

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 because it would provide ETP Holders with the option for orders with a MTS Modifier to trade on entry only with individual orders that each meets the MTS of the incoming order, thereby providing ETP Holders with more control in how such orders could execute. The proposed rule change is based on similar options available for users of minimum trade size functionality on the Exchange's affiliate, NYSE American, as well as Nasdaq, IEX, and the Cboe Equity Exchanges.¹⁷ The Exchange further believes that this proposed option would remove impediments to, and perfect the mechanism of, a free and open market and a national market system because it would allow ETP Holders to provide an instruction that an order with an MTS Modifier would not trade with orders that are smaller in size than the MTS for such order, thereby providing ETP Holders with more control over when an order with an MTS Modifier may be executed.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is designed to increase competition by making available on the Exchange functionality that is already available on Nasdaq, IEX, and the Cboe Equity Exchanges. The Exchange also believes that the proposed rule change would promote competition by providing market participants with an additional venue to which to route non-displayed, non-routable orders with an MTS Modifier.

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were solicited or received with respect to the proposed rule change.

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

Because 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 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) of the Act¹⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.¹⁹

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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-NYSENAT-2019-02 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-NYSENAT-2019-02. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<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

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). As required under Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), the Exchange provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change, along with a brief description and the text of 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.

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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-NYSENAT-2019-02, and should be submitted on or before March 14, 2019.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁰

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019-02898 Filed 2-20-19; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-85139; File No. SR-BOX-2019-02]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; BOX Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend the Fee Schedule on the BOX Options Market LLC ("BOX") Facility To Modify Certain Agency Order Fees for Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions

February 14, 2019.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on February 1, 2019, BOX Exchange LLC (the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Exchange filed the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act,³ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,⁴ which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The

²⁰ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

⁴ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

¹⁷ See *supra* notes 9 and 11.

Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of the Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change to amend the Fee Schedule to amend the Fee Schedule [sic] on the BOX Options Market LLC ("BOX") options facility. The text of the proposed rule change is available from the principal office of the Exchange, at the Commission's Public Reference Room and also on the Exchange's internet website at <http://boxexchange.com>.

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

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to amend the Fee Schedule for trading on BOX to amend Section I.C (Facilitation and Solicitation Transactions).⁵ Specifically, the Exchange proposes to decrease the Agency Order⁶ fees for Professional Customers, Broker Dealers and Market Makers from \$0.15 to \$0.00 for Penny Pilot and Non-Penny Pilot Classes.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act, in general, and Section 6(b)(4) and 6(b)(5) of the Act,⁷ in particular, in that it provides for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among BOX Participants and

other persons using its facilities and does not unfairly discriminate between customers, issuers, brokers or dealers.

The Exchange believes that the proposed changes are reasonable as the Exchange is eliminating the fees for Professional Customers, Broker Dealers and Market Makers for their Agency Orders in the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanism.⁸ The Exchange believes that eliminating these fees will attract order flow to these mechanisms which will result in greater liquidity and ultimately benefit all Participants trading on the Exchange. Further, the Exchange believes that the proposed change is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory, as the proposed change applies to all Professional Customers, Broker Dealers and Market Makers. The Exchange notes that there is no fee charged to Public Customers for their Agency Orders in the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanism.

Finally, the Exchange notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily favor competing exchanges. In such an environment, the Exchange must continually review, and consider adjusting, its fees to remain competitive with other exchanges. For the reasons described above, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change reflects this competitive environment.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange believes that the proposed changes to the Facilitation and Solicitation Transaction fees will not impose a burden on competition among various Exchange Participants. Rather, BOX believes that the changes will result in the Participants being charged appropriately for these transactions and are designed to enhance competition in the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanisms. Submitting an order is entirely voluntary and Participants can determine which order type they wish to submit, if any, to the Exchange. Further, the Exchange believes that this proposal will enhance competition between exchanges because it is designed to allow the Exchange to better compete with other exchanges for order flow. The Exchange does not believe that the proposed change will burden

competition by creating a disparity between the fees an initiator pays and the fees a competitive responder pays that would result in certain Participants being unable to compete with initiators. In fact, the Exchange believes that these changes will not impair these Participants from adding liquidity and competing in the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanisms, and will help promote competition by providing incentives for market participants to submit Agency Orders, and thus benefit all Participants trading on the Exchange by attracting customer order flow.

C. 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.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Exchange Act⁹ and Rule 19b-4(f)(2) thereunder,¹⁰ because it establishes or changes a due, or fee.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend the rule change if it appears to the Commission that the action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or would otherwise further 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 email to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-BOX-2019-02 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.

⁵ Transactions executed through the Solicitation Auction mechanism and Facilitation Auction mechanism.

