u>institutions.</u>

16 Sec. 20. RCW 31.04.025 and 2013 c 64 s 2 and 2013 c 29 s 2 are 17 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

(1) Each loan made to a resident of this state by a licensee, or persons subject to this chapter, is subject to the authority and restrictions of this chapter.

21

(2) This chapter does not apply to the following:

(a) Any person doing business under, and as permitted by, any law of this state or of the United States relating to banks, savings banks, trust companies, savings and loan or building and loan associations, or credit unions;

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(b) Entities making loans under chapter 19.60 RCW (pawnbroking);

(c) Entities conducting transactions under chapter 63.14 RCW (retail installment sales of goods and services), unless credit is extended to purchase merchandise certificates, coupons, open or closed loop stored value, or other similar items issued and redeemable by a retail seller other than the retail seller extending the credit;

33 (d) Entities making loans under chapter 31.45 RCW (check cashers 34 and sellers);

35 (e) Any person making a loan primarily for business, commercial, 36 or agricultural purposes unless the loan is secured by a lien on the 37 borrower's primary ((residence))dwelling;

38 (f) Any person selling property owned by that person who provides 39 financing for the sale when the property does not contain a dwelling 1 and when the property serves as security for the financing. This 2 exemption is available for five or fewer transactions in a calendar 3 year. This exemption is not available to individuals subject to the 4 federal S.A.F.E. act or any person in the business of constructing or 5 acting as a contractor for the construction of residential dwellings.

6 (g) Any person making loans made to government or government
7 agencies or instrumentalities or making loans to organizations as
8 defined in the federal truth in lending act;

9 (((g)))<u>(h)</u> Entities making loans under chapter 43.185 RCW 10 (housing trust fund);

11 (((h)))(i) Entities making loans under programs of the United 12 States department of agriculture, department of housing and urban 13 development, or other federal government program that provides 14 funding or access to funding for single-family housing developments 15 or grants to low-income individuals for the purchase or repair of 16 single-family housing;

17 (((i)))(j) Nonprofit housing organizations making loans, or loans 18 made, under housing programs that are funded in whole or in part by 19 federal or state programs if the primary purpose of the programs is 20 to assist low-income borrowers with purchasing or repairing housing 21 or the development of housing for low-income Washington state 22 residents;

23 ((((j))))(k) Entities making loans which are not residential 24 mortgage loans under a credit card plan;

25 (((k)))<u>(1)</u> Individuals employed by a licensed residential 26 <u>mortgage</u> loan servicing company <u>engaging in activities related to</u> 27 <u>servicing</u>, unless ((so))<u>licensing is</u> required by federal law or 28 regulation; and

29 (((+1)))(m) Entities licensed under chapter 18.44 RCW that process 30 payments on seller-financed loans secured by liens on real or 31 personal property.

32 director may, at his or her discretion, (3) The waive applicability of the consumer loan company licensing provisions of 33 this chapter to other persons, not including individuals subject to 34 the S.A.F.E. act, making or servicing loans when the director 35 36 determines it necessary to facilitate commerce and protect consumers. 37 ((The director may adopt rules interpreting this section.))

38 (4) The burden of proving the application for an exemption or39 exception from a definition, or a preemption of a provision of this

1 chapter, is upon the person claiming the exemption, exception, or 2 preemption.

3

(5) The director may adopt rules interpreting this section.

4 Sec. 21. RCW 31.04.027 and 2013 c 29 s 3 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

6 It is a violation of this chapter for a licensee, its officers, 7 directors, employees, or independent contractors, or any other person 8 subject to this chapter to:

9 (1) Directly or indirectly employ any scheme, device, or artifice 10 to defraud or mislead any borrower, to defraud or mislead any lender, 11 or to defraud or mislead any person;

12 (2) Directly or indirectly engage in any unfair or deceptive13 practice toward any person;

14 (3) Directly or indirectly obtain property by fraud or 15 misrepresentation;

16 (4) Solicit or enter into a contract with a borrower that 17 provides in substance that the consumer loan company may earn a fee 18 or commission through the consumer loan company's best efforts to 19 obtain a loan even though no loan is actually obtained for the 20 borrower;

(5) Solicit, advertise, or enter into a contract for specific interest rates, points, or other financing terms unless the terms are actually available at the time of soliciting, advertising, or contracting;

(6) Fail to make disclosures to loan applicants as required by
 RCW 31.04.102 and any other applicable state or federal law;

