| 1  | State of Arkansas                                                          | As Engrossed: H2/25/15                  |                           |
|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 2  | 90th General Assembly                                                      | A Bill                                  |                           |
| 3  | Regular Session, 2015                                                      |                                         | HOUSE BILL 1406           |
| 4  |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 5  | By: Representative Bentley                                                 |                                         |                           |
| 6  |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 7  |                                                                            | For An Act To Be Entitled               |                           |
| 8  | AN ACT TO                                                                  | ALLOW THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SETTI   | ĹE                        |
| 9  | CERTAIN CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX DISPUTES; AND FOR                          |                                         |                           |
| 10 | OTHER PURPOSES.                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 11 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 12 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 13 |                                                                            | Subtitle                                |                           |
| 14 | TO A                                                                       | ALLOW THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO SETTLE  |                           |
| 15 | CERT                                                                       | TAIN CORPORATE FRANCHISE TAX DISPUTES.  |                           |
| 16 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 17 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 18 | BE IT ENACTED BY THE                                                       | GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKAN  | NSAS:                     |
| 19 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 20 | SECTION 1. Ark                                                             | ansas Code § 26-54-107(c), concerning   | the computation of        |
| 21 | corporate franchise taxes by the Secretary of State, is amended to read as |                                         |                           |
| 22 | follows:                                                                   |                                         |                           |
| 23 | (c) <del>(l) A corpo</del>                                                 | pration may seek relief from any propos | sed assessment of         |
| 24 | taxes pursuant to the                                                      | Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act   | t <b>, §</b> 25-15-201 et |
| 25 | <del>seq.</del> <u>The Secretary o</u>                                     | of State or his or her designee may ag  | <u>ree to compound,</u>   |
| 26 | <u>settle, or compromise</u>                                               | e a dispute concerning interest or pena | <u>alties associated</u>  |
| 27 | with corporate franch                                                      | <i>tise taxes if the</i> taxpayer:      |                           |
| 28 | <u>(1) Disp</u>                                                            | outes the proposed amount; or           |                           |
| 29 | (2) <del>This</del>                                                        | method shall be the exclusive method    | for seeking relief        |
| 30 | <u>Is insolvent or bankr</u>                                               | <u>upt</u> .                            |                           |
| 31 |                                                                            |                                         |                           |
| 32 | SECTION 2. Ark                                                             | ansas Code § 26-54-107, concerning the  | e computation of          |
| 33 | franchise taxes, pena                                                      | lties, and relief by the Secretary of   | State, is amended         |
| 34 | to add additional sub                                                      | esections to read as follows:           |                           |
| 35 | <u>(d)(1) The Sec</u>                                                      | retary of State may waive any accrued   | interest or               |
| 36 | <u>assessed penalties im</u>                                               | nposed on a taxpayer due to a failure t | <u>to remit corporate</u> |



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As Engrossed: H2/25/15

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| 1          | franchise taxes under § 26-54-105(c), if:                                  |  |  |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|--|
| 2          | (A) The taxpayer is reasonably mistaken about the                          |  |  |
| 3          | application of this chapter or the computation of the franchise tax to the |  |  |
| 4          | corporation; or                                                            |  |  |
| 5          | (B) A taxpayer cannot pay the accrued interest or assessed                 |  |  |
| 6          | penalties because of the taxpayer's insolvency or bankruptcy.              |  |  |
| 7          | (2) The Secretary of State may waive any fees that a taxpayer              |  |  |
| 8          | owes if the taxpayer desires to dissolve the corporation.                  |  |  |
| 9          | (e) If the parties cannot resolve the dispute, the parties may pursue      |  |  |
| 10         | any other remedy available to them, including but not limited to remedies  |  |  |
| 11         | available under the Arkansas Administrative Procedure Act, § 25-15-201 et  |  |  |
| 12         | <u>seq.</u>                                                                |  |  |
| 13         | (f) The Secretary of State shall develop guidelines to assist a            |  |  |
| 14         | taxpayer in resolving a corporate franchise tax dispute.                   |  |  |
| 15         |                                                                            |  |  |
| 16         | /s/Bentley                                                                 |  |  |
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