1 2	THE STATE SENATE Wednesday, March 1, 2006
3	Committee Substitute for
4	Senate Bill No. 1689
5 6	COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SENATE BILL NO. 1689 - By: CRAIN of the Senate and SULLIVAN of the House.
7 8 9	[ real estate - Oklahoma Real Estate Settlement Practices Act - Oklahoma Residential Mortgage Fraud Act - codification - effective date -
10	emergency ]
11	BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:
12	SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
13	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5201 of Title 36, unless there
14	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
15	This act shall be known and may be cited to as the "Oklahoma
16	Real Estate Settlement Practices Act".
17	SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18	in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5202 of Title 36, unless there
19	is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:
20	The Legislature finds that significant reforms in the real
21	estate settlement process are needed and the gist of federal law
22	should be adopted in Oklahoma law to allow the Insurance
23	Commissioner to facilitate local enforcement of such laws.

CS for SB 1689

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1 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5203 of Title 36, unless there 3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: 4 For purposes of this act the following definitions shall apply: 5 1. "Federally related mortgage loan" means any loan other than temporary financing such as a construction loan which: 6 7 is secured by a first or subordinate lien on a. 8 residential real property including individual units 9 of condominiums and cooperatives designed principally 10 for the occupancy of from one to four families, 11 including any such secured loan, the proceeds of which are used to prepay or pay off an existing loan secured 12 13 by the same property, and 14 is made in whole or in part by any lender, the b. (1)

15 deposits or accounts of which are insured by any 16 agency of the federal government, or is made in 17 whole or in part by any lender which is regulated 18 by any agency of the federal government,

19 (2) is made in whole or in part, or insured,
20 guaranteed, supplemented, or assisted in any way,
21 by the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
22 or any other officer or agency of the federal
23 government or under or in connection with a

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housing or urban development program administered by the Secretary or a housing or related program administered by any other such officer or agency,

- 4 (3) is intended to be sold by the originating lender 5 to the Federal National Mortgage Association, the 6 Government National Mortgage Association, the 7 Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, or a 8 financial institution from which it is to be 9 purchased by the Federal Home Loan Mortgage 10 Corporation, or
- 11 (4) is made in whole or in part by any "creditor", as defined in 15 U.S.C., Section 1602(f), who makes 12 13 or invests in residential real estate loans 14 aggregating more than One Million Dollars 15 (\$1,000,000.00) per year, except that for the 16 purpose of this chapter, the term "creditor" does 17 not include any agency or instrumentality of any 18 state;

2. "Thing of value" means any payment, advance, funds, loan,
 service, or other consideration;

3. "Settlement services" means any service provided in connection with a real estate settlement including, but not limited to, the following: title searches, title examinations, the provision

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1 of title certificates, title insurance, services rendered by an 2 attorney, the preparation of documents, property surveys, the 3 rendering of credit reports or appraisals, pest and fungus inspections, services rendered by a real estate agent or broker, the 4 5 origination of a federally related mortgage loan including, but not limited to, the taking of loan applications, loan processing, and 6 7 the underwriting and funding of loans, and the handling of the 8 processing, and closing or settlement;

9 4. "Title company" means any institution which is qualified to 10 issue title insurance, directly or through its agents, and also 11 refers to any duly authorized agent of a title company;

12 5. "Person" means individuals, corporations, associations,13 partnerships, and trusts;

14 6. "Secretary" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban15 Development;

16 7. "Affiliated business arrangement" means an arrangement in 17 which:

18a. a person who is in a position to refer business19incident to or a part of a real estate settlement20service involving a federally related mortgage loan,21or an associate of such person, has either an22affiliate relationship with or a direct or beneficial

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1 ownership interest of more than one percent (1.0%) in 2 a provider of settlement services, and 3 b. either of such persons directly or indirectly refers 4 such business to that provider or affirmatively 5 influences the selection of that provider; 6 "Associate" means one who has one or more of the following 8. 7 relationships with a person in a position to refer settlement 8 business: 9 a spouse, parent, or child of such person, a. 10 b. a corporation or business entity that controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with such 11 12 person, 13 an employer, officer, director, partner, franchisor, с. 14 or franchisee of such person, or 15 d. anyone who has an agreement, arrangement, or 16 understanding with such person, the purpose or 17 substantial effect of which is to enable the person in 18 a position to refer settlement business to benefit 19 financially from the referrals of such business; and 9. "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner of the State 20 of Oklahoma. 21

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1 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5204 of Title 36, unless there 3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 Each person who makes a federally related mortgage loan Α. 5 shall disclose to each person who applies for the loan, at the time of application for the loan, whether the servicing of the loan may 6 7 be assigned, sold, or transferred to any other person at any time while the loan is outstanding. Each servicer of any federally 8 9 related mortgage loan shall notify the borrower in writing of any 10 assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of the loan to any 11 other person.

B. Except as provided under paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection, the notice required under subsection A of this section shall be made to the borrower not less than fifteen (15) days before the effective date of transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan with respect to which such notice is made.

17 1. The notice required under subsection A of this section shall 18 be made to the borrower not more than thirty (30) days after the 19 effective date of assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of 20 the mortgage loan with respect to which such notice is made in any 21 case in which the assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of 22 the mortgage loan is preceded by:

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- a. termination of the contract for servicing the loan for
   cause,
- 3 b. commencement of proceedings for bankruptcy of the4 servicer, or
- 5 c. commencement of proceedings by the Federal Deposit 6 Insurance Corporation or the Resolution Trust 7 Corporation for conservatorship or receivership of the 8 servicer or an entity by which the servicer is owned 9 or controlled.