(7) Make, in any manner, any false or deceptive statement or representation with regard to the rates, points, or other financing terms or conditions for a residential mortgage loan or engage in bait and switch advertising;

31 (8) Negligently make any false statement or knowingly and 32 willfully make any omission of material fact in connection with any 33 reports filed with the department by a licensee or in connection with 34 any investigation conducted by the department;

(9) Make any payment, directly or indirectly, to any appraiser of
 a property, for the purposes of influencing the independent judgment
 of the appraiser with respect to the value of the property;

38 (10) Accept from any borrower at or near the time a loan is made 39 and in advance of any default an execution of, or induce any borrower to execute, any instrument of conveyance, not including a mortgage or deed of trust, to the lender of any ownership interest in the borrower's primary ((residence))dwelling that is the security for the borrower's loan;

5 (11) Obtain at the time of closing a release of future damages 6 for usury or other damages or penalties provided by law or a waiver 7 of the provisions of this chapter;

8 (12) Advertise any rate of interest without conspicuously 9 disclosing the annual percentage rate implied by that rate of 10 interest;

11 (13) Violate any applicable state or federal law relating to the 12 activities governed by this chapter; or

13

(14) Make or originate loans from any unlicensed location.

14 **Sec. 22.** RCW 31.04.045 and 2014 c 36 s 5 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 (1) Application for a license under this chapter must be made to 17 the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry or in the form 18 prescribed by the director. The application must contain at least the 19 following information:

(a) The name and the business addresses of the applicant;

(b) If the applicant is a partnership, limited liability company,
 or association, the name of every member;

(c) If the applicant is a corporation, the name, residenceaddress, and telephone number of each officer and director;

25 (d) The street address, county, and municipality from which 26 business is to be conducted; and

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(e) Such other information as the director may require by rule.

(2) As part of or in connection with an application for any 28 license under this section, or periodically upon license renewal, 29 30 each officer, director, and owner applicant ((shall))must furnish information concerning his or her identity, including fingerprints 31 for submission to the Washington state patrol, the federal bureau of 32 investigation, or any governmental agency or entity authorized to 33 receive this information for a state and national criminal history 34 35 background check; personal history; experience; business record; purposes; and other pertinent facts, as the director may reasonably 36 require. As part of or in connection with an application for a 37 38 license under this chapter, or periodically upon license renewal, the director is authorized to receive criminal history record information 39

1 that includes nonconviction data as defined in RCW 10.97.030. The 2 department may only disseminate nonconviction data obtained under 3 this section to criminal justice agencies. This section does not 4 apply to financial institutions regulated under chapters 31.12 and 5 31.13 RCW and Titles 30<u>A</u>, 32, and 33 RCW.

6 (3) At the time of filing an application for a license under this 7 chapter, each applicant shall pay to the director or through the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry an investigation 8 fee and the license fee in an amount determined by rule of the 9 10 director to be sufficient to cover the director's costs in 11 administering this chapter.

12 (4) Each applicant ((shall))must file and maintain a surety bond, approved by the director, executed by the applicant as obligor and by 13 14 a surety company authorized to do a surety business in this state as surety, whose liability as such surety ((shall))must not exceed in 15 16 the aggregate the penal sum of the bond. The penal sum of the bond 17 ((shall))must be a minimum of thirty thousand dollars and based on 18 the annual dollar amount of loans originated or residential mortgage 19 loans serviced. The bond ((shall))must run to the state of Washington as obligee for the use and benefit of the state and of any person or 20 21 persons who may have a cause of action against the obligor under this chapter. The bond ((shall))must be conditioned that the obligor as 22 licensee will faithfully conform to and abide by this chapter and all 23 24 the rules adopted under this chapter. The bond will pay to the state 25 and any person or persons having a cause of action against the 26 obligor all moneys that may become due and owing to the state and those persons under and by virtue of this chapter. The bond must be 27 28 continuous and may be canceled by the surety upon the surety giving written notice to the director of its intent to cancel the bond. The 29 cancellation is effective forty-five days after the notice is 30 31 received by the director. In lieu of a surety bond, if the applicant 32 is a Washington business corporation, the applicant may maintain unimpaired capital, surplus, and long-term subordinated debt in an 33 amount that at any time its outstanding promissory notes or other 34 evidences of debt (other than long-term subordinated debt) in an 35 36 aggregate sum do not exceed three times the aggregate amount of its unimpaired capital, surplus, and long-term subordinated debt. 37 The director may define qualifying "long-term subordinated debt" for 38 39 purposes of this section.

