Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB APPROVAL

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response.......38

Page 1 of * 1	9	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMN GTON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.* S	SR - 2017 - * 026 mendments *)
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 V	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
1 1101	tension of Time Period Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	19b-4(f)(5)	
Notice of prosperior Section 806	oposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Clear  Section 806(e)(2) *	ing, and Settlement A	Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2)	-
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  A proposal to amend Chapter VI, Section 5, to extend through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, the Penny Pilot Program in options classes in certain issues, and to change the date when delisted classes may be replaced in the Penny Pilot.						
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.						
First Name	* Angela		Last Name * Dunn			
Title *						
E-mail *	angela.dunn@nasdaq.com					
Telephone	* (215) 496-5692	Fax				
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 *)  Date 05/24/2017 Executive Vice President and General Counsel						
			Executive vice Pies	SIGETIL ATTU GE	merai Courisei	
By Edw	vard 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.						

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information \* clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \* 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 Add Remove View 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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \* 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, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire 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 Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** 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 Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** 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.

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

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange

Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> NASDAQ BX, Inc. ("BX" or

"Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or

"Commission") a proposal to amend Chapter VI, Section 5 (Minimum Increments),<sup>3</sup> to

extend through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, the

Penny Pilot Program in options classes in certain issues ("Penny Pilot" or "Pilot"), and to

change the date when delisted classes may be replaced in the Penny Pilot.<sup>4</sup>

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 amended Exchange rule is set forth immediately below.

Proposed new language is <u>underlined</u> and proposed deleted language is [bracketed].

# NASDAQ BX Rules Options Rules

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

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

References herein to Chapter and Series refer to rules of the BX Options Market ("BX Options"), unless otherwise noted.

The Penny Pilot was established in June 2012 and extended in 2016. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 67256 (June 26, 2012), 77 FR 39277 (July 2, 2012) (SR-BX-2012-030); 75326 (June 29, 2015), 80 FR 38481 (July 6, 2015) (SR-BX-2015-037); 78036 (June 10, 2016), 81 FR 39308 (June 16, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-021) (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness of a proposed rule change relating to extension of the Exchange's Penny Pilot Program and replacement of Penny Pilot Issues that have been delisted); and 79420 (November 29, 2016), 81 FR 87639 (December 5, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-062) (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness of proposed rule change to amend Chapter VI, Section 5 to extend the Penny Pilot Program).

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\* \* \* \* \*

# **Chapter VI Trading Systems**

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Sec. 5 Minimum Increments

(a) The Board may establish minimum quoting increments for options contracts traded on BX Options. Such minimum increments established by the Board will be designated as a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Section within the meaning of Section 19 of the Exchange Act and will be filed with the SEC as a rule change for effectiveness upon filing. Until such time as the Board makes a change in the increments, the following principles shall apply:

- (1) (2) No Change.
- (3) For a pilot period scheduled to expire on [June 30, 2017] December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, if the options series is trading pursuant to the Penny Pilot program one (1) cent if the options series is trading at less than \$3.00, five (5) cents if the options series is trading at \$3.00 or higher, unless for QQQQs, SPY and IWM where the minimum quoting increment will be one cent for all series regardless of price. A list of such options shall be communicated to membership via an Options Trader Alert ("OTA") posted on the Exchange's web site.

The Exchange may replace any pilot issues that have been delisted with the next most actively traded multiply listed options classes that are not yet included in the pilot, based on trading activity in the previous six months. The replacement issues may be added to the pilot on the second trading day following [January 1, 2017]July 1, 2017.

- (4) No Change.
- (b) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

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

The Exchange staff approved this rule filing pursuant to delegated authority on August 15, 2016. This action constitutes the requisite approval under the Exchange's Certificate of Formation, Operating Agreement and Constitution.

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

Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 215-496-5692

# 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 this filing is to amend Chapter VI, Section 5, to extend the Penny Pilot through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier,<sup>5</sup> and to change the date when delisted classes may be replaced in the Penny Pilot. The Exchange believes that extending the Penny Pilot will allow for further analysis of the Penny Pilot and a determination of how the program should be structured in the future.

Under the Penny Pilot, the minimum price variation for all participating options classes, except for the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock ("QQQQ"), the SPDR S&P 500 Exchange Traded Fund ("SPY") and the iShares Russell 2000 Index Fund ("IWM"), is \$0.01 for all quotations in options series that are quoted at less than \$3 per contract and \$0.05 for all quotations in options series that are quoted at \$3 per contract or greater.

The options exchanges in the U.S. that have pilot programs similar to the Penny Pilot (together "pilot programs") are currently working on a proposal for permanent approval of the respective pilot programs.

