OMB Number: 3235-004 Estimated average burden hours per response						
Page 1 of		S AND EXCHANGE (ASHINGTON, D.C. 2 Form 19b-4	0549	File No. ndment No. (req. for	* SR - 2018 - * 063 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) * Secti ✓	on 19(b)(3)(A) * Rule	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	es *	19b-4(1 19b-4(1 19b-4(1	f)(2) 19b-4(f)(5)		
Notice of	of proposed change pursuant to the Paymen	t, Clearing, and Settle	ment Act of 2010	Security-Based Sw to the Securities Ex	ap Submission pursuant	
Section	806(e)(1) * Section 806	(e)(2) *		Section 3C(b)	-	
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 extend the pilot period for the Exchange Retail Price Improvement Program						
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 Na	ame * Jonathan	Last Name *	Cayne			
Title *						
E-mail * jonathan.cayne@nasdaq.com						
Telepho	one * (301) 978-8493 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	12/11/2018	Global Chief L	egal and Policy Of	ficer		
Ву	Edward 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.				

SR-BX-2018-063

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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"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX" or
"Exchange"), is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or
"Commission") a proposal to extend the pilot period for the Exchange's Retail Price
Improvement ("RPI") Program (the "Program"), which is set to expire on December 31,
2018, for an additional period to expire on June 30, 2019.

The Exchange has designated December 11, 2018 as the date the proposed rule change becomes effective.

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached as <u>Exhibit 1</u> and the text of the proposed rule 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 of the Exchange (the "Board") on September 26, 2018. 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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

Jonathan F. Cayne Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. (301) 978-8493

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 extend the pilot period of the RPI Program,³ currently scheduled to expire on December 31, 2018, for an additional period to expire on June 30, 2019.

Background

In November 2014, the Commission approved the RPI Program on a pilot basis.⁴

The Program is designed to attract retail order flow to the Exchange, and allow such

order flow to receive potential price improvement. The Program is currently limited to

trades occurring at prices equal to or greater than \$1.00 per share. Under the Program, a

new class of market participant called a Retail Member Organization ("RMO") is eligible

to submit certain retail order flow ("Retail Orders")⁵ to the Exchange. BX members

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73702 (November 28, 2014), 79 FR 72049 (December 4, 2014) ("RPI Approval Order") (SR-BX-2014-048).

⁴ See id.

⁵ A "Retail Order" is defined in BX Rule 4780(a)(2) by referencing BX Rule 4702, and BX Rule 4702(b)(6) says it is an order type with a non-display order attribute submitted to the Exchange by a RMO. A Retail Order must be an agency order, or riskless principal order that satisfies the criteria of FINRA Rule 5320.03. The Retail Order must reflect trading interest of a natural person with no change made to the terms of the underlying order of the natural person with respect to price (except in the case of a market order that is changed to a marketable limit order) or side of market and that does not originate from a trading algorithm or any other computerized methodology.

("Members") are permitted to provide potential price improvement for Retail Orders in the form of non-displayed interest that is priced more aggressively than the Protected National Best Bid or Offer ("Protected NBBO").⁶

The Program was approved by the Commission on a pilot basis running one-year

from the date of implementation.⁷ The Commission approved the Program on November

28, 2014.⁸ The Exchange implemented the Program on December 1, 2014 and the pilot

has since been extended for a one year period twice and for an additional six month

period twice, with it now scheduled to end on December 31, 2018.9

Proposal to Extend the Operation of the Program

The Exchange established the RPI Program in an attempt to attract retail order

flow to the Exchange by potentially providing price improvement to such order flow.

The Exchange believes that the Program promotes competition for retail order flow by

⁷ <u>See RPI Approval Order, supra note 3 at 72053.</u>

⁸ <u>Id.</u> at 72049.

⁶ The term Protected Quotation is defined in Chapter XII, Sec. 1(19) and has the same meaning as is set forth in Regulation NMS Rule 600(b)(58). The Protected NBBO is the best-priced protected bid and offer. Generally, the Protected NBBO and the national best bid and offer ("NBBO") will be the same. However, a market center is not required to route to the NBBO if that market center is subject to an exception under Regulation NMS Rule 611(b)(1) or if such NBBO is otherwise not available for an automatic execution. In such case, the Protected NBBO would be the best-priced protected bid or offer to which a market center must route interest pursuant to Regulation NMS Rule 611.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 76490 (November 20, 2015), 80 FR 74165 (November 27, 2015) (SR-BX-2015-073); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79446 (December 1, 2016), 81 FR 88279 (December 7, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-065); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82192 (December 1, 2017), 82 FR 57809 (December 7, 2017) (SR-BX-2017-055); and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 83539 (June 28, 2018), 83 FR 31203 (July 3, 2018) (SR-BX-2018-026).

