- 1 HB403
- 2 148039-2
- 3 By Representative Poole
- 4 RFD: Commerce and Small Business
- 5 First Read: 07-MAR-13

1	<u>ENGROSSED</u>
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4	A BILL
5	TO BE ENTITLED
6	AN ACT
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8	To amend Sections 10A-1-5.03, 10A-1-5.04,
9	10A-1-5.11, 10A-1-5.12, 10A-1-5.14, and 10A-1-5.15, Code of
10	Alabama 1975, relating to name reservations for business
11	entities; to require name reservations for all foreign and
12	domestic business entities; to combine the name registration
13	process for foreign entities with the name reservation process
14	for domestic entities; to extend the effective date for name
15	reservations; to exempt corporations incorporated before
16	January 1, 1981, from the provisions requiring the name of a
17	corporation or foreign corporation to contain the word
18	"corporation" or "incorporated"; and to repeal Sections
19	10A-1-5.21, 10A-1-5.22, 10A-1-5.23, 10A-1-5.24, and
20	10A-1-5.25, Code of Alabama 1975.
21	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:
22	Section 1. Sections 10A-1-5.03, 10A-1-5.11,
23	10A-1-5.12, 10A-1-5.14, and 10A-1-5.15, Code of Alabama 1975,
24	are amended to read as follows:
25	"§10A-1-5.03.
26	"(a) A filing entity may not have a name and a
27	foreign filing entity may not register to transact business in

- this state under a name that is the same as or not distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State from:
- "(1) the name of another existing filing entity or registered limited liability partnership with an effective current registration:

- "(2) the name of a foreign filing entity that is registered under Article 7;
- "(3) a name that is reserved under Division B; or.
  "(4) a name that is registered under Division C.
  - "(b) Subsection (a) does not apply if the other entity or the person for whom the name is reserved or registered, as appropriate, consents in writing to the use of a name not distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State, and submits an undertaking in form satisfactory to the Secretary of State to change its name to a name that is distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State from the name for which application was made.
  - "(c) In determining whether a name is the same as or not distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State from the name of another entity, words, phrases, or abbreviations indicating the type of entity, such as "corporation," "corp.," "incorporated," "Inc.," "limited partnership," "limited liability partnership," "LLP," "registered limited liability partnership," "RLLP," "limited liability company," or "LLC" shall not be taken into account unless waived in writing by the incumbent holder of the name.

1	(a) The name of a corporation or foreign corporation
2	<pre>must contain:</pre>
3	(1) the word "corporation" or "incorporated"; or
4	(2) an abbreviation of one of those words.
5	(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to a nonprofit
6	corporation or foreign nonprofit corporation, or to banks,
7	trust companies, savings and loan associations, or insurance
8	<pre>companies.</pre>
9	(c) In lieu of a word or abbreviation required by
10	subsection (a), the name of a professional corporation must
11	comply with the requirements of Section 10A-1-5.08.
12	(d) The requirements of subsection (a) do not apply
13	to any corporation organized before January 1, 1981.
14	"\$10A-1-5.11.
15	"(a) A person $\frac{1}{2}$ shall reserve the exclusive use of
16	a corporate an entity name, including a fictitious name for a
17	foreign <del>corporation</del> <u>entity</u> whose <del>corporate</del> name is not
18	available, by delivering an application to the Secretary of
19	State for filing. Any person may file an application with the
20	Secretary of State to reserve the exclusive use of a name
21	under this article.
22	"(b) The application must set forth the name and
23	address of the applicant and the name proposed to be reserved
24	and must be:
25	"(1) accompanied by any required filing fee; and
26	"(2) signed by the applicant or by the agent or
27	attorney of the applicant.

"(c) The name may also be reserved by telephone or other electronic means, subject to the requirements as the Secretary of State may establish for reservation of names by means, including requirements for payment of the fee for name reservation.

"\$10A-1-5.12.

- "(a) The Secretary of State may not reserve a name that is the same as, or not distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State from:
- "(1) the name of an existing filing entity or registered limited liability partnership with an effective registration;
- "(2) the name of a foreign filing entity that is registered under Article 7;  $\underline{\text{or}}$
- "(3) a name that is reserved under this division; or.
  - "(4) a name that is registered under Division C.
    - "(b) Subsection (a) does not apply if the other entity or the person for whom the name is reserved or registered, as appropriate, consents in writing to the subsequent reservation of a name not distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State, and submits an undertaking in form satisfactory to the Secretary of State to change its name to a name that is distinguishable on the records of the Secretary of State from the name applied for or, if the conflict is with a reserved or registered name, transfers its reservation to the applicant pursuant to Section 10A-1-5.16 or

1 consents in writing to the use of the name by the applicant 2 pursuant to Section 10A-1-5.23(b). "\$10A-1-5.14. 3 "The Secretary of State shall reserve the name for the applicant until the earlier of: 5 "(1) the 121st day after one year from the date the 6 7 application is accepted for filing; or "(2) the date the applicant files with the Secretary 8 of State a written notice of withdrawal of the reservation. 9 10 "\$10A-1-5.15. 11 A person may renew the person's reservation of a 12 name under this division for successive 120-day one-year 13 periods if, during the 30-day 90-day period preceding the 14 expiration of that reservation, the person: 15 "(1) files <del>new</del> an application to <del>reserve</del> renew the 16 name reservation; and "(2) pays the required filing fee." 17 Section 2. Sections 10A-1-5.21, 10A-1-5.22, 18 10A-1-5.23, 10A-1-5.24, and 10A-1-5.25, Code of Alabama 1975, 19 are repealed. 20 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the 21 22 first day of the third month following its passage and

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approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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3	House of Representatives
4 5 6 7	Read for the first time and re- ferred to the House of Representa- tives committee on Commerce and Small Business
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9 10 11	Read for the second time and placed on the calendar 1 amendment
12 13	Read for the third time and passed as amended 25-APR-13
14	Yeas 96, Nays 0, Abstains 0
15 16 17 18	Jeff Woodard Clerk