

Act No. 115
Public Acts of 2021
Approved by the Governor
November 22, 2021
Filed with the Secretary of State
November 22, 2021
EFFECTIVE DATE: November 22, 2021

**STATE OF MICHIGAN
101ST LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2021**

Introduced by Rep. O'Malley

ENROLLED HOUSE BILL No. 4694

AN ACT to amend 1962 PA 174, entitled "An act to enact the uniform commercial code, relating to certain commercial transactions in or regarding personal property and contracts and other documents concerning them, including sales, commercial paper, bank deposits and collections, letters of credit, bulk transfers, warehouse receipts, bills of lading, other documents of title, investment securities, leases, and secured transactions, including certain sales of accounts, chattel paper and contract rights; to provide for public notice to third parties in certain circumstances; to regulate procedure, evidence and damages in certain court actions involving such transactions, contracts or documents; to make uniform the law with respect thereto; to make an appropriation; to provide penalties; and to repeal certain acts and parts of acts," by amending sections 9520, 9521, and 9525 (MCL 440.9520, 440.9521, and 440.9525), section 9520 as amended by 2008 PA 383, section 9521 as amended by 2012 PA 88, and section 9525 as amended by 2016 PA 229.

The People of the State of Michigan enact:

Sec. 9520. (1) A filing office shall refuse to accept a record for filing for a reason set forth in section 9516(2) or, if the filing office is the secretary of state, subsection (5) and may refuse to accept a record for filing only for a reason set forth in section 9516(2) or, if the filing office is the secretary of state, subsection (5).

(2) If a filing office refuses to accept a record for filing, it shall communicate to the person that presented the record the fact of and reason for the refusal and the date and time the record would have been filed had the filing office accepted it. The communication must be made at the time and in the manner prescribed by filing-office rule but, in the case of a filing office described in section 9501(1)(b), in no event more than 2 business days after the filing office receives the record.

(3) A filed financing statement satisfying section 9502(1) and (2) is effective, even if the filing office is required to refuse to accept it for filing under subsection (1). However, section 9338 applies to a filed financing statement providing information described in section 9516(2)(e) that is incorrect at the time the financing statement is filed.

(4) If a record communicated to a filing office provides information that relates to more than 1 debtor, this part applies as to each debtor separately.

(5) Notwithstanding any other provision of this act, if a person presents a record to the secretary of state for filing or recording, the secretary of state may refuse to accept the record for filing or recording if 1 or more of the following circumstances exist:

- (a) The record is not required or authorized to be filed or recorded with the secretary of state.
- (b) The record is being filed or recorded for a purpose outside the scope of this article.
- (c) The secretary of state has reasonable cause to believe the record is materially false or fraudulent.

(d) The record asserts a claim against a current or former employee or officer of a federal, state, county, or other local governmental unit that relates to the performance of the officer's or employee's public duties, and for which the filer does not hold a properly executed security agreement or judgment from a court of competent jurisdiction.

(e) The record indicates that the debtor and the secured party are substantially the same or that an individual debtor is a transmitting utility.

(6) If an information statement filed with the secretary of state under section 9518 alleges that a previously filed record was wrongfully filed, the secretary of state shall, without undue delay, determine whether the contested record was wrongfully filed. To determine whether the record was wrongfully filed, the secretary of state may require the person who filed the information statement or the secured party to provide any additional relevant information requested by the secretary of state, including an original or copy of a security agreement that is related to the record. If the secretary of state finds that the record was wrongfully filed, the secretary of state shall terminate the record and the record is void and ineffective. The secretary of state shall notify the secured party named in the contested record of the termination.

(7) If the secretary of state refuses to accept a record for filing or recording under subsection (5), the person who presented the record to the secretary of state may commence an action under section 9501a to require the secretary of state to accept the record for filing or recording. A record ordered by the court to be accepted is effective as a filed record from the initial filing date except as against a purchaser of the collateral that gives value in reasonable reliance on the absence of the record from the files.

(8) A filing officer who, acting in a manner that does not subject the filing officer to personal liability under the statutes of this state, improperly refuses to accept a record for filing or recording under subsection (5) is not personally liable for the improper refusal or determination.

(9) Subsection (5) does not apply to a financing statement filed by a regulated financial institution or a representative of a regulated financial institution. If a regulated financial institution that is attempting to file a financing statement is organized under the law of a governmental unit other than this state, the secretary of state may request the regulated financial institution or its representative to provide verification of regulation or licensure in the jurisdiction under whose law the institution is organized. As used in this subsection, "regulated financial institution" means that term as defined in section 9501a.

Sec. 9521. (1) Except for a reason set forth in section 9516(2) or 9520(5), a filing office that accepts written records for filing shall not refuse to accept a written initial financing statement that conforms to the form and format of UCC financing statement (Form UCC1) or UCC financing statement addendum (Form UCC1Ad) as promulgated by the American Law Institute and the Uniform Law Commission and adopted by the secretary of state, or as approved by the International Association of Commercial Administrators and adopted by the secretary of state, or any other form adopted by the secretary of state.

(2) Except for a reason set forth in section 9516(2) or 9520(5), a filing office that accepts written records for filing shall not refuse to accept a written financing statement amendment that conforms to the form and format of the UCC financing statement amendment (Form UCC3) or the UCC financing statement amendment addendum (Form UCC3Ad) as promulgated by the American Law Institute and the Uniform Law Commission, or to the form and format of any other revision to or version of either of those forms that are promulgated by the American Law Institute and the Uniform Law Commission, or as approved by the International Association of Commercial Administrators, and adopted by the secretary of state.

Sec. 9525. (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) or (4), the fee for filing and indexing a record under this part is \$15.00.

(2) A filing office shall charge a person a fee for responding to a request for a search of the records filed with a filing office concerning a debtor, including issuance of a certificate describing each presently effective record filed concerning the debtor if requested. The fee is \$6.00, plus 1 or more of the following, if applicable:

(a) If the person requests expediting of the regular search process, an additional fee of \$25.00.

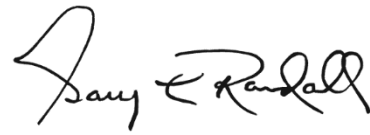
(b) If the person requests copies of the presently effective records disclosed by the search, an additional fee of \$2.00 per page.

(c) If the filing office is the secretary of state and the person requests that the secretary of state include an impression of the official seal of the secretary of state on the certificate, an additional fee of \$6.00.

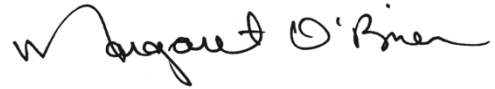
(3) This section does not require a fee with respect to a record of a mortgage that is effective as a financing statement filed as a fixture filing or as a financing statement covering as-extracted collateral or timber to be cut under section 9502(3). However, the recording fees that otherwise would be applicable to the record of the mortgage under section 2567 of the revised judicature act of 1961, 1961 PA 236, MCL 600.2567, apply.

(4) There is no fee for filing and indexing an information statement filed with the office of the secretary of state under section 9518, filed by an individual named as a debtor on a record indexed by the secretary of state.

This act is ordered to take immediate effect.



Clerk of the House of Representatives



Secretary of the Senate

Approved _____

Governor