2. The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to any assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of any mortgage loan if the person who makes the loan provides to the borrower, at settlement with respect to the property for which the mortgage loan is made, written notice under paragraph 3 of this subsection of such transfer.

- 16 3. The notice required under subsection A of this section shall 17 include the following information:
- 18 a. the effective date of transfer of the servicing19 described in such paragraph,
- b. the name, address, and toll-free or collect call
  telephone number of the transferee servicer,
  c. a toll-free or collect call telephone number for (1)
  an individual employed by the transferor servicer, or

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(2) the department of the transferor servicer, that
 can be contacted by the borrower to answer inquiries
 relating to the transfer of servicing,

- d. the name and toll-free or collect call telephone
  number for (1) an individual employed by the
  transferee servicer, or (2) the department of the
  transferee servicer, that can be contacted by the
  borrower to answer inquiries relating to the transfer
  of servicing,
- e. the date on which the transferor servicer who is
  servicing the mortgage loan before the assignment,
  sale, or transfer will cease to accept payments
  relating to the loan and the date on which the
  transferee servicer will begin to accept such
  payments,
- 16 f. any information concerning the effect the transfer may 17 have, if any, on the terms of or the continued 18 availability of mortgage life or disability insurance 19 or any other type of optional insurance and what 20 action, if any, the borrower must take to maintain 21 coverage, and
- g. a statement that the assignment, sale, or transfer of
  the servicing of the mortgage loan does not affect any

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term or condition of the security instruments other than terms directly related to the servicing of such loan.

4 С. Each transferee servicer to whom the servicing of any 5 federally related mortgage loan is assigned, sold, or transferred shall notify the borrower of any such assignment, sale, or transfer. 6 7 Except as provided in paragraphs 2 and 3 of this subsection, 1. the notice required under this subsection shall be made to the 8 9 borrower not more than fifteen (15) days after the effective date of 10 transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan with respect to which 11 such notice is made.

2. The notice required under this subsection shall be made to the borrower not more than thirty (30) days after the effective date of assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan with respect to which such notice is made in any case in which the assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan is preceded by:

a. termination of the contract for servicing the loan for
cause,

20 b. commencement of proceedings for bankruptcy of the21 servicer, or

c. commencement of proceedings by the Federal Deposit
 Insurance Corporation or the Resolution Trust

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1 Corporation for conservatorship or receivership of the 2 servicer or an entity by which the servicer is owned 3 or controlled.

3. The provisions of paragraphs 1 and 2 of this subsection
shall not apply to any assignment, sale, or transfer of the
servicing of any mortgage loan if the person who makes the loan
provides to the borrower, at settlement with respect to the property
for which the mortgage loan is made, written notice under paragraph
3 of subsection B of such transfer.

Any notice required under this subsection shall include the
 information described in paragraph 3 of subsection B of this
 section.

13 D. During the sixty-day period beginning on the effective date of transfer of the servicing of any federally related mortgage loan, 14 a late fee may not be imposed on the borrower with respect to any 15 payment on such loan, and no such payment may be treated as late for 16 17 any other purposes, if the payment is received by the transferor 18 servicer, rather than the transferee servicer who should properly 19 receive payment, before the due date applicable to such payment. 20 Ε. 1. If any servicer of a federally related mortgage loan 21 receives a qualified written request from the borrower or an agent of the borrower for information relating to the servicing of such 22 loan, the servicer shall provide a written response acknowledging 23

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1 receipt of the correspondence within twenty (20) days, excluding 2 legal public holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays unless the action 3 requested is taken within such period.

4 2. For purposes of this subsection, a qualified written request
5 shall be a written correspondence, other than notice on a payment
6 coupon or other payment medium supplied by the servicer, that:

7 includes, or otherwise enables the servicer to a. 8 identify, the name and account of the borrower, and 9 b. includes a statement of the reasons for the belief of 10 the borrower, to the extent applicable, that the account is in error or provides sufficient detail to 11 the servicer regarding other information sought by the 12 13 borrower.

Not later than sixty (60) days, excluding legal public holidays, Saturdays, and Sundays, after the receipt from any borrower of any qualified written request under paragraph 1 of this subsection and, if applicable, before taking any action with respect to the inquiry of the borrower, the servicer shall:

19a.make appropriate corrections in the account of the20borrower, including the crediting of any late charges21or penalties, and transmit to the borrower a written22notification of such correction which shall include23the name and telephone number of a representative of

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- 1 the servicer who can provide assistance to the 2 borrower, 3 b. after conducting an investigation, provide the 4 borrower with a written explanation or clarification 5 that includes:
- 6 (1) to the extent applicable, a statement of the 7 reasons for which the servicer believes the 8 account of the borrower is correct as determined 9 by the servicer, and
- 10 (2) the name and telephone number of an individual 11 employed by, or the office or department of, the 12 servicer who can provide assistance to the 13 borrower, or
- 14 c. after conducting an investigation, provide the 15 borrower with a written explanation or clarification 16 that includes:
- 17 (1) information requested by the borrower or an
  18 explanation of why the information requested is
  19 unavailable or cannot be obtained by the
  20 servicer, and
- (2) the name and telephone number of an individual
  employed by, or the office or department of, the

1	servicer	who	can	provide	assistance	to	the
2	borrower						

3	4. During the sixty-day period beginning on the date of the
4	servicer's receipt from any borrower of a qualified written request
5	relating to a dispute regarding the borrower's payments, a servicer
6	may not provide information regarding any overdue payment, owed by
7	such borrower and relating to such period or qualified written
8	request, to any consumer-reporting agency as defined under 15
9	U.S.C., Section 1681a.
10	F. Whoever fails to comply with any provision of this section
11	shall be liable to the borrower for each such failure in the
12	following amounts:
13	1. In the case of any action by an individual, an amount equal
14	to the sum of:
15	a. any actual damages to the borrower as a result of the
16	failure, and
17	b. any additional damages, as the court may allow, in the
18	case of a pattern or practice of noncompliance with
19	the requirements of this section, in an amount not to
20	exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00);
21	2. In the case of a class action, an amount equal to the sum
22	of:

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1 any actual damages to each of the borrowers in the a. 2 class as a result of the failure, and 3 any additional damages, as the court may allow, in the b. 4 case of a pattern or practice of noncompliance with 5 the requirements of this section, in an amount not 6 greater than One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each 7 member of the class, except that the total amount of 8 damages under this subparagraph in any class action 9 may not exceed the lesser of: 10 (1) Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000.00), or One percent (1%) of the net worth of the 11 (2)

12 servicer;

13 3. In addition to the amounts under paragraph 1 or 2 of this 14 subsection, in the case of any successful action under this section, 15 the costs of the action, together with any attorney fees incurred in 16 connection with such action as the court may determine to be 17 reasonable under the circumstances; and

4. A transferor or transferee servicer shall not be liable under this subsection for any failure to comply with any requirement under this section if, within sixty (60) days after discovering an error whether pursuant to a final written examination report or the servicer's own procedures and before the commencement of an action under this subsection and the receipt of written notice of the error

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1 from the borrower, the servicer notifies the person concerned of the 2 error and makes whatever adjustments are necessary in the 3 appropriate account to ensure that the person will not be required 4 to pay an amount in excess of any amount that the person otherwise 5 would have paid.

6 G. If the terms of any federally related mortgage loan require 7 the borrower to make payments to the servicer of the loan for 8 deposit into an escrow account for the purpose of assuring payment 9 of taxes, insurance premiums, and other charges with respect to the 10 property, the servicer shall make payments from the escrow account 11 for such taxes, insurance premiums, and other charges in a timely 12 manner as such payments become due.

13 Notwithstanding any provision of state law or rule, a person н. 14 who makes a federally related mortgage loan or a servicer shall be 15 considered to have complied with the provisions of any such state 16 law or rule requiring notice to a borrower at the time of 17 application for a loan or transfer of the servicing of a loan if 18 such person or servicer complies with the requirements under this 19 section regarding timing, content, and procedures for notification of the borrower. 20

21 I. For purposes of this section:

"Effective date of transfer" means the date on which the
 mortgage payment of a borrower is first due to the transferee

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servicer of a mortgage loan pursuant to the assignment, sale, or transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan;

3 2. "Servicer" means the person responsible for servicing of a loan, including the person who makes or holds a loan, if such person 4 5 also services the loan. The term does not include: 6 the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or the a. 7 Resolution Trust Corporation, in connection with 8 assets acquired, assigned, sold, or transferred 9 pursuant to 12 U.S.C., Section 1823(c), or as receiver 10 or conservator of an insured depository institution, 11 and 12 b. the Government National Mortgage Association, the 13 Federal National Mortgage Association, the Federal 14 Home Loan Mortgage Corporation, the Resolution Trust 15 Corporation, or the Federal Deposit Insurance 16 Corporation in any case in which the assignment, sale, 17 or transfer of the servicing of the mortgage loan is

18 preceded by:

- 19 (1) termination of the contract for servicing the20 loan for cause,
- 21 (2) commencement of proceedings for bankruptcy of the
   22 servicer, or

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1 (3) commencement of proceedings by the Federal 2 Deposit Insurance Corporation or the Resolution 3 Trust Corporation for conservatorship or 4 receivership of the servicer or an entity by 5 which the servicer is owned or controlled; and 6 "Servicing" means receiving any scheduled periodic payments 3. 7 from a borrower pursuant to the terms of any loan, including amounts 8 for escrow accounts described in Section 8 of this act, and making 9 the payments of principal and interest and such other payments with 10 respect to the amounts received from the borrower as may be required 11 pursuant to the terms of the loan.

J. 1. A person who makes a federally related mortgage loan shall not be liable to a borrower because of a failure of such person to comply with subsection A of this section with respect to an application for a loan made by the borrower before the rules referred to in paragraph 3 of this subsection take effect.

A servicer of a federally related mortgage loan shall not be
 liable to a borrower because of a failure of the servicer to perform
 any duty under subsections C, D or E of this section that arises
 before the rules referred to in paragraph 3 of this section take
 effect.

3. The Insurance Commissioner shall promulgate any rulesnecessary to implement the provisions of this section.

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1 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5205 of Title 36, unless there 3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act does not apply to credit transactions involving5 extensions of credit:

Primarily for business, commercial, or agricultural
 purposes; or

8 2. To government or governmental agencies or instrumentalities. 9 Β. In prescribing rules under subsection A of Section 11 of 10 this act, the Insurance Commissioner shall ensure that, with respect to subsection A of this section, the exemption for credit 11 transactions involving extensions of credit primarily for business, 12 13 commercial, or agricultural purposes, as provided in paragraph 1 of 14 subsection A of this section shall be the same as the exemption for 15 such credit transactions under 15 U.S.C., Section 1603(1).

16 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5206 of Title 36, unless there 18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. No person shall give and no person shall accept any fee, kickback, or thing of value pursuant to any agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, that business incident to or a part of a real estate settlement service involving a federally related mortgage loan shall be referred to any person.

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B. No person shall give and no person shall accept any portion, split, or percentage of any charge made or received for the rendering of a real estate settlement service in connection with a transaction involving a federally related mortgage loan other than for services actually performed.