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allowing Exchange members to submit Retail Price Improvement Orders ("RPI Orders")¹⁰ to interact with Retail Orders. Such competition has the ability to promote efficiency by facilitating the price discovery process and generating additional investor interest in trading securities, thereby promoting capital formation. The Exchange believes that extending the pilot is appropriate because it will allow the Exchange and the Commission additional time to analyze data regarding the Program that the Exchange has committed to provide.¹¹ As such, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to extend the current operation of the Program.¹² Through this filing, the Exchange seeks to amend BX Rule 4780(h) and extend the current pilot period of the Program until the earlier of approval of the filing to make the Program permanent or June 30, 2019.

b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,¹³ in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁴ in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to

¹⁰ A Retail Price Improvement Order is defined in BX Rule 4780(a)(3) by referencing BX Rule 4702 and BX Rule 4702(b)(5) says that it is as an order type with a non-display order attribute that is held on the Exchange Book in order to provide liquidity at a price at least \$0.001 better than the NBBO through a special execution process described in Rule 4780.

¹¹ <u>See RPI Approval Order, supra note 3 at 72051.</u>

¹² Concurrently with this filing, the Exchange has submitted a request for an extension of the exemption under Regulation NMS Rule 612 previously granted by the Commission that permits it to accept and rank the RPI orders in sub-penny increments. See Letter from Jeffrey S. Davis, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel and Secretary, Nasdaq BX, Inc. to Eduardo A. Aleman, Assistant Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission dated December 11, 2018.

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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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.

The Exchange believes that extending the pilot period for the RPI Program is consistent with these principles because the Program is reasonably designed to attract retail order flow to the exchange environment, while helping to ensure that retail investors benefit from the better price that liquidity providers are willing to give their orders. Additionally, as previously stated, the competition promoted by the Program may facilitate the price discovery process and potentially generate additional investor interest in trading securities. The extension of the pilot period will allow the Commission and the Exchange to continue to monitor the Program for its potential effects on public price discovery, and on the broader market structure.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed rule change extends an established pilot program for an additional period, to expire on June 30, 2019, thus allowing the RPI Program to enhance competition for retail order flow and contribute to the public price discovery process.

- <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.
- 6. <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>

The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section $19(b)(3)(A)(iii)^{15}$ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁶ The Exchange believes the rule change qualifies for immediate effectiveness as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) of the Act.

The Exchange asserts that the 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 after its filing date, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is simply extending the pilot period of a Program already approved by the Commission. The extension of the pilot period will allow the Commission and the Exchange to continue to assess the effect of the Program on the public price discovery process, and market structure generally.

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.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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 requests the Commission to waive the noted operative delay so that the Exchange may seamlessly continue its Pilot Program, because the pilot period is set to expire on December 31, 2018. The Exchange believes that good reason exists for the Commission to waive the operative effectiveness delay. Waiver of the operative delay allows the Pilot to continue uninterrupted, which would be beneficial to market participants and would help to eliminate the potential for investor confusion. Additionally, the Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 5-day pre-operative period for the same reasons as given to waive the 30-day operative delay.

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

The proposed rule change is not based on the rules of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

 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</u> <u>Settlement Supervision Act</u>

Not applicable.

- 11. Exhibits
 - 1. Notice of proposed rule for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
 - 5. Text of Proposed Rule Change.

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-BX-2018-063)

December ___, 2018

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Pilot Period for the Exchange's Retail Price Improvement Program

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 December 11, 2018, 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 extend the pilot period for the Exchange's Retail Price

Improvement ("RPI") Program (the "Program"), which is set to expire on December 31,

2018, for an additional period to expire on June 30, 2019.

The Exchange has designated December 11, 2018 as the date the proposed rule change becomes effective.

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.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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. <u>Purpose</u>

The purpose of this filing is to extend the pilot period of the RPI Program,³ currently scheduled to expire on December 31, 2018, for an additional period to expire on June 30, 2019.

Background

In November 2014, the Commission approved the RPI Program on a pilot basis.⁴ The Program is designed to attract retail order flow to the Exchange, and allow such order flow to receive potential price improvement. The Program is currently limited to trades occurring at prices equal to or greater than \$1.00 per share. Under the Program, a new class of market participant called a Retail Member Organization ("RMO") is eligible to submit certain retail order flow ("Retail Orders")⁵ to the Exchange. BX members

³ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 73702 (November 28, 2014), 79 FR 72049 (December 4, 2014) ("RPI Approval Order") (SR-BX-2014-048).

 $[\]frac{4}{\text{See id.}}$

⁵ A "Retail Order" is defined in BX Rule 4780(a)(2) by referencing BX Rule 4702, and BX Rule 4702(b)(6) says it is an order type with a non-display order attribute submitted to the Exchange by a RMO. A Retail Order must be an agency order,

("Members") are permitted to provide potential price improvement for Retail Orders in the form of non-displayed interest that is priced more aggressively than the Protected National Best Bid or Offer ("Protected NBBO").⁶

The Program was approved by the Commission on a pilot basis running one-year

from the date of implementation.⁷ The Commission approved the Program on November

28, 2014.⁸ The Exchange implemented the Program on December 1, 2014 and the pilot

has since been extended for a one year period twice and for an additional six month

period twice, with it now scheduled to end on December 31, 2018.9

or riskless principal order that satisfies the criteria of FINRA Rule 5320.03. The Retail Order must reflect trading interest of a natural person with no change made to the terms of the underlying order of the natural person with respect to price (except in the case of a market order that is changed to a marketable limit order) or side of market and that does not originate from a trading algorithm or any other computerized methodology.

