Required f	OMB Number: 3235-0045 Estimated average burden hours per response					
Page 1 of	WASHIN	EXCHANGE COMMIS GTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4		File No. ndment No. (req. for	* SR - 2017 - * 020 r Amendments *)	
Filing by NASDAQ BX, Inc.						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial *	Amendment * Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section 🗸	on 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *		□ 19b-4(f ☑ 19b-4(f □ 19b-4(f	f)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	)	
Notice of	f proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clea	ring, and Settlement Act	of 2010		vap Submission pursuant	
Section 806(e)(1) *  Section 806(e)(2) *  to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934    Section 306(e)(2) *  Section 3C(b)(2) *				-		
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description						
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).						
Proposal to amend the Exchange transaction fees at Rule 7018 to limit the availability of credits provided for removing non-displayed liquidity.						
Contact Information						
Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.						
Eirot No.	me * Sean	Last Name * Bennett				
Title *	Principal Associate General Counsel	Last Name Dennett	•			
E-mail *						
Telepho						
Signature						
Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,						
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.						
(Title *)						
	4/11/2017	Executive Vice Presid	ent and Ge	eneral Counsel		
By E	dward S. Knight					
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.						

OMB APPROVAL

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549					
For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.					
Form 19b-4 Information *    Add  Remove    View	The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.				
Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)				
Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * Add Remove View	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3)				
Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications      Add    Remove    View      Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.				
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire      Add    Remove    View      Exhibit Sent As Paper Document	Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is referred to by the proposed rule change.				
Exhibit 4 - Marked CopiesAddRemoveView	The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working.				
Add  Remove  View	The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part of the proposed rule change.				
Partial Amendment    Add  Remove    View	If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.				

#### 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) NASDAQ BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to amend the Exchange's transaction fees at Rule 7018 to limit the availability of credits provided for removing non-displayed liquidity.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u>. The text of the proposed rule change is attached as <u>Exhibit 5</u>.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

#### 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") on August 15, 2016. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

T. Sean Bennett Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. (301) 978-8499

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

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

## 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

a. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to limit the credits provided for removing liquidity on BX under Rule 7018(a).<sup>3</sup> The Exchange operates on the "taker-maker" model, whereby it pays rebates to members that take liquidity and charges fees to members that provide liquidity. Under Rule 7018(a), the Exchange assesses fees for adding liquidity, and provides credits for removing liquidity, applied to the use of the Order<sup>4</sup> execution and routing services of the NASDAQ OMX BX Equities System by members for all securities priced at \$1 or more per share that it trades. Currently, the Exchange will provide a credit under Rule 7018(a) to a member that removes liquidity when its Order is priced-improved by the System. Specifically, an Order (excluding Orders with Midpoint pegging<sup>5</sup> and excluding Orders that receive price improvement and execute against an Order with Midpoint pegging) that accesses liquidity may receive a credit of \$0.0006, \$0.0015 or \$0.0016 per share executed. Such Orders include Orders that receive price improvement, other than those that execute against an Order with Midpoint pegging.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Exchange initially filed the proposed rule change on April 3, 2017 (SR-BX-2017-019). On April 11, 2017, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As defined by Rule 4702(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pegging is an Order Attribute that allows an Order to have its price automatically set with reference to the NBBO. Midpoint pegging means Pegging with reference to the midpoint between the Inside Bid and the Inside Offer (the "Midpoint"). An Order with Midpoint Pegging is not displayed. <u>See</u> Rule 4703(d).

Page 5 of 21

The Exchange excludes liquidity removing Orders that execute against resting Orders with Midpoint pegging from receiving a credit because the member received the benefit of receiving price improvement from executing against an Order that is priced better than the NBBO. Moreover, the member receiving the price improvement did not undertake any additional risk to receive the benefit, but was rather a beneficiary of the midpoint liquidity. For similar reasons, the Exchange is proposing to expand the applicability of the zero credit tier to include a liquidity removing Order that is price improved by other resting orders with Non-display prices. Thus, in addition to Orders with Midpoint Pegging, other Orders that may have a non-display price are: Price to Comply Orders,<sup>6</sup> Non-Displayed Orders,<sup>7</sup> Post-Only Orders,<sup>8</sup> and Orders with a Reserve Size<sup>9</sup> attribute.

