

2005 ASSEMBLY BILL 1036

1 **AN ACT** *to amend* 402.512 (1) (b), 440.92 (3) (c) 3., 565.25 (5) (b) 3. and 707.49
2 (4); *to repeal and recreate* chapter 405; and *to create* 401.105 (2) (bm) of the
3 statutes; **relating to:** adopting revised Article 5 of the Uniform Commercial
4 Code, concerning letters of credit.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

- 5 **SECTION 1.** 401.105 (2) (bm) of the statutes is created to read:
6 401.105 (2) (bm) Section 405.116 on letters of credit.
- 7 **SECTION 2.** 402.512 (1) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:
8 402.512 (1) (b) Despite tender of the required documents the circumstances
9 would justify injunction against honor under s. ~~405.114~~ 405.109 (2).
- 10 **SECTION 3.** Chapter 405 of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

CHAPTER 405

UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE —

LETTERS OF CREDIT

405.101 Short title. This chapter may be cited as uniform commercial code — letters of credit.

405.102 Definitions. (1) In this chapter:

(a) “Adviser” means a person who, at the request of the issuer, a confirmer, or another adviser, notifies, or requests another adviser to notify, the beneficiary that a letter of credit has been issued, confirmed, or amended.

(b) “Applicant” means a person at whose request or for whose account a letter of credit is issued. The term includes a person who requests an issuer to issue a letter of credit on behalf of another if the person making the request undertakes an obligation to reimburse the issuer.

(c) “Beneficiary” means a person who under the terms of a letter of credit is entitled to have its complying presentation honored. The term includes a person to whom drawing rights have been transferred under a transferable letter of credit.

(d) “Confirmer” means a nominated person who undertakes, at the request or with the consent of the issuer, to honor a presentation under a letter of credit issued by another.

(e) “Dishonor” of a letter of credit means failure timely to honor or to take an interim action, such as acceptance of a draft, that may be required by the letter of credit.

(f) “Document” means a draft or other demand, document of title, investment security, certificate, invoice, or other record, statement, or representation of fact, law, right, or opinion that is presented in a written or other medium permitted by the

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1 letter of credit or, unless prohibited by the letter of credit, by the standard practice
2 referred to in s. 405.108 (5) and that is capable of being examined for compliance with
3 the terms and conditions of the letter of credit. A document may not be oral.

4 (g) “Good faith” means honesty in fact in the conduct or transaction concerned.

5 (h) “Honor” of a letter of credit means performance of the issuer’s undertaking
6 in the letter of credit to pay or deliver an item of value. Unless the letter of credit
7 otherwise provides, honor occurs in any of the following circumstances:

8 1. Upon payment.

9 2. If the letter of credit provides for acceptance, upon acceptance of a draft and,
10 at maturity, its payment.

11 3. If the letter of credit provides for incurring a deferred obligation, upon
12 incurring the obligation and, at maturity, its performance.

13 (i) “Issuer” means a bank or other person that issues a letter of credit, but does
14 not include an individual who makes an engagement for personal, family, or
15 household purposes.

16 (j) “Letter of credit” means a definite undertaking that satisfies the
17 requirements of s. 405.104 by an issuer to a beneficiary at the request or for the
18 account of an applicant or, in the case of a financial institution, to itself or for its own
19 account, to honor a documentary presentation by payment or delivery of an item of
20 value.

21 (k) “Nominated person” means a person whom the issuer:

22 1. Designates or authorizes to pay, accept, negotiate, or otherwise give value
23 under a letter of credit; and

24 2. Undertakes by agreement or custom and practice to reimburse.

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1 (L) “Presentation” means delivery of a document to an issuer or nominated
2 person for honor or giving of value under a letter of credit.

3 (m) “Presenter” means a person making a presentation as or on behalf of a
4 beneficiary or nominated person.

5 (n) “Record” means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium, or that
6 is stored in an electronic or other medium, and is retrievable in perceivable form.

7 (o) “Successor of a beneficiary” means a person who succeeds to substantially
8 all of the rights of a beneficiary by operation of law, including a corporation with or
9 into which the beneficiary has been merged or consolidated, an administrator,
10 executor, personal representative, trustee in bankruptcy, debtor in possession,
11 liquidator, and receiver.

12 (2) Definitions in other chapters applying to this chapter and the sections in
13 which they appear are:

14 (a) “Accept” or “acceptance”, s. 403.409.

15 (b) “Value”, ss. 403.303 and 404.211

16 (3) Chapter 401 contains certain additional general definitions and principles
17 of construction and interpretation applicable throughout this chapter.

18 **405.103 Scope. (1)** This chapter applies to letters of credit and to certain
19 rights and obligations arising out of transactions involving letters of credit.

20 (2) The statement of a rule in this chapter does not by itself require, imply, or
21 negate application of the same or a different rule to a situation not provided for, or
22 to a person not specified, in this chapter.

23 (3) With the exception of this subsection, subs. (1) and (4), ss. 405.102 (1) (i) and
24 (j), 405.106 (4) and 405.114 (4), and except to the extent prohibited in ss. 401.102 (3)
25 and 405.117 (4), the effect of this chapter may be varied by agreement or by a

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1 provision stated or incorporated by reference in an undertaking. A term in an
2 agreement or undertaking generally excusing liability or generally limiting
3 remedies for failure to perform obligations is not sufficient to vary obligations
4 prescribed by this chapter.