6 C. Nothing in this section shall be construed as prohibiting7 the following:

8 1. The payment of a fee to an attorney-at-law for services 9 actually rendered or by a title company to its duly appointed agent 10 for services actually performed in the issuance of a policy of title 11 insurance or by a lender to its duly appointed agent for services 12 actually performed in the making of a loan;

The payment to any person of a bona fide salary or
 compensation or other payment for goods or facilities actually
 furnished or for services actually performed;

3. Payments pursuant to cooperative brokerage and referral
 arrangements or agreements between real estate agents and brokers;

18 4. Affiliated business arrangements so long as:

a. a disclosure is made of the existence of such an
 arrangement to the person being referred and, in
 connection with such referral, such person is provided
 a written estimate of the charge or range of charges

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generally made by the provider to which the person is referred:

- 3 (1) in the case of a face-to-face referral or a
  4 referral made in writing or by electronic media,
  5 at or before the time of the referral and
  6 compliance with this requirement in such case may
  7 be evidenced by a notation in a written,
  8 electronic, or similar system of records
  9 maintained in the regular course of business,
- 10 (2) in the case of a referral made by telephone within three (3) business days after the referral 11 by telephone, and in such case an abbreviated 12 13 verbal disclosure of the existence of the 14 arrangement and the fact that a written 15 disclosure will be provided within three (3) 16 business days shall be made to the person being 17 referred during the telephone referral, or
- 18 (3) in the case of a referral by a lender, including
  19 a referral by a lender to an affiliated lender,
  20 at the time the estimates required under 12
  21 U.S.C., Section 2604(c), are provided,
  22 notwithstanding divisions (1) and (2) of this
  23 subparagraph, and

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1 (4) any required written receipt of such disclosure 2 without regard to the manner of the disclosure 3 under this paragraph may be obtained at the 4 closing or settlement except that a person making 5 a face-to-face referral who provides the written 6 disclosure at or before the time of the referral 7 shall attempt to obtain any required written 8 receipt of such disclosure at such time; and if 9 the person being referred chooses not to 10 acknowledge the receipt of the disclosure at that 11 time, that fact shall be noted in the written, 12 electronic, or similar system of records 13 maintained in the regular course of business by 14 the person making the referral, 15 b. such person is not required to use any particular 16 provider of settlement services, and 17 the only thing of value that is received from the с. 18 arrangement, other than the payments permitted under 19 this subsection, is a return on the ownership interest 20 or franchise relationship; or 21 5. Such other payments or classes of payments or other 22 transfers as are specified in rules prescribed by the Insurance

23 Commissioner. For purposes of the preceding sentence, the following

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1 shall not be considered a violation of subparagraph b of paragraph 4
2 of this subsection:

a. any arrangement that requires a buyer, borrower, or
seller to pay for the services of an attorney, creditreporting agency, or real estate appraiser chosen by
the lender to represent the lender's interest in a
real estate transaction, or

8 any arrangement where an attorney or law firm b. 9 represents a client in a real estate transaction and 10 issues or arranges for the issuance of a policy of 11 title insurance in the transaction directly as agent 12 or through a separate corporate title insurance agency 13 that may be established by that attorney or law firm 14 and operated as an adjunct to the law practice of the attorney or law firm. 15

D. 1. Any person or persons who violate the provisions of this section shall be fined not more than Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both.

2. Any person or persons who violate the prohibitions or limitations of this section shall be jointly and severally liable to the person or persons charged for the settlement service involved in the violation in an amount equal to three times the amount of any charge paid for such settlement service.

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3. No person or persons shall be liable for a violation of the provisions of subparagraph a of paragraph 4 of subsection C of this section if such person or persons proves by a preponderance of the evidence that such violation was not intentional and resulted from a bona fide error, notwithstanding maintenance of procedures that are reasonably adapted to avoid such error.

7 4. The Insurance Commissioner may bring an action to enjoin8 violations of this section.

9 5. In any private action brought pursuant to this subsection, 10 the court may award to the prevailing party the court costs of the 11 action together with reasonable attorney fees.

6. No other provision of state law or rule that imposes more stringent limitations on affiliated business arrangements shall be construed as being inconsistent with this section.

15 SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5207 of Title 36, unless there 17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. No seller of property that will be purchased with the assistance of a federally related mortgage loan shall require directly or indirectly, as a condition to selling the property, that title insurance covering the property be purchased by the buyer from any particular title company.

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B. Any seller who violates the provisions of subsection A of this section shall be liable to the buyer in an amount equal to three times all charges made for such title insurance.

4 SECTION 8. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5208 of Title 36, unless there 6 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. A lender, in connection with a federally related mortgage
8 loan, may not require the borrower or prospective borrower:

9 1. To deposit in any escrow account which may be established in 10 connection with such loan for the purpose of assuring payment of 11 taxes, insurance premiums, or other charges with respect to the 12 property, in connection with the settlement, an aggregate sum (for 13 such purpose) in excess of a sum that will be sufficient to pay such 14 taxes, insurance premiums and other charges attributable to the period beginning on the last date on which each such charge would 15 16 have been paid under the normal lending practice of the lender and 17 local custom, provided that the selection of each such date 18 constitutes prudent lending practice, and ending on the due date of 19 its first full installment payment under the mortgage, plus one-20 sixth of the estimated total amount of such taxes, insurance 21 premiums and other charges to be paid on dates, as provided above, 22 during the ensuing twelve-month period; or

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2. To deposit in any such escrow account in any month beginning with the first full installment payment under the mortgage a sum for the purpose of assuring payment of taxes, insurance premiums and other charges with respect to the property in excess of the sum of:

6 one-twelfth of the total amount of the estimated a. 7 taxes, insurance premiums and other charges which are 8 reasonably anticipated to be paid on dates during the 9 ensuing twelve (12) months, which dates are in 10 accordance with the normal lending practice of the lender and local custom, provided that the selection 11 12 of each such date constitutes prudent lending 13 practice, and

14 such amount as is necessary to maintain an additional b. balance in such escrow account not to exceed one-sixth 15 16 of the estimated total amount of such taxes, insurance 17 premiums and other charges to be paid on dates, as 18 provided above, during the ensuing twelve-month 19 period; provided, however, that in the event the 20 lender determines there will be or is a deficiency, 21 the lender shall not be prohibited from requiring 22 additional monthly deposits in such escrow account to 23 avoid or eliminate such deficiency.