As an example, if the NBBO is \$10 x \$10.02, with Market A showing a bid of 100 shares at \$10, Market B showing an offer of 100 shares at \$10.02 and the Exchange displaying a best bid of \$9.99 and offer of \$10.03, a member that enters an Order with a Non-display attribute to buy 100 shares at \$10.01 would not have a marketable Order and would post to the Exchange book as a Non-displayed Order at \$10.01. If a second member enters an Order to sell 100 shares at \$10, the Order would execute against the Non-displayed Order to buy at \$10.01 resting on the Exchange Book. Such an execution would represent price improvement to the second member without taking on any

- <sup>7</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(3).</u>
- <sup>8</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(4).</u>
- <sup>9</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 4703(h).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(1).</u>

Page 6 of 21

additional risk or market-improving behavior. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that it is necessary also to pay a rebate to encourage the submission of such Orders. Rather, the execution of such Orders will be free of charge.

Last, the Exchange is proposing to make conforming changes to two credits under Rule 7018(a) that currently exclude orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with Midpoint pegging from the eligibility criteria of the credit. Specifically, under the \$0.0016 and \$0.0015 per executed share credits of Rule 7018(a) the Exchange is proposing to replace references to orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with Midpoint pegging to make it clear that orders with a Non-Displayed price are excluded from the rule. Thus, the exclusion under these two credits will continue to remain consistent with the proposed amended zero credit tier.

#### b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>11</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that offering Orders that remove liquidity and receive price improvement at no cost is reasonable because the execution of such Orders is free of charge. Generally, the Exchange offers reduced transaction fees and credits in return for market-improving behavior. The Exchange determined to not provide a credit to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

members for Orders that remove liquidity when the Order receives price improvement by executing against a Mid-point Order, since the member removing liquidity is benefitting from the price improvement. Likewise, the Exchange is expanding the existing credit tier to include all Orders with a Non-Displayed price that provide price improvement.

The Exchange believes that offering Orders that remove liquidity and receive price improvement at no cost is consistent with an equitable allocation of fees and is not unfairly discriminatory because such Orders invariably receive price improvement of at least \$0.005 per share, and therefore do not need an additional rebate of \$0.0006 to \$0.0016 to encourage their submission to the Exchange. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the change is not unfairly discriminatory because the price improvement provided to these Orders provides a rational basis for treating them differently from other Orders that access liquidity at the Exchange.

#### 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. In terms of inter-market competition, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their Order routing

Page 8 of 21

practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

In this instance, the proposed changes to the charges assessed and credits available to members for execution of securities in securities of all three Tapes do not impose a burden on competition because the Exchange's execution services are completely voluntary and subject to extensive competition both from other exchanges and from off-exchange venues. The proposed expansion of the zero credit tier is not a burden on competition because the Exchange has limited resources to apply as credits and such resources must be applied in a manner that the Exchange believes will best improve market quality thereon. The Exchange believes that providing credits to members that are already receiving price improvement is not the most efficient allocation of such limited resources, since such Orders do not need to be incentivized. As a consequence, the Exchange believes that offering such executions at no cost will not place a burden on competition, but rather will allow the Exchange to apply its limited resources to other areas wherein it can promote market-improving behavior by its participants. Thus, the proposed changes have the potential to make the Exchange a more attractive trading venue, and consequently may promote competition among markets. In sum, if the changes proposed herein are unattractive to market participants, it is likely that the Exchange will lose market share as a result. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of members or competing Order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

#### 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u> <u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

# <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u> Not applicable.

## 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated</u> <u>Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,<sup>12</sup> the Exchange has designated this proposal as establishing or changing a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the selfregulatory organization on any person, whether or not the person is a member of the selfregulatory organization, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization</u> or of the Commission

Not applicable.

