SENATE FILE NO. SF0127

Wyoming Stable Token Act.

Sponsored by: Select Committee on Blockchain, Financial Technology and Digital Innovation Technology

A BILL

for

1 AN ACT relating to trade and commerce; creating the Wyoming 2 Stable Token Act; creating the Wyoming stable token 3 commission; authorizing the Wyoming stable token commission 4 to issue Wyoming stable tokens as specified; providing for 5 employees; specifying limitations; providing immunity; 6 providing definitions; requiring reports; and providing for 7 an effective date.

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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming:

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11 Section 1. W.S. 40-31-101 through 40-31-109 are 12 created to read:

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14

CHAPTER 31

15 WYOMING STABLE TOKEN ACT

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1 40-31-101. Short title. 2 3 4 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Wyoming Stable Token Act." 5 6 7 40-31-102. Definitions. 8 (a) As used in this act: 9 10 (i) "Commission" means the Wyoming stable token 11 commission created by W.S. 40-31-103; 12 13 14 (ii) "Board" means the board of the Wyoming stable token commission; 15 16 17 (iii) "Director" means the director of the Wyoming stable token commission; 18 19 (iv) "Financial institution" means any entity 20 approved by the commission to act as a manager or otherwise 21 22 to manage, operate and maintain Wyoming stable tokens; 23

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STATE OF WYOMING

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             (v) "Notional value" means face value;
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              (vi) "Token holder" means a person who lawfully
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    owns any portion of a Wyoming stable token;
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             (vii) "Treasurer" means the state treasurer;
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              (viii) "Wyoming stable token" means the virtual
    currency issued by the commission pursuant to this act;
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             (ix) "Virtual currency" means as defined in W.S.
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    34-29-101(a)(iv);
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            (x) "This act" means W.S. 40-31-101 through
    40-31-109.
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         40-31-103. Wyoming stable token commission.
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         (a) There is created the Wyoming stable token
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    commission, which is a body politic and corporate operating
    as an instrumentality of the state of Wyoming, with
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    authority to adopt an official seal and to sue and be sued.
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1 (b) The commission shall be governed by a board 2 composed of: 3 4 (i) The governor or the governor's designee; 5 (ii) The auditor or the auditor's designee; б 7 8 (iii) The treasurer or the treasurer's designee; 9 (iv) Not more than four (4) subject matter 10 11 experts in virtual currency and financial technology appointed by a majority vote of the members of the board 12 13 designated in paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this subsection, and serving at the discretion of those members. 14 Only subject matter experts who are free from conflict of 15 interest in performing the duties of the board shall be 16 17 appointed to, or serve on, the board. 18 19 (c) Members of the board appointed pursuant to 20 paragraph (b)(iv) of this section shall receive the same per diem, expenses and travel allowance as members of the 21 legislature under W.S. 28-5-101 while in attendance at 22

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1 meetings of the board and while performing their duties as members of the board. 2 3 4 (d) The commission is subject to the requirements of: 5 (i) W.S. 16-3-101 through 16-3-105; б 7 8 (ii) W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205; 9 10 (iii) W.S. 16-4-401 through 16-4-408. 11 12 40-31-104. Wyoming stable token value; limitations. 13 14 A Wyoming stable token is a virtual currency representative of and redeemable for one (1) United States dollar held in 15 16 trust by the state of Wyoming as provided by W.S. 17 40-31-106. Stable tokens shall only be issued in exchange for United States dollars. 18 19 20 40-31-105. Powers of the commission. 21 This act shall be administered by the commission 22 (a) in accordance with this act. 23

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1 2 (b) The commission shall adopt rules and regulations 3 necessary to administer this act and to ensure as 4 compliance with all applicable state and federal law. 5 The commission may: б (C) 7 8 (i) Issue Wyoming stable tokens as provided in this act, and provide for matters related to the issuance 9 of Wyoming stable tokens, including the overall number of 10 Wyoming stable tokens to be issued, the means used to 11 issue, maintain and manage the Wyoming stable tokens and 12 13 the manner of and requirements for redemption; 14 (ii) Retain professional services, if necessary, 15 16 including accountants, auditors, consultants and other 17 experts; 18 19 (iii) Make and enter into any contracts, 20 agreements or arrangements and retain, employ and contract for the services of financial institutions and research, 21 technical and other services as necessary to implement this 22 23 act;

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1 2 (iv) Select the financial institutions to manage the Wyoming stable tokens; 3 4 (v) Seek rulings and other guidance from the 5 United States department of the treasury, the United States 6 7 internal revenue service, the United States securities and 8 exchange commission and any other relevant federal agency relating to this act; 9 10 11 (vi) Utilize the services of the state 12 treasurer's office in investing and managing the Wyoming stable token trust account; 13 14 (vii) Employ a director and employees as it 15 16 deems necessary for the performance of its duties. The 17 commission shall prescribe the powers and duties and fix the compensation of the director and employees. 18 19 20 (d) The commission shall: 21 (i) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-716, 22 maintain, invest and reinvest the funds received for issuing Wyoming 23

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1 stable tokens and any earnings from those investments in 2 accordance with investment policies established by rule and 3 regulation of the commission in consultation with the 4 treasurer and according to this act;

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the review and audit of 6 (ii) Oversee the operations and transactions implemented pursuant to this 7 8 act to include the commissioning of independent audits as 9 necessary. Costs incurred to perform independent audits and 10 reviews of the implementation of this act shall be deemed 11 operational costs.