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B. If the terms of any federally related mortgage loan require the borrower to make payments to the servicer, as defined in 12 U.S.C., Section 2605(i), of the loan for deposit into an escrow account for the purpose of assuring payment of taxes, insurance premiums, and other charges with respect to the property, the servicer shall notify the borrower not less than annually of any shortage of funds in the escrow account.

8 С. Any servicer that has established an escrow 1. a. 9 account in connection with a federally related 10 mortgage loan shall submit to the borrower for 11 which the escrow account has been established a 12 statement clearly itemizing the estimated taxes, 13 insurance premiums, and other charges that are 14 reasonably anticipated to be paid from the escrow 15 account during the first twelve (12) months after 16 the establishment of the account and the 17 anticipated dates of such payments.

b. The statement required under subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this subsection shall be submitted to the borrower at closing with respect to the property for which the mortgage loan is made or not later than the expiration of the forty-five-

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1 day period beginning on the date of the 2 establishment of the escrow account. 3 Any servicer may submit the statement required с. 4 under subparagraph a of paragraph 1 of this 5 subsection to the borrower at closing and may 6 incorporate such statement in the uniform 7 settlement statement required under 12 U.S.C., 8 Section 2603. 9 2. Any servicer that has established or continued an a. 10 escrow account in connection with a federally related mortgage loan shall submit to the borrower for which 11 the escrow account has been established or continued a 12 13 statement clearly itemizing, for each period described 14 in subparagraph b of this paragraph during which the 15 servicer services the escrow account, the amount of 16 the borrower's current monthly payment, the portion of 17 the monthly payment being placed in the escrow 18 account, the total amount paid into the escrow account 19 during the period, the total amount paid out of the 20 escrow account during the period for taxes, insurance 21 premiums, and other charges, as separately identified, 22 and the balance in the escrow account at the 23 conclusion of the period.

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b. The statement required under subparagraph a of this
paragraph shall be submitted to the borrower not less
than once for each twelve-month period, the first such
period beginning on January 1, 2006, and shall be
submitted not more than thirty (30) days after the
conclusion of each such one-year period.

7 D. 1. In the case of each failure to submit a statement to a 8 borrower as required under subsection C of this section, the 9 Insurance Commissioner shall assess to the lender or escrow servicer 10 failing to submit the statement a civil penalty of not to exceed One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000.00) for each such failure, but the total 11 amount imposed on such lender or escrow servicer for all such 12 13 failures during any twelve-month period referred to in subsection C 14 of this section may not exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars 15 (\$100,000.00).

16 2. If any failure to which paragraph 1 of this subsection 17 applies is due to intentional disregard of the requirement to submit 18 the statement, then, with respect to such failure:

- a. the penalty imposed under paragraph 1 shall be One
  Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), and
- b. in the case of any penalty determined undersubparagraph a of this paragraph, the One Hundred

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1 Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00) limitation under 2 paragraph 1 of this subsection shall not apply. 3 A new section of law to be codified SECTION 9. NEW LAW in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5209 of Title 36, unless there 4 5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: 6 No fee shall be imposed or charge made upon any other person, as 7 a part of settlement costs or otherwise, by a lender in connection 8 with a federally related mortgage loan made by it or a loan for the 9 purchase of a mobile home, or by a servicer, as the term is defined 10 under 12 U.S.C., Section 2605(i), for or on account of the preparation and submission by such lender or servicer of the 11 12 statement or statements required in connection with such loan by 12 13 U.S.C., Section 2603, and subsection C of Section 8 of this act or by the Truth in Lending Act, 15 U.S.C., Section 1601 et seq. 14 A new section of law to be codified 15 SECTION 10. NEW LAW 16 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5210 of Title 36, unless there 17 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows: 18 Nothing in this act shall affect the validity or enforceability 19 of any sale or contract for the sale of real property or any loan, 20 loan agreement, mortgage, or lien made or arising in connection with

21 a federally related mortgage loan.

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1 SECTION 11. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 2 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5211 of Title 36, unless there 3 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

4 The Insurance Commissioner is authorized to promulgate such Α. 5 rules as are necessary to implement the provisions of this act and to make such interpretations, and to grant such reasonable 6 7 exemptions for classes of transactions, as may be necessary to 8 achieve the purposes of this act. Any such rules promulgated shall 9 be consistent with the Real Estate Settlement Procedures Act 10 (RESPA), 12 U.S.C., Section 2601 et seq., federal rules on RESPA and 11 rulings of the United States Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit 12 and the United States Supreme Court on RESPA.

B. No provision of this act or the laws of this state imposing any liability shall apply to any act done or omitted in good faith in conformity with any rule or interpretation thereof by the Commissioner or the Attorney General, notwithstanding that after such act or omission has occurred, such rule or interpretation is amended, rescinded, or determined by judicial or other authority to be invalid for any reason.

20 C. 1. The Commissioner may investigate any facts, conditions, 21 practices, or matters that may be deemed necessary or proper to aid 22 in the enforcement of the provisions of this act, in prescribing of 23 rules thereunder, or in securing information to serve as a basis for

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recommending further legislation concerning real estate settlement practices. To aid in the investigations, the Commissioner is authorized to hold such hearings, administer such oaths, and require by subpoena the attendance and testimony of such witnesses and production of such documents as the Commissioner deems advisable.