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act Not applicable.
- 10. <u>Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act</u>
  Not applicable.
- 11. Exhibits
  - 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

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

# SR-BX-2017-020

5. Text of the proposed rule change.

## EXHIBIT 1

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-BX-2017-020)

April \_\_\_, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend the Exchange's Transaction Fees at Rule 7018

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup>, and

Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on April 11, 2017, NASDAQ BX,

Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"

or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below,

which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this

notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

#### I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend the Exchange's transaction fees at Rule 7018 to

limit the availability of credits provided for removing non-displayed liquidity.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at

http://nasdaqbx.cchwallstreet.com/, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the

Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it

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

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

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. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

1. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to limit the credits provided for removing liquidity on BX under Rule 7018(a).<sup>3</sup> The Exchange operates on the "takermaker" model, whereby it pays rebates to members that take liquidity and charges fees to members that provide liquidity. Under Rule 7018(a), the Exchange assesses fees for adding liquidity, and provides credits for removing liquidity, applied to the use of the Order<sup>4</sup> execution and routing services of the NASDAQ OMX BX Equities System by members for all securities priced at \$1 or more per share that it trades. Currently, the Exchange will provide a credit under Rule 7018(a) to a member that removes liquidity when its Order is priced-improved by the System. Specifically, an Order (excluding Orders with Midpoint pegging<sup>5</sup> and excluding Orders that receive price improvement and execute against an Order with Midpoint pegging) that accesses liquidity may receive a credit of \$0.0006, \$0.0015 or \$0.0016 per share executed. Such Orders include Orders

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The Exchange initially filed the proposed rule change on April 3, 2017 (SR-BX-2017-019). On April 11, 2017, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this filing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> As defined by Rule 4702(a).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Pegging is an Order Attribute that allows an Order to have its price automatically set with reference to the NBBO. Midpoint pegging means Pegging with reference to the midpoint between the Inside Bid and the Inside Offer (the "Midpoint"). An Order with Midpoint Pegging is not displayed. <u>See</u> Rule 4703(d).

Page 13 of 21

that receive price improvement, other than those that execute against an Order with Midpoint pegging.

The Exchange excludes liquidity removing Orders that execute against resting Orders with Midpoint pegging from receiving a credit because the member received the benefit of receiving price improvement from executing against an Order that is priced better than the NBBO. Moreover, the member receiving the price improvement did not undertake any additional risk to receive the benefit, but was rather a beneficiary of the midpoint liquidity. For similar reasons, the Exchange is proposing to expand the applicability of the zero credit tier to include a liquidity removing Order that is price improved by other resting orders with Non-display prices. Thus, in addition to Orders with Midpoint Pegging, other Orders that may have a non-display price are: Price to Comply Orders,<sup>6</sup> Non-Displayed Orders,<sup>7</sup> Post-Only Orders,<sup>8</sup> and Orders with a Reserve Size<sup>9</sup> attribute.

As an example, if the NBBO is \$10 x \$10.02, with Market A showing a bid of 100 shares at \$10, Market B showing an offer of 100 shares at \$10.02 and the Exchange displaying a best bid of \$9.99 and offer of \$10.03, a member that enters an Order with a Non-display attribute to buy 100 shares at \$10.01 would not have a marketable Order and would post to the Exchange book as a Non-displayed Order at \$10.01. If a second member enters an Order to sell 100 shares at \$10, the Order would execute against the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(1).</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(3).</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> <u>See Rule 4702(b)(4).</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 4703(h).

Non-displayed Order to buy at \$10.01 resting on the Exchange Book. Such an execution would represent price improvement to the second member without taking on any additional risk or market-improving behavior. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that it is necessary also to pay a rebate to encourage the submission of such Orders. Rather, the execution of such Orders will be free of charge.

Last, the Exchange is proposing to make conforming changes to two credits under Rule 7018(a) that currently exclude orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with Midpoint pegging from the eligibility criteria of the credit. Specifically, under the \$0.0016 and \$0.0015 per executed share credits of Rule 7018(a) the Exchange is proposing to replace references to orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with Midpoint pegging to make it clear that orders with a Non-Displayed price are excluded from the rule. Thus, the exclusion under these two credits will continue to remain consistent with the proposed amended zero credit tier.

#### 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>10</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Sections 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>11</sup> in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees and other charges among members and issuers and other persons using any facility, and is not designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers.

The Exchange believes that offering Orders that remove liquidity and receive price improvement at no cost is reasonable because the execution of such Orders is free

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

of charge. Generally, the Exchange offers reduced transaction fees and credits in return for market-improving behavior. The Exchange determined to not provide a credit to members for Orders that remove liquidity when the Order receives price improvement by executing against a Mid-point Order, since the member removing liquidity is benefitting from the price improvement. Likewise, the Exchange is expanding the existing credit tier to include all Orders with a Non-Displayed price that provide price improvement.