(5) The director may waive one or more requirements of this
 section or permit an applicant to submit other information in lieu of
 the required information.

4 Sec. 23. RCW 31.04.075 and 2001 c 81 s 6 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

6 The licensee may not maintain more than one place of business 7 under the same license, but the director may issue more than one 8 license to the same licensee upon application by the licensee in a 9 form and manner established by the director.

Whenever a licensee wishes to change the place of business to a street address other than that ((designated in the license))reported in the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry, the licensee ((shall))must give prior written notice to the director ((as required by rule)), pay the ((license)) fee, and obtain the director's approval.

16 **Sec. 24.** RCW 31.04.093 and 2014 c 36 s 6 are each amended to 17 read as follows:

(1) The director ((shall))must enforce all laws and rules
relating to the licensing and regulation of licensees and persons
subject to this chapter.

21 (2) The director may deny applications for licenses for:

(a) Failure of the applicant to demonstrate within its application for a license that it meets the requirements for licensing in RCW 31.04.045 and 31.04.055;

(b) Violation of an order issued by the director under this chapter or another chapter administered by the director, including but not limited to cease and desist orders and temporary cease and desist orders;

(c) Revocation or suspension of a license to conduct lending or residential mortgage loan servicing, or to provide settlement services associated with lending or residential mortgage loan servicing, by this state, another state, or by the federal government within five years of the date of submittal of a complete application for a license; or

35 (d) Filing an incomplete application when that incomplete 36 application has been filed with the department for sixty or more 37 days, provided that the director has given notice to the licensee 38 that the application is incomplete, informed the applicant why the

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application is incomplete, and allowed at least twenty days for the
 applicant to complete the application.

3 (3) The director may <u>condition</u>, suspend, or revoke a license 4 issued under this chapter if the director finds that:

5 (a) The licensee has failed to pay any fee due the state of 6 Washington, has failed to maintain in effect the bond or permitted 7 substitute required under this chapter, or has failed to comply with 8 any specific order or demand of the director lawfully made and 9 directed to the licensee in accordance with this chapter;

10 (b) The licensee, either knowingly or without the exercise of due 11 care, has violated any provision of this chapter or any rule adopted 12 under this chapter; ((or))

(c) A fact or condition exists that, if it had existed at the 13 14 time of the original application for the license, clearly would have allowed the director to deny the application for the original 15 16 license((. The director may revoke or suspend only the particular 17 license with respect to which grounds for revocation or suspension may occur or exist unless the director finds that the grounds for 18 revocation or suspension are of general application to all offices or 19 to more than one office operated by the licensee, in which case, the 20 21 director may revoke or suspend all of the licenses issued to the licensee)); or 22

23 (d) The licensee failed to comply with any directive, order, or
 24 subpoena issued by the director under this chapter.

25 The director may condition, revoke, or suspend only the particular 26 license with respect to which grounds for conditioning, revocation, 27 or suspension may occur or exist or the director may condition, 28 revoke, or suspend all of the licenses issued to the licensee.

(4) The director may impose fines of up to one hundred dollars per day, per violation, upon the licensee, its employee or loan originator, or other person subject to this chapter for:

32

(a) Any violation of this chapter; or

33 (b) Failure to comply with any <u>directive</u>, order, or subpoena
34 issued by the director under this chapter.

35 (5) The director may issue an order directing the licensee, its 36 employee or loan originator, or other person subject to this chapter 37 to:

38 (a) Cease and desist from conducting business in a manner that is39 injurious to the public or violates any provision of this chapter;

1 (b) Take such affirmative action as is necessary to comply with 2 this chapter; ((or))

3 (c) Make a refund or restitution to a borrower or other person 4 who is damaged as a result of a violation of this chapter<u>;</u>

5 (d) Refund all fees received through any violation of this
6 chapter.

7 (6) The director may issue an order removing from office or 8 prohibiting from participation in the affairs of any licensee, or 9 both, any officer, principal, employee or <u>mortgage</u> loan originator, 10 or any person subject to this chapter for:

(a) False statements or omission of material information from an application for a license that, if known, would have allowed the director to deny the original application for a license;

14 (b) Conviction of a gross misdemeanor involving dishonesty or 15 financial misconduct or a felony;

16 (c) Suspension or revocation of a license to engage in lending or 17 residential mortgage loan servicing, or perform a settlement service 18 related to lending or residential mortgage loan servicing, in this 19 state or another state;

20 (d) Failure to comply with any order or subpoena issued under 21 this chapter;

22 (e) A violation of RCW 31.04.027, 31.04.102, 31.04.155, or 23 31.04.221; or

24 (f) Failure to obtain a license for activity that requires a 25 license.