⁶ An Agency Order is a block-size order that an Order Flow Provider seeks to facilitate as agent through the Facilitation Auction or Solicitation Auction mechanism.

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4) and (5).

⁸ The Exchange notes that it previously did not charge Broker Dealers, Professional Customers and Market Makers for Agency Orders in the Facilitation and Solicitation mechanism. See SR-BOX-2015-29.

⁹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

¹⁰ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR–BOX–2019–02. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<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 such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR–BOX–2019–02, and should be submitted on or before March 14, 2019.

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

Eduardo A. Aleman,
Deputy Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2019–02900 Filed 2–20–19; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–85137; File No. SR–FICC–2018–013]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Fixed Income Clearing Corporation; Notice of Designation of Longer Period for Commission Action and Reopening the Period for Comment on Proposed Rule Change To Expand Sponsoring Member Eligibility in the Government Securities Division Rulebook and Make Other Changes

February 14, 2019.

On December 13, 2018, Fixed Income Clearing Corporation (“FICC”) filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (“Act”) ¹ and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,² proposed rule change SR–FICC–2018–013 to expand sponsoring member eligibility and make other changes.³ The proposed rule change was published for comment in the **Federal Register** on December 31, 2018.⁴ As of February 13, 2019, the Commission has received five comment letters to the proposed rule change,⁵ including a response letter from FICC.

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

³ On December 13, 2018, FICC also filed the proposal contained in the proposed rule change as advance notice SR–FICC–2018–802 with the Commission pursuant to Section 806(e)(1) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act entitled the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Supervision Act of 2010 (“Clearing Supervision Act”), 12 U.S.C. 5465(e)(1), and Rule 19b–4(n)(1)(i) of the Act, 17 CFR 240.19b–4(n)(1)(i).

⁴ Securities Exchange Act Release No. 84951 (December 21, 2018), 83 FR 67801 (December 31, 2018) (SR–FICC–2018–013) (“Notice”).

⁵ See letter from Robert E. Pooler, Jr., Chief Financial Officer, Ronin Capital, LLC, dated January 18, 2019, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission (“Ronin Letter”); letter from James Tabacchi, Chairman, Independent Dealer and Trade Association, dated January 22, 2019, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission (“IDTA Letter”); letter from Robert Toomey, Managing Director and Associate General Counsel, Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association, dated January 22, 2019, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission (“SIFMA Letter”); letter from Stephen John Berger, Managing Director, Government & Regulatory Policy, Citadel, dated January 30, 2019, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission (“Citadel Letter”); and letter from Murray Pozmanter, Managing Director, DTCC, dated February 4, 2019, to Brent J. Fields, Secretary, Commission (“FICC Response Letter”). See comments on the proposed rule change (SR–FICC–2018–013), available at <https://www.sec.gov/comments/sr-ficc-2018-013/srficc2018013.htm>. Because the proposal contained in the proposed rule change was also filed as an advance notice, *supra* note 3, the Commission is considering all public comments received on the proposal regardless of whether the comments were submitted to the advance notice or the proposed rule change.

Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁶ provides that within 45 days of the publication of notice of the filing of a proposed rule change, or within such longer period up to 90 days as the Commission may designate if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or as to which the self-regulatory organization consents, the Commission shall either approve the proposed rule change, disapprove the proposed rule change, or institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved. The 45th day after publication of the notice of the proposed rule change is February 14, 2019.

The Commission is extending the 45-day time period for Commission action on the proposed rule change. The Commission finds that it is appropriate to designate a longer period within which to take action on the proposed rule change so that it has sufficient time to consider and take action on the proposed rule change.

Accordingly, pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) of the Act⁷ and for the reasons stated above, the Commission designates March 31, 2019 as the date by which the Commission shall either approve, disapprove, or institute proceedings to determine whether to disapprove the proposed rule change (File No. SR–FICC–2018–013).

The Commission also seeks additional comment to help further inform its analysis of the proposed rule change. The comment period for the proposed rule change ended on January 22, 2019.⁸ As of February 13, 2019, the Commission has received five comment letters to the proposed rule change.⁹ The Commission is reopening the comment period for the proposed rule change to allow interested persons additional time to analyze the issues and prepare their comments. Accordingly, the Commission designates [insert date 21 days from publication in the **Federal Register**] as the date comments should be submitted on or before.

Specifically, the Commission invites interested persons to provide views, data, and arguments concerning the proposed rule change, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act and the applicable rules or regulations thereunder. Please note that comments previously received on the substance of the proposed rule change will be considered together with comments

⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁷ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(2).

⁸ Notice, 83 FR at 67808.

⁹ See *supra* note 5.

¹¹ 17 CFR 200.30–3(a)(12).