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 * 21		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SI WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for An				
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) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f)(1)	
	of proposed change pursuant 806(e)(1) *	to the Payment, Clearing Section 806(e)(2) *	ng, and Settlement Ad	ot 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 Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposal to adopt a new SCAR routing option under Rule 4758						
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 * Sun		Last Name * Kim			
Title *	Associate General Co					
E-mail '	E-mail * sun.kim@nasdaq.com					
Telepho		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	03/06/2019		Global Cheif Legal a	nd Policy Off	icer	
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.						

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. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Nasdaq BX, Inc. ("BX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposal to adopt a new SCAR routing option under Rule 4758.

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 of the Exchange (the "Board") on September 26, 2018. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority.

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

Sun Kim Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. (212) 231-5106

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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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 Exchange is proposing to adopt SCAR, a new order routing³ option under Rule 4758(a)(1)(A). The Exchange currently provides a variety of routing options under Rule 4758(a)(1)(A). Routing options may be combined with all available Order Types and Times-in-Force, with the exception of Order Types and Times-in-Force whose terms are inconsistent with the terms of a particular routing option. The SCAR routing option would allow members to seek liquidity on the Exchange and the other equity markets operated by Nasdaq, Inc., The Nasdaq Stock Market ("Nasdaq") and Nasdaq PSX ("PSX" and together with Nasdaq and the Exchange, the "Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges"). SCAR will operate in the same manner as the current BCRT strategy, but will differ in the initial order routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges. Whereas BCRT orders check the Exchange for available shares and then route to PSX and Nasdaq

Routing is an Order Attribute that allows a Participant to designate an Order to employ one of several Routing Strategies offered by the Exchange, as described in Rule 4758; such an Order may be referred to as a "Routable Order." Upon receipt of an Order with the Routing Order Attribute, the System will process the Order in accordance with the applicable Routing Strategy. In the case of a limited number of Routing Strategies, the Order will be sent directly to other market centers for potential execution. For most other Routing Strategies, the Order will attempt to access liquidity available on the Exchange in the manner specified for the underlying Order Type and will then be routed in accordance with the applicable Routing Strategy. Shares of the Order that cannot be executed are then returned to the Exchange, where they will (i) again attempt to access liquidity available on the Exchange and (ii) post to the Exchange Book or be cancelled, depending on the Time-in- Force of the Order. See Rule 4703(f).

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sequentially,⁴ SCAR orders will route simultaneously to all three Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges in accordance with the System routing table.⁵

Specifically as proposed, SCAR would be a routing option under which orders check the System⁶ for available shares and simultaneously route⁷ to Nasdaq and PSX in accordance with the System routing table.⁸ Similar to BCRT, if shares remain unexecuted after routing, they are posted on the Exchange's book or cancelled, depending on the Time-in-Force of the order.⁹ Once on the book, should the order subsequently be locked or crossed by another market center, the System will not route the order to the

⁴ See Rule 4758(a)(1)(A)(vii).

The term "System routing table" refers to the proprietary process for determining the specific trading venues to which the System routes orders and the order in which it routes them. The Exchange reserves the right to maintain a different System routing table for different routing options and to modify the System routing table at any time without notice. See Rule 4758(a)(1)(A).

The term "System" shall mean the automated system for order execution and trade reporting owned and operated by the Exchange. See Rule 4701(a).

As with all routing strategies that provide for simultaneous routing, the incoming SCAR order would be broken up into child orders. For SCAR routing, the orders would be sent to the Exchange, Nasdaq, and PSX at the same time based on the available displayed interest on these exchanges. In particular, the Exchange would allocate the number of shares from the parent order based on the System routing table for SCAR, and route the allocated shares (i.e., the child orders) to the executing venues simultaneously.

As is the case today for all market destinations on the System routing table, the placement of the Exchange, Nasdaq and PSX on the applicable System routing table for SCAR will depend on the Exchange's ongoing assessments of factors such as latency, fill rates, reliability, and cost.

Unexecuted shares of a SCAR order will return to the Exchange after routing and check the System for available shares before cancelling if the order has a Time-in-Force of IOC. Otherwise, shares that remain unexecuted after routing will return to the Exchange and check the System for available shares before posting on the Exchange's book (e.g., the SCAR order has a Time-in-Force of DAY).