(7) Except to the extent prohibited by another statute, the director may engage in informal settlement of complaints or enforcement actions including, but not limited to, payment to the department for purposes of financial literacy and education programs authorized under RCW 43.320.150. If any person subject to this chapter makes a payment to the department under this section, the person may not advertise such payment.

(8) Whenever the director determines that the public is likely to 33 be substantially injured by delay in issuing a cease and desist 34 order, the director may immediately issue a temporary cease and 35 desist order. The order may direct the licensee to discontinue any 36 violation of this chapter, to take such affirmative action as is 37 necessary to comply with this chapter, and may include a summary 38 39 suspension of the licensee's license and may order the licensee to 40 immediately cease the conduct of business under this chapter. The

order ((shall)) becomes effective at the time specified in the order.
Every temporary cease and desist order ((shall))must include a
provision that a hearing will be held upon request to determine
whether the order will become permanent. Such hearing ((shall))must
be held within fourteen days of receipt of a request for a hearing
unless otherwise specified in chapter 34.05 RCW.

7 (9) A licensee may surrender a license by delivering to the director written notice of surrender, but the surrender does not 8 affect the licensee's civil or criminal liability, if any, for acts 9 committed before the surrender, including any administrative action 10 11 initiated by the director to suspend or revoke a license, impose fines, compel the payment of restitution to borrowers or other 12 persons, or exercise any other authority under this chapter. The 13 statute of limitations on actions not subject to RCW 4.16.160 that 14 are brought under this chapter by the director is five years. 15

16 (10) The revocation, suspension, or surrender of a license does 17 not impair or affect the obligation of a preexisting lawful contract 18 between the licensee and a borrower.

(11) Every license issued under this chapter remains in force and effect until it has been surrendered, revoked, or suspended in accordance with this chapter. However, the director may on his or her own initiative reinstate suspended licenses or issue new licenses to a licensee whose license or licenses have been revoked if the director finds that the licensee meets all the requirements of this chapter.

26 (12) A license issued under this chapter expires upon the licensee's failure to comply with the annual assessment requirements 27 in RCW 31.04.085, and the rules. The department must provide notice 28 29 of the expiration to the address of record provided by the licensee. On the 15th day after the department provides notice, if the 30 31 assessment remains unpaid, the license expires. The licensee must receive notice prior to expiration and have the opportunity to stop 32 the expiration as set forth in rule. 33

34 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 25. A new section is added to chapter 31.04 35 RCW to read as follows:

36 (1) A residential mortgage loan servicer licensee must maintain 37 liquidity, operating reserves, and a tangible net worth in accordance 38 with generally accepted accounting principles as determined by the 39 director. The director may adopt rules to interpret this subsection.

1 (2) A residential mortgage loan servicer that is a Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac-approved servicer meets the requirements of subsection 2 (1) of this section if the liquidity, operating reserves, and 3 tangible net worth each meet the standards of the government-4 sponsored enterprise for which they are approved. For loans serviced 5 6 that would not otherwise be subject to the liquidity, operating 7 reserves, and tangible net worth requirements of Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac, the residential mortgage loan servicer must maintain 8 liquidity, operating reserves, and tangible net worth consistent with 9 the highest standards of the government-sponsored entity or entities 10 11 for which they are approved.

12 (3) If a licensee's liquidity, operating reserves, or tangible 13 net worth fall below the amount required under subsection (1) or (2) 14 of this section, the director or the director's designee may initiate 15 an action.

16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 26. A new section is added to chapter 31.04 17 RCW to read as follows:

18 Upon application by the director and upon a showing that the 19 interests of borrowers or creditors so requires, the superior court 20 may appoint a receiver to take over, operate, or liquidate any 21 residential mortgage loan servicer.

22 **Sec. 27.** RCW 31.04.102 and 2013 c 29 s 6 are each amended to 23 read as follows:

(1) For all loans made by a licensee that are not secured by a lien on real property, the licensee must make disclosures in compliance with the truth in lending act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1601 and regulation Z, 12 C.F.R. Part ((226))1026, and all other applicable federal laws and regulations.