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QQQQ, SPY and IWM are quoted in \$0.01 increments for all options series. The Penny Pilot is currently scheduled to expire on June 30, 2017

The Exchange proposes to extend the time period of the Penny Pilot through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, and to provide a revised date for adding replacement issues to the Penny Pilot. The Exchange proposes that any Penny Pilot Program issues that have been delisted may be replaced on the second trading day following July 1, 2017. The replacement issues will be selected based on trading activity in the previous six months.<sup>6</sup>

This filing does not propose any substantive changes to the Penny Pilot Program; all classes currently participating in the Penny Pilot will remain the same and all minimum increments will remain unchanged. The Exchange believes the benefits to public customers and other market participants who will be able to express their true prices to buy and sell options have been demonstrated to outweigh the potential increase in quote traffic.

#### b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, 7 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 8 in particular,

The replacement issues will be announced to the Exchange's membership via an Options Trader Alert (OTA) posted on the Exchange's web site. Penny Pilot replacement issues will be selected based on trading activity in the previous six months, as is the case today. The replacement issues would be identified based on The Options Clearing Corporation's trading volume data. For example, for the July replacement, trading volume from December 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017 would be analyzed. The month immediately preceding the replacement issues' addition to the Pilot Program (i.e., June) would not be used for purposes of the six-month analysis.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

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in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and 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.

In particular, the proposed rule change, which extends the Penny Pilot for an additional six months through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, and changes the date for replacing Penny Pilot issues that were delisted to the second trading day following July 1, 2017, will enable public customers and other market participants to express their true prices to buy and sell options for the benefit of all market participants. This is consistent with the Act.

## 4. 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. To the contrary, this proposal is pro-competitive because it allows Penny Pilot issues to continue trading on the Exchange.

Moreover, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will allow for further analysis of the Pilot and a determination of how the Pilot should be structured in the future; and will serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection.

The Pilot is an industry-wide initiative supported by all other option exchanges.

The Exchange believes that extending the Pilot will allow for continued competition

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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between market participants on the Exchange trading similar products as their counterparts on other exchanges, while at the same time allowing the Exchange to continue to compete for order flow with other exchanges in option issues trading as part of the Pilot.

- 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>
  - No written comments were either solicited or received.
- Extension of Time Period for Commission Action
   Not applicable.
- 7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)<sup>9</sup> of the Act and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. <sup>10</sup> The proposal allows for an extension of the Pilot Program for the benefit of market participants and allows for continued analysis of how the Pilot Program should be structured in the future. This proposal qualifies as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6), which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Commission.

<sup>9 15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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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.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), however, permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange respectfully requests the Commission to waive the delay to the extent necessary to allow the Penny Pilot to seamlessly continue while the Exchange and the other options exchanges in the U.S. continue to work on permanent approval of the respective pilot programs. The requested waiver and the proposed rule change allow for an extension of the Pilot Program for the benefit of market participants. Moreover, the seamless extension of the Penny Pilot allows for continued analysis of how the Pilot should be structured in the future.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

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

Not applicable.

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Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
 Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

# 11. Exhibits

1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the Federal Register.

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**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-BX-2017-026)

May \_\_\_, 2017

Self-Regulatory Organizations; NASDAQ BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Chapter VI, Section 5

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 May 24, 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 Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Chapter VI, Section 5 (Minimum Increments),<sup>3</sup> to extend through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, the Penny Pilot Program in options classes in certain issues ("Penny Pilot" or "Pilot"), and to change the date when delisted classes may be replaced in the Penny Pilot.<sup>4</sup>.

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

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

References herein to Chapter and Series refer to rules of the BX Options Market ("BX Options"), unless otherwise noted.

The Penny Pilot was established in June 2012 and extended in 2016. See Securities Exchange Act Release Nos. 67256 (June 26, 2012), 77 FR 39277 (July 2, 2012) (SR-BX-2012-030); 75326 (June 29, 2015), 80 FR 38481 (July 6, 2015) (SR-BX-2015-037); 78036 (June 10, 2016), 81 FR 39308 (June 16, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-021) (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness of a proposed rule change relating to extension of the Exchange's Penny Pilot Program and