The Exchange believes that offering Orders that remove liquidity and receive price improvement at no cost is consistent with an equitable allocation of fees and is not unfairly discriminatory because such Orders invariably receive price improvement of at least \$0.005 per share, and therefore do not need an additional rebate of \$0.0006 to \$0.0016 to encourage their submission to the Exchange. Moreover, the Exchange believes that the change is not unfairly discriminatory because the price improvement provided to these Orders provides a rational basis for treating them differently from other Orders that access liquidity at the Exchange.

#### 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 not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. In terms of inter-market competition, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive, or rebate opportunities available at other venues to be more favorable. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges and with alternative trading systems that have been exempted from compliance with the statutory standards applicable to exchanges. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees

Page 16 of 21

in response, and because market participants may readily adjust their Order routing practices, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited.

In this instance, the proposed changes to the charges assessed and credits available to members for execution of securities in securities of all three Tapes do not impose a burden on competition because the Exchange's execution services are completely voluntary and subject to extensive competition both from other exchanges and from off-exchange venues. The proposed expansion of the zero credit tier is not a burden on competition because the Exchange has limited resources to apply as credits and such resources must be applied in a manner that the Exchange believes will best improve market quality thereon. The Exchange believes that providing credits to members that are already receiving price improvement is not the most efficient allocation of such limited resources, since such Orders do not need to be incentivized. As a consequence, the Exchange believes that offering such executions at no cost will not place a burden on competition, but rather will allow the Exchange to apply its limited resources to other areas wherein it can promote market-improving behavior by its participants. Thus, the proposed changes have the potential to make the Exchange a more attractive trading venue, and consequently may promote competition among markets. In sum, if the changes proposed herein are unattractive to market participants, it is likely that the Exchange will lose market share as a result. Accordingly, the Exchange does not believe that the proposed changes will impair the ability of members or competing Order execution venues to maintain their competitive standing in the financial markets.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section

#### 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.<sup>12</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

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

Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-BX-2017-020 on the subject line.

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

Page 18 of 21

Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2017-020. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site

#### (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-BX-2017-020 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to

delegated authority.<sup>13</sup>

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

## **EXHIBIT 5**

Deleted text is [bracketed]. New text is <u>underlined</u>.

#### **Rules of NASDAQ BX**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 7018. NASDAQ OMX BX Equities System Order Execution and Routing

(a) The following charges and credits shall apply to the use of the order execution and routing services of the NASDAQ OMX BX Equities System by members for all securities priced at \$1 or more per share that it trades. As used in this rule, the term "Consolidated Volume" shall mean the total consolidated volume reported to all consolidated transaction reporting plans by all exchanges and trade reporting facilities during a month in equity securities, excluding executed orders with a size of less than one round lot. For purposes of calculating Consolidated Volume and the extent of a member's trading activity the date of the annual reconstitution of the Russell Investments Indexes shall be excluded from both total Consolidated Volume and the member's trading activity. As used in this rule, "price improvement" shall mean instances when the accepted price of an order differs from the executed price of an order.

Credit for entering order that accesses liquidity in the NASDAQ OMX BX Equities System:

Order that receives price improvement and \$0.0000 per share executed executes against an order with <u>a Non-</u> <u>displayed price[Midpoint pegging]</u>:

Order with Midpoint pegging that removes \$0.0000 per share executed liquidity:

Order that accesses liquidity (excluding \$0.0016 per share executed orders with Midpoint pegging and excluding orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with <u>a Non-displayed price</u>[Midpoint pegging]) entered by a member that accesses liquidity equal to or exceeding 0.10% of total Consolidated Volume during a month:

Order that accesses liquidity (excluding \$0.0015 per share executed orders with Midpoint pegging and excluding orders that receive price improvement and execute against an order with <u>a Non-</u>

#### displayed price[Midpoint pegging]) entered by a member that accesses liquidity equal to or exceeding 0.05% of total Consolidated Volume during month:

All other orders:

\$0.0006 per share executed

\* \* \* \* \*

(b) - (e) No change.

\* \* \* \* \*