6 2. Any district court of the State of Oklahoma within the 7 jurisdiction of which an inquiry is carried on may, in the case of 8 contumacy or refusal to obey a subpoena of the Commissioner issued 9 under this section, issue an order requiring compliance therewith; 10 and any failure to obey such order of the court may be punished by 11 such court as a contempt thereof.

12 SECTION 12. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 13 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 5212 of Title 36, unless there 14 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

There is hereby created in the State Treasury a Revolving Fund 15 16 for the Insurance Commission. The revolving fund shall consist of 17 civil penalties pursuant to this act for operational expenses to 18 enforce the provisions of this act as approved by the Insurance 19 Commissioner. Expenditures from such revolving fund shall be made 20 pursuant to the laws of this state and statutes relating to the 21 office of the Insurance Commissioner. This revolving fund shall be 22 a continuing fund, not subject to fiscal year limitations, and shall

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be under the control and management of the office of the Insurance
 Commissioner.

3 SECTION 13. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 101 of Title 46, unless there is 5 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Oklahoma7 Residential Mortgage Fraud Act".

8 SECTION 14. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 102 of Title 46, unless there is 10 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 As used in this act:

"Mortgage lending process" means the process through which a 12 1. 13 person seeks or obtains a residential mortgage loan, including, but not limited to, solicitation, application, or origination, 14 negotiation of terms, third-party provider services, underwriting, 15 16 signing and closing and funding of the loan. Documents involved in 17 the mortgage lending process include, but are not limited to, 18 uniform residential loan applications or other loan applications, 19 appraisal reports, certificates of inspection and inspectors reports 20 and notes, HUD-1 settlement statements; supporting personal 21 documentation for loan applications, such as W-2 forms, 22 verifications of income and employment, bank statements, tax 23 returns, payroll stubs and any required disclosures;

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2. "Pattern of residential mortgage fraud" means one or more misstatement, misrepresentation or omission made during the mortgage lending process that involve two or more residential properties, which have the same or similar intents, results, accomplices, victims or methods of commission or otherwise are interrelated by distinguishing characteristics;

3. "Person" means a natural person, corporation, company,
limited liability company, partnership, trustee, association or any
other entity; and

10 4. "Residential mortgage loan" means a loan or agreement to 11 extend credit made to a person, which loan is secured by a deed to 12 secure debt, security deed, mortgage, security interest, deed of 13 trust or other document representing a security interest or lien upon any interest in one-to-four family residential property located 14 in Oklahoma, including the renewal or refinancing of any such loan. 15 16 SECTION 15. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 103 of Title 46, unless there is 18 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A person commits the offense of residential mortgage fraud when,
with the intent to defraud, such person:

21 1. Knowingly makes any deliberate misstatement,

22 misrepresentation or omission during the mortgage lending process

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with the intention that it be relied on by a mortgage lender,
 borrower or any other party to the mortgage lending process;

2. Knowingly uses or facilitates the use of any deliberate misstatement, misrepresentation or omission, knowing the same to contain a misstatement, misrepresentation or omission, during the mortgage lending process with the intention that it be relied on by a mortgage lender, borrower or any other party to the mortgage lending process;

8 lending process;

9 3. Receives any proceeds or any other funds in connection with 10 a residential mortgage closing that such person knew resulted from a 11 violation of paragraph 1 or 2 of this section;

Conspires to violate any of the provisions of paragraph 1, 2
 or 3 of this section; or

5. Files or causes to be filed with the official registrar of deeds of any county of this state any document such person knows to contain a deliberate misstatement, misrepresentation or omission.

An offense of residential mortgage fraud shall not be predicated solely upon information lawfully disclosed under federal disclosure laws, regulations and interpretations related to the mortgage lending process.

21 SECTION 16. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 104 of Title 46, unless there is 23 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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A. District attorneys and the Attorney General shall have the authority to conduct the criminal investigation and prosecution of all cases of residential mortgage fraud under this act.

4 In any investigation conducted pursuant to this section, a Β. 5 district attorney or the Attorney General may issue subpoenas or other process to any person believed to have information relevant to 6 7 the investigation, administer oaths, take sworn statements under 8 penalty of perjury and serve and execute search warrants. A 9 subpoena issued by a district attorney or the Attorney General shall 10 not be used for the purpose of compelling the recipient to furnish self incriminating evidence. 11

12 C. For the purpose of venue under this article, any violation 13 of this article shall be considered to have been committed:

In the county in which the residential property for which a
 mortgage loan is being sought is located;

16 2. In any county in which any act was performed in furtherance 17 of the violation;

18 3. In any county in which any person alleged to have violated 19 this article had control or possession of any proceeds of the 20 violation;

4. If a closing occurred, in any county in which the closing
 occurred; or

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5. In any county in which a document containing a deliberate misstatement, misrepresentation or omission is filed with the official registrar of deeds.

4 SECTION 17. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified 5 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 105 of Title 46, unless there is 6 created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Any person violating this article shall be guilty of a
felony and, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment for
not less than one year nor more than ten (10) years, by a fine not
to exceed Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00), or both.

B. If a violation of this article involves engaging or participating in a pattern of residential mortgage fraud or a conspiracy or endeavor to engage or participate in a pattern of residential mortgage fraud, such violation shall be punishable by imprisonment for not less than three (3) years nor more than twenty (20) years, by a fine not to exceed One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000.00), or both.

C. Each residential property transaction subject to a violation of this article shall constitute a separate offense and shall not merge with any other crimes set forth in this title.

D. All real and personal property of every kind used or intended for use in the course of, derived from, or realized through

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1 a violation of this article shall be subject to forfeiture to the 2 state.

