

those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 552, will be available for inspection and copying at the Commission's Public Reference Room. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-98-17 and should be submitted by July 30, 1998.

IV. Commission Findings and Order Granting Accelerated Approval of the Proposed Rule Change

After careful review, the Commission finds that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the rules and regulations under the Act applicable to a national securities exchange. In particular, the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁷ in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market. The Commission believes that allowing floor brokers or market makers to clear the post for cabinet securities while remaining at their respective posts will ensure that these floor brokers or market makers will be at their posts when they need to respond to orders in more liquid securities at a much faster pace.

The Commission finds good cause for approving the proposed rule change prior to the thirtieth day after the date of publication of notice of the proposal in the **Federal Register** because the extension will permit the current pilot to continue without interruption while the Commission considers the Exchange's proposal to expand the policy on a permanent basis to all securities traded on the Exchange. The extension is only for five months (or until the Commission approves SR-CHX-98-13, if it decides to do so, whichever occurs first), and will merely preserve the *status quo*. Moreover, the original pilot was noticed for the full 21-day comment period and the Commission received no comments on the proposal.⁸ The Commission's approval of the proposal to extend the pilot for five months has no bearing on, and should not be interpreted to suggest that the Commission ultimately will approve SR-CHX-98-13.

It is therefore ordered, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act,⁹ that the proposed rule change (File No. SR-

CHX-98-17) be, and hereby is, approved on an accelerated basis through December 6, 1998, or until the Commission approves SR-CHX-98-13, whichever occurs first.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.¹⁰

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-18149 Filed 7-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-40152; File No. SR-CHX-98-14]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change by the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. Relating to Exempt Credit by Market Makers

July 1, 1998.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on June 10, 1998, the Chicago Stock Exchange, Inc. ("CHX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The Exchange proposes to clarify an interpretation to Article XXXIV, Rule 16 of CHX's Rules relating to registered market makers' utilization of exempt credit.

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

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

(A) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to clarify an interpretation to the Exchange's rules regarding market makers and exempt credit. The Exchange recently modified Interpretation .01 to Article XXXIV, Rule 16, to eliminate a reference to "creating or increasing a position," thereby including all transactions consummated on the Exchange or sent from the Exchange floor via ITS in determining a market makers' ability to use exempt credit.³

In making such a change to the interpretation, the Exchange did not intend to eliminate the requirement that volume be measured on an issue by issue basis. To eliminate any possibility that the change may be misinterpreted in that manner, the Exchange is clarifying the language of the interpretation to make it clear that volume is measured for a particular issue to determine a market makers' ability to use exempt credit for that issue. The text of the proposed rule change is as follows:

Additions are italicized.

ARTICLE XXXIV

Registered Market Makers—Equity Floor

Regulatory Status

RULE 16. No text change.

* * * Interpretations and Policies:

.01 Utilization of Exempt Credit. Exchange Members registered as equity market makers are members registered as specialists for purposes of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and as such are entitled to obtain exempt credit for financing their market maker transactions. Members and/or prospective members who are anticipating becoming registered as equity market makers as well as those clearing firms who are or will be carrying the accounts of market makers should be aware of the following interpretation relative to the use of such credit:

1. Only those transactions initiated on the Exchange Floor qualify as market maker transactions. This restriction prohibits the use of exempt credit where market maker orders are routed to the Floor from locations off the Floor.

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 39519, n.4 above.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 40016 (May 20, 1998), 63 FR 29276 (May 28, 1998).

2. Fifty percent (50%) of the quarterly share volume *in an issue* in a market maker account must result from transactions which are either consummated on the Exchange or sent from the Exchange Floor for execution in another market via ITS *in order for the market maker to be entitled to exempt credit for such issue*.

3. Only those positions which have been established as a direct result of bonafide equity market maker activity qualify for exempt credit treatment. This restriction precludes exempt credit financing based on an equity market maker registration for positions resulting from options exercises and assignments.

2. Statutory Basis

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act⁴ in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

(B) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition.

(C) Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

The Exchange has neither solicited nor received written comments on the proposed rule change.

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

Because the foregoing rule change constitutes a stated policy, practice or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing rule of the Exchange it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act⁵ and Rule 19b-4(e)(1)⁶ thereunder.⁷ At any time within 60 days of the filing of such rule change, the Commission

may summarily abrogate such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Persons making written submissions should file six copies thereof with the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of the submissions, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. § 552, will be available for inspection and copying at the Commission's Public Reference Section, 450 Fifth Street, NW., Washington, DC 20549. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the CHX. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CHX-98-14 and should be submitted by July 30, 1998.

For the Commission, by the Division of Market Regulation, pursuant to delegated authority.⁸

Margaret H. McFarland,

Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 98-18150 Filed 7-8-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8010-01-M

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION

Information Collection Activities: Proposed Collection Requests and Comment Requests

This notice lists information collection packages that will require submission to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), as well as information collection packages submitted to OMB for clearance, in

compliance with Public Law 104-13 effective October 1, 1995, The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

I. The information collection(s) listed below require(s) extension(s) of the current OMB approval(s) or are proposed new collection(s):

Reporting Events—SSI—0960-0128. The information collected on Form SSA-8150-EV is used by the Social Security Administration (SSA) to determine eligibility for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) payments and to determine correct payment amounts. The respondents are SSI applicants and recipients.

Number of Respondents: 33,200.

Frequency of Response: 1.

Average Burden Per Response: 5 minutes.

Estimated Average Burden: 2,767 hours.

Written comments and recommendations regarding the information collection(s) should be sent within 60 days from the date of this publication, directly to the SSA Reports Clearance Officer at the following address: Social Security Administration, DCFAM, Attn: Frederick W. Brickenkamp, 6401 Security Blvd., 1-A-21 Operations Bldg., Baltimore, MD 21235.

In addition to your comments on the accuracy of the agency's burden estimate, we are soliciting comments on the need for the information; its practical utility; ways to enhance its quality, utility and clarity; and on ways to minimize burden on respondents, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

II. The information collection(s) listed below have been submitted to OMB:

1. Representative Payee Report—0960-0068. Forms SSA-6230 and SSA-623 are used by SSA to determine the continuing suitability of an individual/organization to serve as representative payee. Form SSA-6230 is sent to parents, stepparents and grandparents with custody of minor children receiving Social Security benefits. Form SSA-623 is sent to all other payees with or without custody of the beneficiary. The respondents are individuals and organizations who serve as representative payees for SSI and Social Security beneficiaries.

⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(e).

⁷ In reviewing the proposal, the Commission considered its impact on efficiency, competition and capital formation. 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

⁸ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).