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locking or crossing market center. This is also similar to how BCRT treats shares that remain unexecuted after completing the initial order route and posting to the Exchange book. Like all of the Exchange's routing strategies, SCAR is designed to comply with Rule 611 and the other provisions of Regulation NMS.¹⁰

The Exchange will implement the proposal in the second quarter of 2019, subject to approval by the Commission. The Exchange will provide prior notice of the implementation date in an Equity Trader Alert.

b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, ¹¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹² 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 the proposed rule change will accomplish those ends by providing market participants with an additional voluntary routing option that will allow them to easily access liquidity available on all Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges. The Exchange expects the proposed routing strategy will benefit firms that do not employ routing or trading strategies under which the firm itself would rapidly access liquidity provided on the multiple venues. SCAR would not provide any advantage, including latency and priority,

¹⁰ 17 CFR 242.611.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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to members when routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges as compared to other methods of routing or connectivity available to members by the Exchange.

Lastly, the Exchange notes that routing options enabling the routing of orders between affiliated exchanges is not unique, and that the proposed SCAR routing option is similar to those already offered by the Exchange (i.e., BCRT) and by other exchange groups. Specifically, Cboe BZX Exchange ("BZX"), Cboe BYX Exchange ("BYX"), Cboe EDGA Exchange ("EDGA"), and Cboe EDGX Exchange ("EDGX") offer a routing option called ALLB that enables an order, whether sent to BZX, BYX, EDGA, or EDGX, to check the BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX books for liquidity before optionally posting on the BZX, BYX, EDGA, or EDGX book. ¹³ For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act.

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. As discussed above, the proposed functionality is partly based on existing functionality available on competitor exchanges. ¹⁴ Furthermore, the Exchange provides routing services in a highly competitive market in which participants may avail themselves of a wide variety of routing options offered by other exchanges, alternative trading systems, other broker-dealers, market participants' own proprietary routing systems, and service bureaus. In such an environment, system enhancements such as the

See BZX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(O), BYX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(M), EDGA Rule
 11.11(g)(7), and EDGX Rule 11.11(g)(7). ALLB is also substantially similar to the Exchange's BCRT strategy, as described above.

¹⁴ Id.

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changes proposed in this rule filing do not burden competition, because they can succeed in attracting order flow to the Exchange only if they offer investors higher quality and better value than services offered by others. Encouraging competitors to provide higher quality and better value is the essence of a well-functioning competitive marketplace. Lastly, SCAR would not provide any advantage to members when routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges as compared to other methods of routing or connectivity available to members by the Exchange. For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange does not believe 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.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii)¹⁵ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder¹⁶ in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public

¹⁵ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

¹⁶ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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interest.

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest, and does not impose any significant burden on competition because the rule change is designed to provide market participants with a wider variety of choices when availing themselves of the Exchange's order routing and execution services. By offering additional routing options, the Exchange hopes to benefit market participants and their customers by allowing them greater flexibility in their efforts to fill orders and minimize trading costs.

The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change meets the criteria of subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 because it is based on similar routing options offered by the Exchange and by BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX. As discussed above, the Exchange currently offers a similar routing option, BCRT, which operates in the same manner as the proposed SCAR routing strategy, except it differs in the initial order routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges. Whereas BCRT orders check the System for available shares and then route to PSX and Nasdaq sequentially, SCAR orders will route simultaneously to all three Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges in accordance with the System routing table.

As it relates to the ALLB routing strategies offered by BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX, the Exchange notes that the BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX routing options first check the local book before being routed to the affiliated exchanges in accordance with the applicable system routing table. ¹⁷ Meanwhile, under the proposed SCAR routing option, the order would be routed simultaneously to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges in

See note 13 above.

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accordance with the System routing table, instead of first checking the local book. The Exchange does not believe that these differences significantly affects investors or the public interest because they provide: (i) the Exchange's routing broker-dealer, Nasdaq Execution Services, with increased flexibility in complying with its best execution obligations with regard to each individual order (e.g., enabling it to route to any Nasdaq Affiliated Exchange displaying the largest contra-side liquidity or to one that has historically provided the best fill rates in accordance with the System routing table); and (ii) timely access to liquidity on any of the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges without delay of the order being routed to specific destinations in a predetermined sequence. Therefore, the proposed rule change presents no unique or novel issues that have not already been addressed by the Commission. The Exchange has accordingly designated this rule filing as "non-controversial" under Section 19(b)(3)(A)¹⁸ of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁹

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.

