

1 State of Arkansas
2 92nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2019
4

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1463

5 By: Representative Gazaway
6 By: Senator Hester
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE TO
10 PREVENT FRAUDULENT FILINGS; TO ALLOW THE FILING
11 OFFICE TO REFUSE TO FILE FRAUDULENT RECORDS; AND FOR
12 OTHER PURPOSES.
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Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE TO
16 PREVENT FRAUDULENT FILINGS; AND TO ALLOW
17 THE FILING OFFICE TO REFUSE TO FILE
18 FRAUDULENT RECORDS.
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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 4-9-516(b), concerning what constitutes
25 filing under the Uniform Commercial Code, is amended to add an additional
26 subdivision, to read as follows:

27 (8) in the case of a financing statement, the filing office
28 determines that the financing statement is fraudulent under § 4-9-520(e).
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30 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 4-9-520(c), concerning acceptance and the
31 refusal to accept a record under the Uniform Commercial Code, is amended to
32 read as follows:

33 (c) A Except as provided in §4-9-520(e)(4)(B), a filed financing
34 statement satisfying § 4-9-502(a) and (b) is effective, even if the filing
35 office is required to refuse to accept it for filing under subsection (a).
36 However, § 4-9-338 applies to a filed financing statement providing



1 information described in § 4-9-516(b)(5) which is incorrect at the time the
2 financing statement is filed.

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4 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 4-9-520, concerning acceptance and the
5 refusal to accept a record under the Uniform Commercial Code, is amended to
6 add an additional subsection to read as follows:

7 (e)(1)(A) A filing officer may review a financing statement to
8 determine if it should be refused for filing as fraudulent under this
9 subsection.

10 (B) When reviewing a financing statement under subdivision
11 (e)(1)(A) of this section, the filing officer shall consider the following
12 factors, including without limitation whether:

13 (i) the financing statement is authorized under the Uniform
14 Commercial Code;

15 (ii) the financing statement cites performance or
16 nonperformance of official duties by a current or former employee or officer
17 of a federal, state, county, or other local government entity without an
18 accompanying, properly executed security agreement or judgment from a court
19 with jurisdiction;

20 (iii) the financing statement identifies the secured party
21 and debtor as being the same person;

22 (iv) there is sufficient proof that a debtor identified as
23 a transmitting utility meets the definition of a transmitting utility as
24 specified in the Uniform Commercial Code;

25 (v) the financing statement is remitted by or on behalf of
26 an inmate in a correction facility without being accompanied by a sworn
27 notarized statement signed by the debtor acknowledging that the person
28 entered into a security agreement with the inmate and authorized the filing;

29 (vi) the financing statement is being filed for a purpose
30 other than a transaction within the scope of the Uniform Commercial Code; and

31 (vii) the text within the financing statement contains
32 language indicative of past fraudulent filings.

33 (2) If a filing official acting in good faith has reason to believe
34 that the financing statement is filed for a fraudulent purpose, to promote or
35 conduct an illegitimate object or purpose, or for the purpose of defrauding
36 or harassing a person or entity, the filing official shall provide the reason

1 to refuse the filing to:

2 (i) the director of the Business and Commercial Services
3 Division of the office of the Secretary of State; and

4 (ii) the general counsel for the Secretary of State.

5 (3) If the director and the general counsel concur in the filing
6 official's reasoning, then written notice under signature of the director
7 shall be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the mailing
8 address provided for the secured party of record, stating:

9 (A) the fact of and reason for refusal to file the financing
10 statement;

11 (B) the need for the secured party to submit, within thirty (30)
12 days of the date of the certified letter, documentation as to why the
13 financing statement should not be refused for filing, including without
14 limitation a properly executed security agreement or a judgment from a court
15 with jurisdiction authorizing the filing; and

16 (C) legal penalties for filing fraudulent financing statements.

17 (4)(A) If the filing official determines that the secured party
18 provided sufficient evidence within the thirty-day period specified in the
19 certified letter demonstrating that the refused filing should have been
20 accepted for filing, the filing office shall file the record with an
21 effective date of the time that it was originally submitted for filing with
22 an information statement indicating that the financing statement was filed
23 under its initial filing date.

24 (B) If within the thirty-day period specified in the certified
25 letter the secured party fails to respond or fails to provide sufficient
26 evidence to support the effectiveness of the financing statement, then the
27 filing office may refuse the record for filing. The financing statement
28 record shall be void and have no force or effect on any person or persons
29 named in the financing statement as related to the effectiveness of a record
30 under this subchapter.

31 (5) The filing office shall not return a fee paid for filing a
32 statement which has been refused for filing as fraudulent.

33 (6) Neither the filing office nor an employee of the filing office
34 shall be liable for the refusal to file financing statements in the lawful
35 performance of the office or employee under this subsection.

36 (7) Regulated financial institutions and persons that extend credit

1 to agricultural producers are exempt from the requirements of this
2 subsection.

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