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 commission; authorizing the Wyoming stable token commission 3 to issue Wyoming stable tokens as specified; providing for 4 5 employees; specifying limitations; providing immunity; 6 providing definitions; requiring reports; and providing for 7 an effective date. 8 9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Wyoming: 10

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

14 CHAPTER 31

13

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

to manage, operate and maintain Wyoming stable tokens;

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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 The commission shall be governed by a board (b) 2 composed of: 3 4 (i) The governor or the governor's designee; 5 (ii) The auditor or the auditor's designee; 6 7 8 (iii) The treasurer or the treasurer's designee; 9 10 (iv) Not more than four (4) subject matter 11 experts in virtual currency and financial technology appointed by a majority vote of the members of the board 12 designated in paragraphs (i) through (iii) of this 13 subsection, and serving at the discretion of those members. 14 15 16 (c) Members of the board appointed pursuant 17 paragraph (b)(iv) of this section shall receive the same per diem, expenses and travel allowance as members of the 18 legislature under W.S. 28-5-101 while in attendance at 19 20 meetings of the board and while performing their duties as members of the board. 21

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(d) The commission is subject to the requirements of: 23

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1 2 (i) W.S. 16-3-101 through 16-3-105; 3 4 (ii) W.S. 16-4-201 through 16-4-205; 5 (iii) W.S. 16-4-401 through 16-4-408. 6 7 8 40-31-104. Wyoming stable token value; limitations. 9 10 A Wyoming stable token is a virtual currency representative of and redeemable for one (1) United States dollar held in 11 12 trust by the state of Wyoming as provided by W.S. 40-31-106. Stable tokens shall only be issued in exchange 13 14 for United States dollars. 15 40-31-105. Powers of the commission. 16 17 This act shall be administered by the commission 18 19 in accordance with this act. 20 21 (b) The commission shall adopt rules and regulations 22 this necessary to administer act and to ensure compliance with all applicable state and federal law. 23

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1 (c) The commission may: 2 3 4 (i) Issue Wyoming stable tokens as provided in this act, and provide for matters related to the issuance 5 of Wyoming stable tokens, including the overall number of 6 Wyoming stable tokens to be issued, the means used to 7 8 issue, maintain and manage the Wyoming stable tokens and 9 the manner of and requirements for redemption; 10 (ii) Retain professional services, if necessary, 11 12 including accountants, auditors, consultants and other 13 experts; 14 15 (iii) Make and any contracts, enter into 16 agreements or arrangements and retain, employ and contract 17 for the services of financial institutions and research, technical and other services as necessary to implement this 18 19 act; 20 (iv) Select the financial institutions to manage 21

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the Wyoming stable tokens;

1 (v)	Seek	rulings	and	other	guidance	from	the
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2 United States department of the treasury, the United States

3 internal revenue service, the United States securities and

4 exchange commission and any other relevant federal agency

relating to this act; 5

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7 (vi) Utilize the services of the state

treasurer's office in investing and managing the Wyoming 8

stable token trust account; 9

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11 (vii) Employ a director and employees as it

12 deems necessary for the performance of its duties. The

13 commission shall prescribe the powers and duties and fix

the compensation of the director and employees. 14

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16 (d) The commission shall:

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18 (i) Notwithstanding W.S. 9-4-716, maintain,

invest and reinvest the funds received for issuing Wyoming 19

20 stable tokens and any earnings from those investments in

21 accordance with investment policies established by rule and

regulation of the commission in consultation with the 22

23 treasurer and according to this act;

2 (ii) Oversee the review and audit of the 3 operations and transactions implemented pursuant to this 4 act to include the commissioning of independent audits as necessary. Costs incurred to perform independent audits and 5 reviews of the implementation of this act shall be deemed 6 7 operational costs.

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9 (e) Before initially issuing any Wyoming stable

10 tokens, the director shall appear before the select

11 committee on blockchain, financial technology and digital

innovation technology to present a comprehensive report on 12

all actions taken under this act. 13

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40-31-106. Wyoming stable token accounts. 15

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17 Wyoming stable token trust (a) The account created. The commission shall deposit all funds received 18 19 for the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens into the account. 20 Funds within the account received from the sale of Wyoming 21

stable tokens shall be held in trust to support the

redemption of Wyoming stable tokens, and shall not be 22

expended for any other purpose but shall be expended to 23

1 redeem Wyoming stable tokens. The commission shall invest

2 funds within the account exclusively in United States

3 treasury bills. By creation of this trust, the state does

4 not create any fiduciary duty to token holders. Investment

5 earnings generated by the funds in the account may be

6 deposited in the Wyoming stable token administration

7 account as provided in subsection (b) of this section.