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

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

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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 or of the Commission</u>

The proposed routing strategy is similar to the Exchange's BCRT routing option as set forth in Rule 4758(a)(1)(A)(vii), and to the ALLB routing strategies of BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX as set forth in BZX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(O), BYX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(M), EDGA Rule 11.11(g)(7), and EDGX Rule 11.11(g)(7). As discussed above, BCRT and ALLB operate similarly to the proposed SCAR routing strategy because they permit routing between affiliates to check for liquidity in accordance with the applicable system routing table before optionally posting any unexecuted shares on the local exchange book, unless otherwise instructed by the participant entering the order. BCRT and ALLB, however, both differ from SCAR in the initial order routing between the affiliated exchanges. Whereas BCRT orders check the System for available shares and then route to PSX and Nasdaq sequentially, SCAR orders will route simultaneously to all three Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges in accordance with the System routing table. The ALLB routing strategies likewise differ from SCAR in the initial order routing to the affiliated exchanges in that ALLB orders first check the local book before being routed to the affiliated exchanges in accordance with the applicable system routing table. Lastly under BCRT, shares posted on the local book are not routed out again, which is how the proposed SCAR routing strategy will operate. ALLB does not have this limitation.

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

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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 Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

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EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-BX-2019-004)

March ___, 2019

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq BX, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Adopt a New SCAR Routing Option Under Rule 4758

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 March 6, 2019, 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> Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange proposes to a proposal to adopt a new SCAR routing option under Rule 4758.

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

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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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 Exchange is proposing to adopt SCAR, a new order routing³ option under Rule 4758(a)(1)(A). The Exchange currently provides a variety of routing options under Rule 4758(a)(1)(A). Routing options may be combined with all available Order Types and Times-in-Force, with the exception of Order Types and Times-in-Force whose terms are inconsistent with the terms of a particular routing option. The SCAR routing option would allow members to seek liquidity on the Exchange and the other equity markets operated by Nasdaq, Inc., The Nasdaq Stock Market ("Nasdaq") and Nasdaq PSX ("PSX" and together with Nasdaq and the Exchange, the "Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges"). SCAR will operate in the same manner as the current BCRT strategy, but will differ in the initial order routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges. Whereas BCRT orders check the Exchange for available shares and then route to PSX and Nasdaq

Routing is an Order Attribute that allows a Participant to designate an Order to employ one of several Routing Strategies offered by the Exchange, as described in Rule 4758; such an Order may be referred to as a "Routable Order." Upon receipt of an Order with the Routing Order Attribute, the System will process the Order in accordance with the applicable Routing Strategy. In the case of a limited number of Routing Strategies, the Order will be sent directly to other market centers for potential execution. For most other Routing Strategies, the Order will attempt to access liquidity available on the Exchange in the manner specified for the underlying Order Type and will then be routed in accordance with the applicable Routing Strategy. Shares of the Order that cannot be executed are then returned to the Exchange, where they will (i) again attempt to access liquidity available on the Exchange and (ii) post to the Exchange Book or be cancelled, depending on the Time-in- Force of the Order. See Rule 4703(f).

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sequentially,⁴ SCAR orders will route simultaneously to all three Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges in accordance with the System routing table.⁵

Specifically as proposed, SCAR would be a routing option under which orders check the System⁶ for available shares and simultaneously route⁷ to Nasdaq and PSX in accordance with the System routing table.⁸ Similar to BCRT, if shares remain unexecuted after routing, they are posted on the Exchange's book or cancelled, depending on the Time-in-Force of the order.⁹ Once on the book, should the order subsequently be locked or crossed by another market center, the System will not route the order to the

⁴ See Rule 4758(a)(1)(A)(vii).

The term "System routing table" refers to the proprietary process for determining the specific trading venues to which the System routes orders and the order in which it routes them. The Exchange reserves the right to maintain a different System routing table for different routing options and to modify the System routing table at any time without notice. See Rule 4758(a)(1)(A).

The term "System" shall mean the automated system for order execution and trade reporting owned and operated by the Exchange. See Rule 4701(a).

As with all routing strategies that provide for simultaneous routing, the incoming SCAR order would be broken up into child orders. For SCAR routing, the orders would be sent to the Exchange, Nasdaq, and PSX at the same time based on the available displayed interest on these exchanges. In particular, the Exchange would allocate the number of shares from the parent order based on the System routing table for SCAR, and route the allocated shares (i.e., the child orders) to the executing venues simultaneously.

As is the case today for all market destinations on the System routing table, the placement of the Exchange, Nasdaq and PSX on the applicable System routing table for SCAR will depend on the Exchange's ongoing assessments of factors such as latency, fill rates, reliability, and cost.