29 (2) For all loans made by a licensee that are secured by a lien on real property, the licensee ((shall))must provide to each borrower 30 within three business days following receipt of a loan application a 31 written disclosure containing an itemized estimation and explanation 32 of all fees and costs that the borrower is required to pay in 33 34 connection with obtaining a loan from the licensee. A good faith estimate of a fee or cost ((shall))must be provided if the exact 35 amount of the fee or cost is not available when the disclosure is 36 provided. Disclosure in a form which complies with the requirements 37 of the truth in lending act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1601 and regulation Z, 12 38

1 C.F.R. Part ((226))1026, the real estate settlement procedures act 2 and regulation X, 24 C.F.R. ((Sec. 3500))Part 1024, and all other 3 applicable federal laws and regulations, as now or hereafter amended, 4 ((shall be deemed to)) constitutes compliance with this disclosure 5 requirement. Each licensee ((shall))must comply with all other 6 applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

7 (3) In addition, for all loans made by the licensee that are secured by a lien on real property, the licensee must provide to the 8 borrower an estimate of the annual percentage rate on the loan and a 9 disclosure of whether or not the loan contains a prepayment penalty 10 11 within three days of receipt of a loan application. The annual 12 percentage rate must be calculated in compliance with the truth in lending act, 15 U.S.C. Sec. 1601 and regulation Z, 12 C.F.R. Part 13 14 ((226))1024. If a licensee provides the borrower with a disclosure in compliance with the requirements of the truth in lending act within 15 16 three business days of receipt of a loan application, then the 17 licensee has complied with this subsection. If the director 18 determines that the federal government has required a disclosure that substantially meets the objectives of this subsection, then the 19 20 director may make a determination by rule that compliance with this federal disclosure requirement constitutes compliance with this 21 22 subsection.

(4) In addition for all consumer loans made by the licensee that are secured by a lien on real property, the licensee must comply with RCW 19.144.020.

26 **Sec. 28.** RCW 31.04.105 and 2013 c 29 s 7 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

28 Every licensee may:

(1) Lend money at a rate that does not exceed twenty-five percent per annum as determined by the simple interest method of calculating interest owed;

(2) In connection with the making of a loan, charge the borrower a nonrefundable, prepaid, loan origination fee not to exceed four percent of the first twenty thousand dollars and two percent thereafter of the principal amount of the loan advanced to or for the direct benefit of the borrower, which fee may be included in the principal balance of the loan;

38 (3) Agree with the borrower for the payment of fees to third39 parties other than the licensee who provide goods or services to the

1 licensee in connection with the preparation of the borrower's loan, including, but not limited to, credit reporting agencies, title 2 companies, appraisers, structural and pest inspectors, and escrow 3 companies, when such fees are actually paid by the licensee to a 4 third party for such services or purposes and may include such fees 5 6 in the amount of the loan. However, no charge may be collected unless 7 a loan is made, except for reasonable fees properly incurred for a credit report and in connection with the appraisal of property by a 8 qualified, independent, professional, third-party appraiser selected 9 by the borrower and approved by the lender or in the absence of 10 borrower selection, selected by the lender; 11

12 (4) In connection with the making of a loan secured by real 13 estate, when the borrower actually obtains a loan, agree with the 14 borrower to pay a fee to a mortgage broker that is not owned by the 15 licensee or under common ownership with the licensee and that 16 performed services in connection with the origination of the loan. A 17 licensee may not receive compensation as a mortgage broker in 18 connection with any loan made by the licensee;

19 (5) Collect at the time of the loan closing up to but not 20 exceeding forty-five days of prepaid interest;

(6) Charge and collect a penalty of not more than ten percent of any installment payment delinquent ten days or more;

(7) Collect from the debtor reasonable attorneys' fees, actual expenses, and costs incurred in connection with the collection of a delinquent debt, a repossession, or a foreclosure when a debt is referred for collection to an attorney who is not a salaried employee of the licensee;

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(8) Make open-end loans as provided in this chapter;

(9) Charge and collect a fee for dishonored checks in an amount approved by the director; and

31 (10) In accordance with Title 48 RCW, sell insurance covering 32 real and personal property, covering the life or disability or both 33 of the borrower, and covering the involuntary unemployment of the 34 borrower.

