

the fund satisfies the conditions of the rule. In general, each class must differ in its arrangement for shareholder services or distribution or both, and must pay the related expenses of that different arrangement. The rule includes one requirement for the collection of information. A multiple class fund must prepare, and fund directors must approve, a written plan setting forth the separate arrangement and expense allocation of each class, and any related conversion features or exchange privileges (“rule 18f–3 plan”). Approval of the plan must occur before the fund issues any shares of multiple classes and whenever the fund materially amends the plan. In approving the plan, the fund board, including a majority of the independent directors, must determine that the plan is in the best interests of each class and the fund as a whole.

The requirement that the fund prepare and directors approve a written rule 18f–3 plan is intended to ensure that the fund compiles information relevant to the fairness of the separate arrangement and expense allocation for each class, and that directors review and approve the information. Without a blueprint that highlights material differences among classes, directors might not perceive potential conflicts of interests when they determine whether the plan is in the best interests of each class and the fund. In addition, the plan may be useful to Commission staff in reviewing the fund’s compliance with the rule.

Based on an analysis of fund filings, the Commission estimates that there are approximately 7,293 multiple class funds offered by 990 registrants. The Commission estimates that each of the 990 registrants will make an average of 0.5 responses annually to prepare and approve a written 18f–3 plan.¹ The Commission estimates each response will take 6 hours, requiring a total of 3 hours per registrant per year.² Thus the total annual hour burden associated with these requirements of the rule is approximately 2,970 hours.³

Estimates of the average burden hours are made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act and are not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules and forms. The collection of information under rule

18f–3 is mandatory. The information provided under rule 18f–3 will not be kept confidential. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

The public may view the background documentation for this information collection at the following website, www.reginfo.gov. Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, or by sending an email to:

Lindsay.M.Abate@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,

Assistant Secretary.

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[SEC File No. 270–399, OMB Control No. 3235–0456]

Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Extension:

Form 24F–2

Notice is hereby given that pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501–3520), the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “Commission”) has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget a request for extension of the previously approved collection of information discussed below.

Rule 24f–2 (17 CFR 270.24f–2) under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a) requires any open-end management companies (“mutual

funds”), unit investment trusts (“UITs”), registered closed-end investment companies that make periodic repurchase offers under rule 23c–3 under the Investment Company Act [17 CFR 270.23c–3] (“interval funds”), or face-amount certificate companies (collectively, “funds”) deemed to have registered an indefinite amount of securities to file, not later than 90 days after the end of any fiscal year in which it has publicly offered such securities, Form 24F–2 (17 CFR 274.24) with the Commission. Form 24F–2 is the annual notice of securities sold by funds that accompanies the payment of registration fees with respect to the securities sold during the fiscal year.

The Commission estimates that 6,794 funds file Form 24F–2 on the required annual basis. The average annual burden per respondent for Form 24F–2 is estimated to be four hours. The total annual burden for all respondents to Form 24F–2 is estimated to be 27,176 hours. The estimate of average burden hours is made solely for the purposes of the Paperwork Reduction Act, and is not derived from a comprehensive or even a representative survey or study of the costs of Commission rules.

Compliance with the collection of information required by Form 24F–2 is mandatory. The Form 24F–2 filing that must be made to the Commission is available to the public. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid control number.

The public may view the background documentation for this information collection at the following website, www.reginfo.gov. Comments should be directed to: (i) Desk Officer for the Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10102, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503, or by sending an email to: Lindsay.M.Abate@omb.eop.gov; and (ii) David Bottom, Director/Chief Information Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Cynthia Roscoe, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549 or send an email to: PRA_Mailbox@sec.gov. Written comments and recommendations for the proposed information collection should be sent within 30 days of publication of this notice to www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain. Find this particular information collection by selecting “Currently under 30-day Review—Open for Public Comments” or by using the search function.

¹ The Commission estimates that each registrant prepares and approves a rule 18f–3 plan every two years when issuing a new fund or new class or amending a plan (or that 522.5 of all 1,045 registrants prepare and approve a plan each year).

² 0.5 responses per registrant × 6 hours per response = 3 hours per registrant.

³ 3 hours per registrant per year × 1,045 registrants = 3,135 hours per year.

Dated: January 21, 2021.