Unexecuted shares of a SCAR order will return to the Exchange after routing and check the System for available shares before cancelling if the order has a Time-in-Force of IOC. Otherwise, shares that remain unexecuted after routing will return to the Exchange and check the System for available shares before posting on the Exchange's book (e.g., the SCAR order has a Time-in-Force of DAY).

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locking or crossing market center. This is also similar to how BCRT treats shares that remain unexecuted after completing the initial order route and posting to the Exchange book. Like all of the Exchange's routing strategies, SCAR is designed to comply with Rule 611 and the other provisions of Regulation NMS.¹⁰

The Exchange will implement the proposal in the second quarter of 2019, subject to approval by the Commission. The Exchange will provide prior notice of the implementation date in an Equity Trader Alert.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that its proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, ¹¹ in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, ¹² 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 the proposed rule change will accomplish those ends by providing market participants with an additional voluntary routing option that will allow them to easily access liquidity available on all Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges. The Exchange expects the proposed routing strategy will benefit firms that do not employ routing or trading strategies under which the firm itself would rapidly access liquidity provided on the multiple venues. SCAR would not provide any advantage, including latency and priority,

¹⁰ 17 CFR 242.611.

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b).

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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to members when routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges as compared to other methods of routing or connectivity available to members by the Exchange.

Lastly, the Exchange notes that routing options enabling the routing of orders between affiliated exchanges is not unique, and that the proposed SCAR routing option is similar to those already offered by the Exchange (i.e., BCRT) and by other exchange groups. Specifically, Cboe BZX Exchange ("BZX"), Cboe BYX Exchange ("BYX"), Cboe EDGA Exchange ("EDGA"), and Cboe EDGX Exchange ("EDGX") offer a routing option called ALLB that enables an order, whether sent to BZX, BYX, EDGA, or EDGX, to check the BZX, BYX, EDGA, and EDGX books for liquidity before optionally posting on the BZX, BYX, EDGA, or EDGX book. ¹³ For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change 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 Act. As discussed above, the proposed functionality is partly based on existing functionality available on competitor exchanges. ¹⁴ Furthermore, the Exchange provides routing services in a highly competitive market in which participants may avail themselves of a wide variety of routing options offered by other exchanges, alternative trading systems, other broker-dealers, market participants' own proprietary routing systems, and service bureaus. In such an environment, system enhancements such as the

See BZX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(O), BYX Rule 11.13(b)(3)(M), EDGA Rule 11.11(g)(7), and EDGX Rule 11.11(g)(7). ALLB is also substantially similar to the Exchange's BCRT strategy, as described above.

¹⁴ Id.

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changes proposed in this rule filing do not burden competition, because they can succeed in attracting order flow to the Exchange only if they offer investors higher quality and better value than services offered by others. Encouraging competitors to provide higher quality and better value is the essence of a well-functioning competitive marketplace. Lastly, SCAR would not provide any advantage to members when routing to the Nasdaq Affiliated Exchanges as compared to other methods of routing or connectivity available to members by the Exchange. For the foregoing reasons, the Exchange does not believe 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.

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

¹⁵ U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

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.

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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 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.

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-2019-004 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-2019-004. 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).

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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-2019-004 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

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).

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EXHIBIT 5

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

Rules of Nasdaq BX

Equity Rules

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4758. Order Routing

- (a) Order Routing Process
- (1) The Order Routing Process shall be available to Participants from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Eastern Time, and shall route orders as described below. All routing of orders shall comply with Rule 611 of Regulation NMS under the Act.
- (A) The System provides a variety of routing options. Routing options may be combined with all available order types and times-in-force, with the exception of order types and times-in-force whose terms are inconsistent with the terms of a particular routing option. The System will consider the quotations only of accessible markets. The term "System routing table" refers to the proprietary process for determining the specific trading venues to which the System routes orders and the order in which it routes them. The Exchange reserves the right to maintain a different System routing table for different routing options and to modify the System routing table at any time without notice. The System routing options are:
- (i)-(ix) No change.
- (x) SCAR is a routing option under which orders will check the System for available shares and simultaneously route to The Nasdaq Stock Market and Nasdaq PSX in accordance with the System routing table. If shares remain unexecuted after routing, they are posted on the book or cancelled. Once on the book, should the order subsequently be locked or crossed by another market center, the System will not route the order to the locking or crossing market center.
- **(B)** No change.
- $(\mathbf{b}) (\mathbf{d})$ No change.

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