35 **Sec. 29.** RCW 31.04.145 and 2012 c 17 s 5 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

37 (1) For the purpose of discovering violations of this chapter or 38 securing information lawfully required under this chapter, the 39 director may at any time, either personally or by designees,

1 investigate or examine the loans and business and, wherever located, the books, accounts, records, papers, documents, files, and other 2 information used in the business of every licensee and of every 3 person who is engaged in the business making or assisting in the 4 making of loans at interest rates authorized by this chapter, whether 5 6 the person acts or claims to act as principal or agent, or under or 7 without the authority of this chapter. The director or designated representative: 8

9 (a) ((Shall))<u>Must</u> have free access to the <u>employees</u>, offices, and 10 places of business, books, accounts, papers, documents, other 11 information, records, files, safes, and vaults of all such persons 12 during normal business hours;

(b) May require the attendance of and examine under oath all persons whose testimony may be required about the loans or the business or the subject matter of any investigation, examination, or hearing and may require such person to produce books, accounts, papers, records, files, and any other information the director or designated persons deem relevant to the inquiry;

19 (c) May require by directive, subpoena, or any other lawful means 20 the production of original books, accounts, papers, records, files, 21 and other information; may require that such original books, 22 accounts, papers, records, files, and other information be copied; or 23 may make copies of such original books, accounts, papers, records, 24 files, or other information;

(d) May issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum requiring attendance by any person identified in this section or compelling production of any books, accounts, papers, records, files, or other documents or information identified in this section.

(2) The director ((shall))must make such periodic examinations of
 the affairs, business, office, and records of each licensee as
 determined by rule.

32 (3) Every licensee examined or investigated by the director or 33 the director's designee ((shall))must pay to the director the cost of 34 the examination or investigation of each licensed place of business 35 as determined by rule by the director.

36 (4) In order to carry out the purposes of this section, the 37 director may:

(a) Retain attorneys, accountants, or other professionals and
 specialists as examiners, auditors, or investigators to conduct or
 assist in the conduct of examinations or investigations;

1 (b) Enter into agreements or relationships with other government 2 officials or regulatory associations in order to improve efficiencies 3 and reduce regulatory burden by sharing resources, standardized or 4 uniform methods or procedures, and documents, records, information, 5 or evidence obtained under this section;

6 (c) Use, hire, contract, or employ public or privately available 7 analytical systems, methods, or software to examine or investigate 8 the licensee, individual, or person subject to chapter 120, Laws of 9 2009;

(d) Accept and rely on examination or investigation reports madeby other government officials, within or without this state;

(e) Accept audit reports made by an independent certified public accountant for the licensee, individual, or person subject to chapter 14 120, Laws of 2009 in the course of that part of the examination 15 covering the same general subject matter as the audit and may 16 incorporate the audit report in the report of the examination, report 17 of investigation, or other writing of the director; or

(f) Assess the licensee, individual, or person subject to chapter120, Laws of 2009 the cost of the services in (a) of this subsection.

20 **Sec. 30.** RCW 31.04.205 and 2001 c 81 s 16 are each amended to 21 read as follows:

(1) The director or designated persons may, at his or her 22 23 discretion, take such action as provided for in this chapter to 24 enforce this chapter. If the person subject to such action does not 25 appear in person or by counsel at the time and place designated for any administrative hearing that may be held on the action, then the 26 27 person ((shall be)) is deemed to consent to the action. If the person subject to the action consents, or if after hearing the director 28 finds by a preponderance of the evidence that any grounds for 29 30 sanctions under this chapter exist, then the director may impose any sanction authorized by this chapter. 31

32 (2) The director may recover the state's costs and expenses for 33 prosecuting violations of this chapter including staff time spent 34 preparing for and attending administrative hearings and reasonable 35 attorneys' fees unless, after a hearing, the director determines no 36 violation occurred.

37 **Sec. 31.** RCW 31.04.221 and 2013 c 29 s 9 are each amended to 38 read as follows:

An individual defined as a mortgage loan originator ((shall))must not engage in the business of a mortgage loan originator without first obtaining and maintaining annually a license under this chapter. Each licensed mortgage loan originator must register with and maintain a valid unique identifier issued by the nationwide ((multistate))mortgage licensing system.