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(e) Before initially issuing any Wyoming stable tokens, the director shall provide a comprehensive report to the select committee on blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation technology and the joint minerals, business and economic development interim committee on all actions taken under this act.

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20 40-31-106. Wyoming stable token accounts.

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(a) The Wyoming stable token trust account iscreated. The commission shall deposit all funds received

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1 for the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens into the account. 2 Funds within the account received from the sale of Wyoming 3 stable tokens shall be held in trust to support the 4 redemption of Wyoming stable tokens, and shall not be expended for any other purpose but shall be expended to 5 redeem Wyoming stable tokens. The commission shall invest 6 funds within the account exclusively in United States 7 8 treasury bills. By creation of this trust, the state does not create any fiduciary duty to token holders. Investment 9 10 earnings generated by the funds in the account may be 11 deposited in the Wyoming stable token administration 12 account as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

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(b) Not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the 14 notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable 15 16 tokens shall be maintained in the Wyoming stable token 17 trust account. All earnings paid on funds and investments shall deposited 18 the account be in the in account. 19 Investment earnings on funds in the account in excess of 20 one hundred two percent (102%) of the notional value of all 21 outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens shall be transferred to the Wyoming stable token administration 22 account. 23

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1 2 (c) The Wyoming stable token administration account 3 is created. Funds received into the account from any source 4 shall be retained, expended or transferred and are 5 continuously appropriated according to the following priority: б 7 8 (i) To pay for the operational costs of this 9 act; 10 11 (ii) Retention of savings in an amount 12 consistent with rules set by the commission to provide for 13 future expenditures under paragraph (i) of this subsection; 14 (iii) Any remainder shall be distributed first 15 16 to the general fund until the initial five hundred thousand 17 dollars (\$500,000.00) transferred upon this act becoming effective is repaid in full, then equally, on a quarterly 18 19 basis, into the common school permanent fund reserve 20 account created by W.S. 9-4-719(f), the school foundation 21 program account created by W.S. 21-13-306(a) and the permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve 22 account 23 created by W.S. 9-4-719(b).

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- 40-31-107. Redemption.
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4 One (1) Wyoming stable token shall be redeemable for one (1) United States dollar upon demand as set forth by rule 5 of the commission. The value of the Wyoming stable token б upon redemption shall be one (1) United States dollar for 7 8 each one (1) Wyoming stable token, unless the interest rate of United States treasury bills at the time of redemption 9 10 is negative or the total assets available in the Wyoming 11 stable token trust account divided by the number of 12 outstanding Wyoming stable tokens is less than one (1) dollar, in which case the value of the Wyoming stable token 13 upon redemption shall be the liquidated value of the United 14 States treasury bill redeemed to pay the demand for the 15 16 Wyoming stable token as determined by rule of the 17 commission. In no case shall the redemption result in the state paying a higher amount than the total assets in the 18 19 Wyoming stable token trust account divided by the number of 20 outstanding Wyoming stable tokens after all expenses have been paid as determined by the commission and auditor as 21 provided by rules and regulations of the commission. 22

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1 40-31-108. Notice of limitations. 2 3 Under rules adopted by the commission, every contract, 4 application or other similar document that may be used in connection with the purchase of Wyoming stable tokens shall 5 clearly state that the Wyoming stable token is not insured б by this state and the principal deposited is not guaranteed 7 8 by the state beyond the notional value of the Wyoming stable token trust account. 9 10 11 40-31-109. Limitations on liability. 12 The state shall not be liable to any person for 13 (a) any amount beyond the notional value of the fund maintained 14 15 in the Wyoming stable token trust account. Any Wyoming 16 stable tokens issued under this act are payable and 17 collectable solely out of the Wyoming stable token trust account. Token holders shall not look to any general or 18 19 other state fund for redemption of any Wyoming stable 20 tokens. The Wyoming stable tokens shall not constitute any 21 indebtedness or a debt within the meaning of any constitutional or statutory provision or limitation. 22 The tokens shall not be considered or held to be general 23

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1 obligations of the state but shall constitute special 2 obligations of the state and the commission shall not 3 pledge the state's full faith and credit for redemption of 4 any Wyoming stable token. 5 The state, the board and employees of the Wyoming 6 (b) stable token commission shall be entitled to immunity from 7 8 liability, including defense, in connection with any contract or transaction involving or related to Wyoming 9 10 stable tokens under this act. The state shall be entitled 11 to reasonable attorney fees and costs from any party who 12 brings an unsuccessful action on the notional value of a 13 token. 14

15 Section 2.

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17 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this 18 section, the commission shall be prepared to issue at least 19 one (1) Wyoming stable token not later than December 31, 20 2023.

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(b) The attorney general shall monitor the startupphase of the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens to ensure it

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1 is permissible under federal and state law. If, after 2 assessing available legal options, the attorney general 3 determines that issuing a Wyoming stable token is not 4 permissible under either federal or state law, the 5 commission shall not issue a Wyoming stable token and the director shall provide a report not later than November 1, б 2023 to the select committee on blockchain, financial 7 technology and digital innovation technology stating the 8 issuing a Wyoming stable token 9 reasons for not and 10 providing recommendations that would allow for issuance in 11 the future.

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13 Section 3. The commission shall promulgate all rules 14 necessary to implement this act.

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Section 4. There is transferred five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000.00) from the general fund to the Wyoming stable token administration account for purposes of this act. These funds shall not be transferred or expended for any other purpose. These funds shall be repaid pursuant to W.S. 40-31-105(a), as created by section 1 of this act.

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Section 5. This act is effective immediately upon
 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law
 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming
 Constitution.

(END)