J. Matthew DeLesDernier,
Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2021-01664 Filed 1-25-21; 8:45 am]

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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34-90943; File No. SR-CboeBYX-2021-004]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change To Establish a Monthly Fee Assessed on Members' MPIDs

January 19, 2021.

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 January 13, 2021, Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BYX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I and II below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The 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 Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

Cboe BYX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BYX Equities") proposes to amend its fee schedule to establish a fee in connection with a Member's Market Participant Identifier(s) ("MPID"). The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule_filings/byx/), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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 its Fee Schedule to adopt a monthly fee assessed on Members' MPIDs.³

The Exchange first notes that it operates in a highly competitive market in which market participants can readily direct order flow to competing venues if they deem fee levels at a particular venue to be excessive or incentives to be insufficient. More specifically, the Exchange is only one of 16 registered equities exchanges, as well as a number of alternative trading systems and other off-exchange venues that do not have similar self-regulatory responsibilities under the Exchange Act, to which market participants may direct their order flow. Based on publicly available information,⁴ no single registered equities exchange has more than 16% of consolidated equity market share and currently the Exchange represents approximately 1.5% of the U.S. equities market. Thus, in such a low-concentrated and highly competitive market, no single equities exchange possesses significant pricing power in the execution of order flow. The Exchange further notes that broker-dealers are not compelled to be Members of the Exchange, and a significant proportion of broker-dealers that trade U.S. equity securities have, in fact, chosen not to apply for membership on the Exchange.

By way of background, an MPID is a four-character unique identifier that is approved by the Exchange and assigned to a Member for use on the Exchange to identify the Member firm on the orders sent to the Exchange and resulting executions. Members may choose to request more than one MPID as a unique identifier(s) for their transactions on the Exchange. The Exchange notes that a Member may have multiple MPIDs for use by separate business units and trading desks or to support Sponsored Participant⁵ access. Certain members

currently leverage multiple MPIDs to obtain benefits from and added value in their participation on the Exchange. Multiple MPIDs provide unique benefits to and efficiencies for Members by allowing: (1) Members to manage their trading activity more efficiently by assigning different MPIDs to different trading desks and/or strategies within the firm; and (2) Sponsoring Members⁶ to segregate Sponsored Participants by MPID to allow for detailed client-level reporting, billing, and administration, and to market the ability to use separate MPIDs to Sponsored Participants, which, in turn, may serve as a potential incentive for increased order flow traded through the Sponsoring Member.

The Exchange proposes to adopt a fee applicable to Members that use multiple MPIDs to facilitate their trading on the Exchange. Specifically, as proposed, the Exchange would assess a monthly MPID Fee of \$150 per MPID per Member, with a Member's first MPID provided free of charge. The Exchange believes the proposed assessment of an MPID Fee aligns with the additional value and benefits provided to Members that choose to utilize more than one MPID to facilitate their trading on the Exchange. The Exchange also believes that assessing a fee on additional MPIDs will be beneficial because such fee will promote efficiency in MPID use.

The MPID Fee will be assessed on a pro-rated basis for new MPIDs by charging a Member based on the trading day in the month during which an additional MPID becomes effective for use. If a Member cancels an additional MPID on or after the first business day of the month, the Member will be required to pay the entire MPID Fee for that month. The Exchange believes that this practice is appropriate to balance the administrative costs associated with disabling MPIDs.

2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange

Sponsoring Member pursuant to Rule 11.3, which permits a Sponsored Participant to obtain authorized access to the System only if such access is authorized in advance by one or more Sponsoring Members. See Rules 1.5(x) and 11.3.

⁶ A Sponsoring Member is a Member that is a registered broker-dealer and that has been designated by a Sponsored Participant to execute, clear and settle transactions resulting from the System. The Sponsoring Member shall be either (i) a clearing firm with membership in a clearing agency registered with the Commission that maintains facilities through which transactions may be cleared or (ii) a correspondent firm with a clearing arrangement with any such clearing firm. See Rule 1.5(y)

³ The Exchange initially filed the proposed fee changes January 4, 2021 (SR-CboeBYX-2021-002). On January 13, 2021, the Exchange withdrew that filing and submitted this proposal.

⁴ See Cboe Global Markets, U.S. Equities Market Volume Summary, Month-to-Date (December 18, 2020), available at https://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/market_statistics/.

⁵ A Sponsored Participant is a person which has entered into a sponsorship arrangement with a

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.