E. The Attorney General or district attorney may institute civil proceedings in an appropriate district court on behalf of this state against any person committing a violation of this act. If a violation of this act is proven by a preponderance of the evidence in a civil proceeding, the district court may grant the following relief by entering an appropriate order of judgment:

9 1. Restitution for any persons aggrieved by the violation;
10 2. Payment of a civil penalty not to exceed One Hundred
11 Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) per violation;

3. The suspension or revocation of a license, permit or priorapproval granted to any person by an agency of the state;

14 4. Any appropriate injunctive relief; and

15 5. Attorney fees and investigative costs.

16 Civil penalties sued for and recovered by the Attorney General or a 17 district attorney shall be used for the furtherance of their duties. 18 SECTION 18. AMENDATORY 22 O.S. 2001, Section 1402, is

19 amended to read as follows:

20 Section 1402. As used in the Oklahoma Corrupt Organizations
21 Prevention Act:

22 1. "Beneficial interest" includes:

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a. the interest of a person as a beneficiary pursuant to
 a trust, in which the trustee holds legal title to
 personal or real property, or

b. the interest of a person as a beneficiary pursuant to
any other arrangement under which any other person
holds legal title to personal or real property for the
benefit of such person.

8 The term beneficial interest does not include the interest of a 9 stockholder in a corporation or the interest of a partner in either 10 a general or limited partnership;

2. "Enterprise" includes any individual, sole proprietorship,
 partnership, corporation, trust, governmental entity, or other legal
 entity, or any union, association, unincorporated association or
 group of persons, associated in fact although not a legal entity,
 involved in any lawful or unlawful project or undertaking;

3. "Innocent party" includes bona fide purchasers and victims;
4. "Lien notice" means the notice pursuant to the provisions of
Section 1412 of this title;

19 5. "Pattern of racketeering activity" means two or more20 occasions of conduct:

21 a. that include each of the following:

22 (1) constitute racketeering activity,

23 (2) are related to the affairs of the enterprise,

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1		(3)	are not isolated, and
2		(4)	are not so closely related to each other and
3			connected in point of time and place that they
4			constitute a single event, and
5	b.	where	e each of the following is present:
6		(1)	at least one of the occasions of conduct occurred
7			after November 1, 1988,
8		(2)	the last of the occasions of conduct occurred
9			within three (3) years, excluding any period of
10			imprisonment served by any person engaging in the
11			conduct, of a prior occasion of conduct, and
12		(3)	for the purposes of Section 1403 of this title
13			each of the occasions of conduct constituted a
14			felony pursuant to the laws of this state;
15	6. "Pecun	iary	value" means:
16	a.	anytł	ning of value in the form of money, a negotiable
17		inst	rument, or a commercial interest, or anything
18		else,	, the primary significance of which is economic
19		advar	ntage, or
20	b.	any d	other property or service that has a value in
21		exces	ss of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00);
22	7. "Perso	n" me	eans any individual or entity holding or capable
23	of holding a l	egal	or beneficial interest in property;

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8. "Personal property" includes any personal property, or any interest in such personal property, or any right, including bank accounts, debts, corporate stocks, patents or copyrights. Personal property and beneficial interest in personal property shall be deemed to be located where the trustee, the personal property, or the instrument evidencing the right is located;

9. "Principal" means a person who engages in conduct
constituting a violation of the Oklahoma Corrupt Organizations
Prevention Act or who is legally accountable for the conduct of
another who engages in a violation of the Oklahoma Corrupt
Organizations Prevention Act;

10. "Racketeering activity" means engaging in, attempting to 12 13 engage in, conspiring to engage in, or soliciting, coercing, or 14 intimidating another person to engage in any conduct which is chargeable or indictable as constituting a felony violation of one 15 16 or more of the following provisions of the Oklahoma Statutes, 17 regardless of whether such act is in fact charged or indicted: 18 relating to homicide pursuant to the provisions of a. Sections 651, 652, 653, 701.7, 701.8, 701.16, 711 or 19 716 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes or relating 20 21 to concealment of homicidal death pursuant to the 22 provisions of Section 543 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma 23 Statutes,

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- b. relating to kidnapping pursuant to the provisions of
   Sections 741, 745, 891 or 1119 of Title 21 of the
   Oklahoma Statutes,
- 4 c. relating to sex offenses pursuant to the provisions of
  5 Sections 886, 888, 1021, 1021.2, 1021.4, 1024.2,
  6 1040.51, 1111, 1111.1, 1114 or 1123 of Title 21 of the
  7 Oklahoma Statutes,
- 8 d. relating to bodily harm pursuant to the provisions of
  9 Sections 645, 650, 650.2, 1289.16, 1302, 1303 or
  10 1767.1 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- e. relating to theft, where the offense constitutes a
  felony, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1704,
  1707, 1708, 1709, 1710, 1711, 1713, 1716, 1719, 1720,
  1721, 1722, 1723 or 1731 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
  Statutes,
- 16 f. relating to forgery pursuant to the provisions of
  17 Sections 1561, 1562, 1571, 1572, 1574, 1575, 1577,
  18 1578, 1579, 1580, 1581, 1582, 1583, 1584, 1585, 1586,
  19 1587, 1588, 1589, 1590, 1591 or 1593 of Title 21 of
  20 the Oklahoma Statutes,
- g. relating to robbery pursuant to the provisions of
  Sections 797, 800 or 801 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
  Statutes,

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- h. relating to burglary pursuant to the provisions of
   Sections 1431, 1435 or 1437 of Title 21 of the
   Oklahoma Statutes,
- i. relating to arson pursuant to the provisions of
  Sections 1368, 1401, 1402, 1403 or 1404 of Title 21 of
  the Oklahoma Statutes,
- j. relating to use or possession of a firearm or other
  offensive weapon while committing or attempting to
  commit a felony pursuant to the provisions of Sections
  1287, 1289.20 or 1289.21 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
  Statutes,
- 12
   k. relating to gambling pursuant to the provisions of