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\* \* \* \* \*

NASDAQ BX Rules Options Rules

\* \* \* \* \*

**Chapter VI Trading Systems** 

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Sec. 5 Minimum Increments**

- (a) The Board may establish minimum quoting increments for options contracts traded on BX Options. Such minimum increments established by the Board will be designated as a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the administration of this Section within the meaning of Section 19 of the Exchange Act and will be filed with the SEC as a rule change for effectiveness upon filing. Until such time as the Board makes a change in the increments, the following principles shall apply:
  - (1) (2) No Change.
  - (3) For a pilot period scheduled to expire on [June 30, 2017]December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, if the options series is trading pursuant to the Penny Pilot program one (1) cent if the options series is trading at less than \$3.00, five (5) cents if the options series is trading at \$3.00 or higher, unless for QQQQs, SPY and IWM where the minimum quoting increment will be one cent for all series regardless of price. A list of such options shall be communicated to membership via an Options Trader Alert ("OTA") posted on the Exchange's web site.

replacement of Penny Pilot Issues that have been delisted); and 79420 (November 29, 2016), 81 FR 87639 (December 5, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-062) (notice of filing and immediate effectiveness of proposed rule change to amend Chapter VI, Section 5 to extend the Penny Pilot Program).

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The Exchange may replace any pilot issues that have been delisted with the next most actively traded multiply listed options classes that are not yet included in the pilot, based on trading activity in the previous six months. The replacement issues may be added to the pilot on the second trading day following [January 1, 2017]July 1, 2017.

- (4) No Change.
- (b) No Change.

\* \* \* \* \*

# 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 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. Purpose

The purpose of this filing is to amend Chapter VI, Section 5, to extend the Penny Pilot through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier,<sup>5</sup> and to change the date when delisted classes may be replaced in the Penny Pilot. The Exchange

The options exchanges in the U.S. that have pilot programs similar to the Penny Pilot (together "pilot programs") are currently working on a proposal for permanent approval of the respective pilot programs.

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believes that extending the Penny Pilot will allow for further analysis of the Penny Pilot and a determination of how the program should be structured in the future.

Under the Penny Pilot, the minimum price variation for all participating options classes, except for the Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock ("QQQQ"), the SPDR S&P 500 Exchange Traded Fund ("SPY") and the iShares Russell 2000 Index Fund ("IWM"), is \$0.01 for all quotations in options series that are quoted at less than \$3 per contract and \$0.05 for all quotations in options series that are quoted at \$3 per contract or greater. QQQQ, SPY and IWM are quoted in \$0.01 increments for all options series. The Penny Pilot is currently scheduled to expire on June 30, 2017

The Exchange proposes to extend the time period of the Penny Pilot through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, and to provide a revised date for adding replacement issues to the Penny Pilot. The Exchange proposes that any Penny Pilot Program issues that have been delisted may be replaced on the second trading day following July 1, 2017. The replacement issues will be selected based on trading activity in the previous six months.<sup>6</sup>

This filing does not propose any substantive changes to the Penny Pilot Program; all classes currently participating in the Penny Pilot will remain the same and all minimum increments will remain unchanged. The Exchange believes the benefits to

The replacement issues will be announced to the Exchange's membership via an Options Trader Alert (OTA) posted on the Exchange's web site. Penny Pilot replacement issues will be selected based on trading activity in the previous six months, as is the case today. The replacement issues would be identified based on The Options Clearing Corporation's trading volume data. For example, for the July replacement, trading volume from December 1, 2016 through May 31, 2017 would be analyzed. The month immediately preceding the replacement issues' addition to the Pilot Program (i.e., June) would not be used for purposes of the six-month analysis.

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public customers and other market participants who will be able to express their true prices to buy and sell options have been demonstrated to outweigh the potential increase in quote traffic.

# 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>7</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and 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.

In particular, the proposed rule change, which extends the Penny Pilot for an additional six months through December 31, 2017 or the date of permanent approval, if earlier, and changes the date for replacing Penny Pilot issues that were delisted to the second trading day following July 1, 2017, will enable public customers and other market participants to express their true prices to buy and sell options for the benefit of all market participants. This is consistent with the Act.

# B. <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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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Act. To the contrary, this proposal is pro-competitive because it allows Penny Pilot issues to continue trading on the Exchange.

Moreover, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will allow for further analysis of the Pilot and a determination of how the Pilot should be structured in the future; and will serve to promote regulatory clarity and consistency, thereby reducing burdens on the marketplace and facilitating investor protection.

The Pilot is an industry-wide initiative supported by all other option exchanges.

The Exchange believes that extending the Pilot will allow for continued competition between market participants on the Exchange trading similar products as their counterparts on other exchanges, while at the same time allowing the Exchange to continue to compete for order flow with other exchanges in option issues trading as part of the Pilot.

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. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u>
Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant

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to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>9</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. 10

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 (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-BX-2017-026 on the subject line.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

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#### 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-2017-026. 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-2017-026 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

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For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{11}$ 

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).