7 **Sec. 32.** RCW 31.04.224 and 2012 c 17 s 6 are each amended to 8 read as follows:

9 The following are exempt from licensing as mortgage loan 10 originators under this chapter:

(1) Registered mortgage loan originators, or any individual required to be registered while actively employed by a covered financial institution as defined in regulation G, 12 C.F.R. Part 14 <u>1007.102;</u>

(2) ((<u>A licensed</u>))<u>An</u> attorney <u>licensed in Washington</u> who negotiates the terms of a residential mortgage loan on behalf of a client as an ancillary matter to the attorney's representation of the client, unless the attorney is compensated by a lender, a mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator or by any agent of a lender, mortgage broker, or other mortgage loan originator;

21 (3) Any individual who offers or negotiates terms of a 22 residential mortgage loan with or on behalf of an immediate family 23 member; or

24 (4) Any individual who offers or negotiates terms of a 25 residential mortgage loan secured by a dwelling that served as the 26 individual's residence.

27 **Sec. 33.** RCW 31.04.247 and 2009 c 120 s 18 are each amended to 28 read as follows:

(1) The director ((shall))must issue and deliver a mortgage loan originator license if, after investigation, the director makes at a minimum the following findings:

32 (a) The applicant has paid the required license fees;

33 (b) The applicant has met the requirements of this chapter;

34 (c) The applicant has never had a mortgage loan originator 35 license revoked in any governmental jurisdiction, except that, for 36 the purposes of this subsection, a subsequent formal vacation of such 37 revocation is not a revocation;

1 (d) The applicant has not been convicted of <u>a gross misdemeanor</u> involving dishonesty or financial misconduct or has not been 2 convicted of, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to, a felony in a 3 domestic, foreign, or military court (i) during the seven-year period 4 preceding the date of the application for licensing and registration; 5 6 or (ii) at any time preceding the date of application, if the felony 7 involved an act of fraud, dishonesty, breach of trust, or money laundering; 8

9 (e) The applicant has demonstrated financial responsibility, character, and general fitness such as to command the confidence of 10 11 the community and to warrant a determination that the mortgage loan 12 originator will operate honestly, fairly, and efficiently within the purposes of chapter 120, Laws of 2009. For the purposes of this 13 section, an applicant has not demonstrated financial responsibility 14 when the applicant shows disregard in the management of his or her 15 16 financial condition. A determination that an individual has shown 17 disregard in the management of his or her financial condition may include, but is not limited to, an assessment of: Current outstanding 18 19 judgments, except judgments solely as a result of medical expenses; current outstanding tax liens or other government liens and filings; 20 21 foreclosures within the last three years; or a pattern of seriously 22 delinquent accounts within the past three years;

(f) The applicant has completed the prelicensing educationrequirement as required by this chapter;

25 (g) The applicant has passed a written test that meets the test 26 requirement as required by this chapter;

(h) The consumer loan licensee that the applicant works for hasmet the surety bond requirement as required by this chapter;

(i) The applicant has not been found to be in violation of thischapter or rules adopted under this chapter;

(j) The mortgage loan originator licensee has completed, during the calendar year preceding a licensee's annual license renewal date, continuing education as required by this chapter.

(2) If the director finds the conditions of this section have not been met, the director ((shall))must not issue the mortgage loan originator license. The director ((shall))must notify the applicant of the denial and return to the mortgage loan originator applicant any remaining portion of the license fee that exceeds the department's actual cost to investigate the license.

1 **Sec. 34.** RCW 31.04.277 and 2010 c 35 s 8 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

Each consumer loan company licensee who makes, services, or brokers a loan secured by real property ((shall))<u>must</u> submit ((to))<u>call reports through</u> the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry ((reports of condition, which must be in the))<u>in a</u> form and ((<u>must contain</u>))<u>containing</u> the information ((as))<u>prescribed by</u> <u>the director or as deemed necessary by</u> the nationwide mortgage licensing system and registry ((<u>may require</u>)).

10 **Sec. 35.** RCW 31.04.290 and 2013 c 29 s 10 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

12 (1) A residential mortgage loan servicer must comply with the 13 following requirements:

14

(a) ((The requirements of chapter 19.148 RCW;

15 (b)) Any fee that is assessed by a servicer must be assessed 16 within forty-five days of the date on which the fee was incurred and 17 must be explained clearly and conspicuously in a statement mailed to 18 the borrower at the borrower's last known address no more than thirty 19 days after assessing the fee;

20 ((((c)))(<u>b</u>) All amounts received by a servicer on a residential mortgage loan at the address where the borrower has been instructed 21 to make payments must be accepted and credited, or treated as 22 credited, within one business day of the date received, provided that 23 24 the borrower has provided sufficient information to credit the 25 account. If a servicer uses the scheduled method of accounting, any 26 regularly scheduled payment made prior to the scheduled due date must be credited no later than the due date. If any payment is received 27 and not credited, or treated as credited, the borrower must be 28 notified of the disposition of the payment within ten business days 29 30 by mail at the borrower's last known address. The notification must identify the reason the payment was not credited or treated as 31 credited to the account, as well as any actions the borrower must 32 take to make the residential mortgage loan current; 33