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(b) Not less than one hundred percent (100%) of the 9 notional value of all outstanding issued Wyoming stable 10 11 tokens shall be maintained in the Wyoming stable token trust account. All earnings paid on funds and investments 12 in the account shall be deposited in the account. 13 Investment earnings on funds in the account in excess of 14 one hundred two percent (102%) of the notional value of all 15 16 outstanding issued Wyoming stable tokens shall

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account.

20 (c) The Wyoming stable token administration account 21 is created. Funds received into the account from any source 22 shall be retained, expended or transferred and are

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transferred to the Wyoming stable token administration

1 continuously appropriated according to the following

2 priority:

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4 (i) To pay for the operational costs of this

5 act;

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7 (ii) Retention of savings in an amount

8 consistent with rules set by the commission to provide for

9 future expenditures under paragraphs (i) and (ii) of this

10 subsection;

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12 (iii) Any remainder shall be distributed first

13 to the general fund until the initial five hundred thousand

14 dollars (\$500,000.00) transferred upon this act becoming

15 effective is repaid in full, then equally, on a quarterly

16 basis, into the common school permanent fund reserve

17 account created by W.S. 9-4-719(f), the school foundation

18 program account created by W.S. 21-13-306(a) and the

19 permanent Wyoming mineral trust fund reserve account

20 created by W.S. 9-4-719(b).

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22 **40-31-107.** Redemption.

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

40-31-108. Notice of limitations.

1 Under rules adopted by the commission, every contract,

2 application or other similar document that may be used in

3 connection with the purchase of Wyoming stable tokens shall

4 clearly state that the Wyoming stable token is not insured

5 by this state and the principal deposited is not guaranteed

6 by the state beyond the notional value of the Wyoming

7 stable token trust account.

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9 40-31-109. Limitations on liability.

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11 The state shall not be liable to any person for (a) 12 any amount beyond the notional value of the fund maintained 13 in the Wyoming stable token trust account. Any Wyoming stable tokens issued under this act are payable and 14 collectable solely out of the Wyoming stable token trust 15 16 account. Token holders shall not look to any general or 17 other state fund for redemption of any Wyoming stable tokens. The Wyoming stable tokens shall not constitute any 18 indebtedness or 19 debt within the meaning а any 20 constitutional or statutory provision or limitation. tokens shall not be considered or held to be general 21 obligations of the state but shall constitute 22 obligations of the state and the treasurer shall not pledge 23

- 1 the state's full faith and credit for redemption of any
- 2 Wyoming stable token.

- 4 (b) The state, the board and employees of the Wyoming
- 5 stable token commission shall be entitled to immunity from
- 6 liability, including defense, in connection with any
- 7 contract or transaction involving or related to Wyoming
- 8 stable tokens under this act. The state shall be entitled
- 9 to reasonable attorney fees and costs from any party who
- 10 brings an unsuccessful action on the notional value of a
- 11 token.

12

13 Section 2.

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- 15 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this
- 16 section, the commission shall issue at least one (1)
- 17 Wyoming stable token not later than December 31, 2023.

- 19 (b) The attorney general shall monitor the startup
- 20 phase of the issuance of Wyoming stable tokens to ensure it
- 21 is permissible under federal and state law. If, after
- 22 assessing available legal options, the attorney general
- 23 determines that issuing a Wyoming stable token is not

- 1 permissible under either federal or state law, the
- 2 commission shall not issue a Wyoming stable token and the
- 3 director shall provide a report not later than November 1,
- 4 2023 to the select committee on blockchain, financial
- 5 technology and digital innovation technology stating the
- 6 reasons for not issuing a Wyoming stable token and
- 7 providing recommendations that would allow for issuance in
- 8 the future.

- 10 **Section 3.** The commission shall promulgate all rules
- 11 necessary to implement this act.

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

1 Section 5. This act is effective immediately upon

2 completion of all acts necessary for a bill to become law

3 as provided by Article 4, Section 8 of the Wyoming

4 Constitution.

2023

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6 (END)