   13
   Sections 941, 942, 944, 945, 946, 948, 954, 956, 957,

   14
   962, 969, 970, 971, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987,

   15
   991, or 992, 995.7, 995.8, 995.11 or 995.12 of Title

   16
   21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- relating to bribery in contests pursuant to the
   provisions of Sections 399 or 400 of Title 21 of the
   Oklahoma Statutes,
- 20
   m. relating to interference with public officers pursuant

   21
   to the provisions of Sections 434, 436, 437, 438, 439,

   22
   440, 441, 443, 444, 521, 522, 532, 540, 543, 545 or

   23
   546 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

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- n. relating to interference with judicial procedure
   pursuant to the provisions of Sections 388, 453, 455,
   456, 491, 496 or 504 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
   Statutes,
- o. relating to official misconduct pursuant to the
  provisions of Sections 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385,
  386, 389, 390, 950 or 976 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma
  Statutes,
- 9 p. relating to the Uniform Controlled Dangerous
  10 Substances Act, where the offense constitutes a
  11 felony, pursuant to the provisions of Section 2-101 et
  12 seq. of Title 63 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- q. relating to automobile theft pursuant to the
  provisions of Sections 4-102, 4-103, 4-107, 4-108,
  4-109 or 4-110 of Title 47 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
  r. relating to embezzlement pursuant to the provisions of
- 17Section 1412 of Title 6 of the Oklahoma Statutes,18Section 641 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes,19Sections 341, 531, or 1451, 1452, 1453, 1454, 1455,201456, 1463 or 1464 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma21Statutes, Section 163.4 of Title 37 of the Oklahoma22Statutes, Section 25 of Title 41 of the Oklahoma23Statutes, Section 114 of Title 64 of the Oklahoma

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- 1Statutes or Sections 506 or Section1361 of Title 682of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- s. relating to extortion, where the offense constitutes a
  felony, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1304,
  1481, 1482, 1485, 1486 or 1488 of Title 21 of the
  Oklahoma Statutes,
- 7 relating to fraud, where the offense constitutes a t. 8 felony, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 208.6, 9 208.7 or 208.8 of Title 3A of the Oklahoma Statutes, 10 Section 552.18 of Title 18 of the Oklahoma Statutes, Sections 358, 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416, 11 1503, 1521, 1541.1, 1541.3, 1542, 1543, 1544, 1550.2, 12 13 1550.22, 1550.23, 1550.24, 1550.25, 1550.26, 1550.27, 14 1550.28, 1550.29, 1550.30, 1550.31, 1550.32, 1632, 1635 or 1662 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes, 15 16 Sections 101, 102, 103, 104, and 105 of Title 46 of 17 the Oklahoma Statutes, Section 243 of Title 56 of the 18 Oklahoma Statutes, or Section 604 of Title 62 of the 19 Oklahoma Statutes,

20 u. relating to conspiracy, where the offense constitutes
21 a felony, pursuant to the provisions of Sections 421,
22 422 or 424 of Title 21 of the Oklahoma Statutes,

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- v. relating to prostitution, pornography or obscenity
   pursuant to the provisions of Sections 1021, 1040.52,
   1081, 1085, 1086, 1087 or 1088 of Title 21 of the
   Oklahoma Statutes,
- 5 w. relating to the Oklahoma Alcoholic Beverage Control 6 Act, where the offense constitutes a felony, pursuant 7 to the provisions of Section 506.1 et seq. of Title 37 8 of the Oklahoma Statutes,
- 9 x. relating to the Oklahoma Securities Act, where the 10 offense constitutes a felony, pursuant to the 11 provisions of Section 1 et seq. of Title 71 of the 12 Oklahoma Statutes, or
- y. relating to trafficking in children pursuant to the
  provisions of Sections 866 and 867 of Title 21 of the
  Oklahoma Statutes;

In addition, "racketeering activity" may be proven by proof of engaging in, attempting to engage in, conspiring to engage in, or soliciting, coercing, or intimidating another person to engage in any of the above described conduct within another state, regardless of whether said conduct is chargeable or indictable in that state. 11. "Real property" means any real property or any interest in real property, including any lease of, or mortgage upon real

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property. Real property and beneficial interest in real property
 shall be deemed to be located where the real property is located;

3 12. "Trustee" includes trustees, a corporate as well as a 4 natural person and a successor or substitute trustee in accordance 5 with the Oklahoma Trust Act, Section 175.1 et seq. of Title 60 of 6 the Oklahoma Statutes; and

7 13. "Unlawful debt" means any money or other thing of value 8 constituting principal or interest of a debt that is unenforceable 9 in the courts of Oklahoma, because the debt was incurred or contracted in violation of a law relating to the business of 10 11 gambling activity or in violation of federal or state law but does 12 not include any debt owed to a bank, savings and loan association, 13 credit union or supervised lender licensed by the Oklahoma Administrator of Consumer Credit or to any debt referred or assigned 14 to a debt collection agency, which referral or assignment is 15 16 accepted in good faith by the debt collection agency as a debt 17 collectible under the Uniform Commercial Code or other laws of this state and enforceable in the courts of this state. 18

SECTION 19. This act shall become effective July 1, 2006.
SECTION 20. It being immediately necessary for the preservation
of the public peace, health and safety, an emergency is hereby
declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and
be in full force from and after its passage and approval.

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COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS AND LABOR, dated 2-27-06
 DO PASS, As Amended and Coauthored.

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