34 (((d)))(c) Any servicer that exercises the authority to collect 35 escrow amounts on a residential mortgage loan held for the borrower 36 for payment of insurance, taxes, and other charges with respect to 37 the property ((shall))<u>must</u> collect and make all such payments from 38 the escrow account and ensure that no late penalties are assessed or 39 other negative consequences result for the borrower; 1 (((e)))(d) The servicer ((shall))must make reasonable attempts to 2 comply with a borrower's request for information about the 3 residential mortgage loan account and to respond to any dispute 4 initiated by the borrower about the loan account. The servicer:

5 (i) Must maintain written or electronic records of each written 6 request for information regarding a dispute or error involving the 7 borrower's account until the residential mortgage loan is paid in 8 full, sold, or otherwise satisfied; and

(ii) Must provide a written statement to the borrower within 9 fifteen business days of receipt of a written request from the 10 11 borrower. The borrower's request must include the name and account number, if any, of the borrower, a statement that the account is or 12 may be in error, and sufficient detail regarding the information 13 sought by the borrower to permit the servicer to comply. At a 14 minimum, the servicer's response to the borrower's request must 15 16 include the following information:

(A) Whether the account is current or, if the account is not
current, an explanation of the default and the date the account went
into default;

(B) The current balance due on the residential mortgage loan, including the principal due, the amount of funds, if any, held in a suspense account, the amount of the escrow balance known to the servicer, if any, and whether there are any escrow deficiencies or shortages known to the servicer;

(C) The identity, address, and other relevant information about the current holder, owner, or assignee of the residential mortgage loan; and

(D) The telephone number and mailing address of a servicer
 representative with the information and authority to answer questions
 and resolve disputes; and

31 (((f)))(<u>e</u>) Promptly correct any errors and refund any fees
32 assessed to the borrower resulting from the servicer's error.

33 (2) In addition to the statement in subsection (1)(((e)))(d)(ii)34 of this section, a borrower may request more detailed information 35 from a servicer, and the servicer must provide the information within 36 fifteen business days of receipt of a written request from the 37 borrower. The request must include the name and account number, if 38 any, of the borrower, a statement that the account is or may be in 39 error, and provide sufficient detail to the servicer regarding

1 information sought by the borrower. If requested by the borrower this 2 statement must include:

3 (a) A copy of the original note, or if unavailable, an affidavit4 of lost note; and

(b) A statement that identifies and itemizes all fees and charges 5 б assessed under the loan transaction and provides a full payment history identifying in a clear and conspicuous manner all of the 7 debits, credits, application of and disbursement of all payments 8 received from or for the benefit of the borrower, and other activity 9 on the residential mortgage loan including escrow account activity 10 and suspense account activity, if any. The period of the account 11 12 history ((shall))must cover at a minimum the two-year period prior to the date of the receipt of the request for information. If the 13 servicer has not serviced the residential mortgage loan for the 14 entire two-year time period the servicer ((shall))must provide the 15 16 information going back to the date on which the servicer began 17 servicing the home loan, and identify the previous servicer, if known. If the servicer claims that any delinquent or outstanding sums 18 are owed on the home loan prior to the two-year period or the period 19 during which the servicer has serviced the residential mortgage loan, 20 21 the servicer ((shall))must provide an account history beginning with the month that the servicer claims any outstanding sums are owed on 22 the residential mortgage loan up to the date of the request for the 23 information. The borrower may request annually one statement free of 24 25 charge.

26 **Sec. 36.** RCW 31.04.520 and 2009 c 149 s 4 are each amended to 27 read as follows:

The borrower in a proprietary reverse mortgage transaction has the same right to rescind the transaction as provided in the truth in lending act, Regulation Z, 12 C.F.R. ((Sec. 226))Part 1026.

31 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 37. The following acts or parts of acts are 32 each repealed:

(1) RCW 19.146.290 (Licensee to provide director with annual
 report of mortgage broker activity) and 2006 c 19 s 18; and

35 (2) RCW 19.146.330 (Loan originator—Limit on applications taken)
 36 and 2006 c 19 s 22.

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