- ⁶ The term Protected Quotation is defined in Chapter XII, Sec. 1(19) and has the same meaning as is set forth in Regulation NMS Rule 600(b)(58). The Protected NBBO is the best-priced protected bid and offer. Generally, the Protected NBBO and the national best bid and offer ("NBBO") will be the same. However, a market center is not required to route to the NBBO if that market center is subject to an exception under Regulation NMS Rule 611(b)(1) or if such NBBO is otherwise not available for an automatic execution. In such case, the Protected NBBO would be the best-priced protected bid or offer to which a market center must route interest pursuant to Regulation NMS Rule 611.
- ⁷ <u>See RPI Approval Order, supra note 3 at 72053.</u>
- ⁸ <u>Id.</u> at 72049.
- See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 76490 (November 20, 2015), 80 FR 74165 (November 27, 2015) (SR-BX-2015-073); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 79446 (December 1, 2016), 81 FR 88279 (December 7, 2016) (SR-BX-2016-065); Securities Exchange Act Release No. 82192 (December 1, 2017), 82 FR 57809 (December 7, 2017) (SR-BX-2017-055); and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 83539 (June 28, 2018), 83 FR 31203 (July 3, 2018) (SR-BX-2018-026).

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Proposal to Extend the Operation of the Program

The Exchange established the RPI Program in an attempt to attract retail order flow to the Exchange by potentially providing price improvement to such order flow. The Exchange believes that the Program promotes competition for retail order flow by allowing Exchange members to submit Retail Price Improvement Orders ("RPI Orders")¹⁰ to interact with Retail Orders. Such competition has the ability to promote efficiency by facilitating the price discovery process and generating additional investor interest in trading securities, thereby promoting capital formation. The Exchange believes that extending the pilot is appropriate because it will allow the Exchange and the Commission additional time to analyze data regarding the Program that the Exchange has committed to provide.¹¹ As such, the Exchange believes that it is appropriate to extend the current operation of the Program.¹² Through this filing, the Exchange seeks to amend BX Rule 4780(h) and extend the current pilot period of the Program until the earlier of approval of the filing to make the Program permanent or June 30, 2019.

¹⁰ A Retail Price Improvement Order is defined in BX Rule 4780(a)(3) by referencing BX Rule 4702 and BX Rule 4702(b)(5) says that it is as an order type with a non-display order attribute that is held on the Exchange Book in order to provide liquidity at a price at least \$0.001 better than the NBBO through a special execution process described in Rule 4780.

¹¹ <u>See RPI Approval Order, supra note 3 at 72051.</u>

¹² Concurrently with this filing, the Exchange has submitted a request for an extension of the exemption under Regulation NMS Rule 612 previously granted by the Commission that permits it to accept and rank the RPI orders in sub-penny increments. See Letter from Jeffrey S. Davis, Vice President and Deputy General Counsel and Secretary, Nasdaq BX, Inc. to Eduardo A. Aleman, Assistant Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission dated December 11, 2018.

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2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the provisions of Section 6 of the Act,¹³ in general, and with Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,¹⁴ in particular, 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.

The Exchange believes that extending the pilot period for the RPI Program is consistent with these principles because the Program is reasonably designed to attract retail order flow to the exchange environment, while helping to ensure that retail investors benefit from the better price that liquidity providers are willing to give their orders. Additionally, as previously stated, the competition promoted by the Program may facilitate the price discovery process and potentially generate additional investor interest in trading securities. The extension of the pilot period will allow the Commission and the Exchange to continue to monitor the Program for its potential effects on public price discovery, and on the broader market structure.

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

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, as amended. The proposed rule change extends an established pilot program for an additional period, to expire on June 30, 2019, thus allowing the RPI Program to

¹³ 15 U.S.C. 78f.

¹⁴ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

enhance competition for retail order flow and contribute to the public price discovery process.

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

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)(iii) of the Act¹⁵ and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁶

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 necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or 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.

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁶ 17 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.

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-2018-063 on the subject line.

Paper comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR- BX-2018-063. 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-2018-063 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.¹⁷

Eduardo A. Aleman Assistant Secretary

¹⁷ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

EXHIBIT 5

New text is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

Rules of Nasdaq BX

Equity Rules

* * * * *

4780. Retail Price Improvement Program

(a) - (g) No change.

(h) Rule Pilot Program. The Program shall expire the earlier of approval of the filing to make this rule permanent or [December 31, 2018]June 30, 2019. During the pilot period, the Program will be limited to securities whose Bid Price on the Exchange is greater than or equal to \$1.00 per share.

* * * * *