5 (4) Rights and obligations of an issuer to a beneficiary or a nominated person
6 under a letter of credit are independent of the existence, performance, or
7 nonperformance of a contract or arrangement out of which the letter of credit arises
8 or which underlies it, including contracts or arrangements between the issuer and
9 the applicant and between the applicant and the beneficiary.

10 **405.104 Formal requirements.** A letter of credit, confirmation, advice,
11 transfer, amendment, or cancellation may be issued in any form that is a record and
12 is authenticated by any of the following methods:

13 (1) A signature.

14 (2) In accordance with the agreement of the parties or the standard practice
15 referred to in s. 405.108 (5).

16 **405.105 Consideration.** Consideration is not required to issue, amend,
17 transfer, or cancel a letter of credit, advice, or confirmation.

18 **405.106 Issuance, amendment, cancellation, and duration.** (1) A letter
19 of credit is issued and becomes enforceable according to its terms against the issuer
20 when the issuer sends or otherwise transmits it to the person requested to advise or
21 to the beneficiary. A letter of credit is revocable only if it so provides.

22 (2) After a letter of credit is issued, rights and obligations of a beneficiary,
23 applicant, confirmer, and issuer are not affected by an amendment or cancellation
24 to which that person has not consented except to the extent the letter of credit

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1 provides that it is revocable or that the issuer may amend or cancel the letter of credit
2 without that consent.

3 (3) If there is no stated expiration date or other provision that determines its
4 duration, a letter of credit expires one year after its stated date of issuance or, if none
5 is stated, after the date on which it is issued.

6 (4) A letter of credit that states that it is perpetual expires 5 years after its
7 stated date of issuance, or if none is stated, after the date on which it is issued.

8 **405.107 Confirmer, nominated person, and adviser. (1)** A confirmer is
9 directly obligated on a letter of credit and has the rights and obligations of an issuer
10 to the extent of its confirmation. The confirmer also has rights against and
11 obligations to the issuer as if the issuer were an applicant and the confirmer had
12 issued the letter of credit at the request and for the account of the issuer.

13 (2) A nominated person who is not a confirmer is not obligated to honor or
14 otherwise give value for a presentation.

15 (3) A person requested to advise may decline to act as an adviser. An adviser
16 that is not a confirmer is not obligated to honor or give value for a presentation. An
17 adviser undertakes to the issuer and to the beneficiary accurately to advise the terms
18 of the letter of credit, confirmation, amendment, or advice received by that person
19 and undertakes to the beneficiary to check the apparent authenticity of the request
20 to advise. Even if the advice is inaccurate, the letter of credit, confirmation, or
21 amendment is enforceable as issued.

22 (4) A person who notifies a transferee beneficiary of the terms of a letter of
23 credit, confirmation, amendment, or advice has the rights and obligations of an
24 adviser under sub. (3). The terms in the notice to the transferee beneficiary may
25 differ from the terms in any notice to the transferor beneficiary to the extent

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1 permitted by the letter of credit, confirmation, amendment, or advice received by the
2 person who so notifies.

3 **405.108 Issuer's rights and obligations. (1)** Except as otherwise provided
4 in s. 405.109, an issuer shall honor a presentation that, as determined by the
5 standard practice referred to in sub. (5), appears on its face strictly to comply with
6 the terms and conditions of the letter of credit. Except as otherwise provided in s.
7 405.113 and unless otherwise agreed with the applicant, an issuer shall dishonor a
8 presentation that does not appear so to comply.

9 **(2)** An issuer has a reasonable time after presentation, but not beyond the end
10 of the 7th business day of the issuer after the day of its receipt of documents, to do
11 any of the following:

12 (a) To honor.

13 (b) If the letter of credit provides for honor to be completed more than 7 business
14 days after presentation, to accept a draft or incur a deferred obligation.

15 (c) To give notice to the presenter of discrepancies in the presentation.

16 **(3)** Except as otherwise provided in sub. (4), an issuer is precluded from
17 asserting as a basis for dishonor any discrepancy if timely notice is not given, or any
18 discrepancy not stated in the notice if timely notice is given.

19 **(4)** Failure to give the notice specified in sub. (2) or to mention fraud, forgery,
20 or expiration in the notice does not preclude the issuer from asserting as a basis for
21 dishonor fraud or forgery as described in s. 405.109 (1) or expiration of the letter of
22 credit before presentation.

23 **(5)** An issuer shall observe standard practice of financial institutions that
24 regularly issue letters of credit. Determination of the standard practice is a matter

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1 of interpretation for the court. The court shall offer the parties a reasonable
2 opportunity to present evidence of the standard practice.

3 **(6)** An issuer is not responsible for any of the following:

4 (a) The performance or nonperformance of the underlying contract,
5 arrangement, or transaction.

6 (b) An act or omission of others.

7 (c) Observance or knowledge of the usage of a particular trade other than the
8 standard practice referred to in sub. (5).

9 **(7)** If an undertaking constituting a letter of credit contains nondocumentary
10 conditions, an issuer shall disregard the nondocumentary conditions and treat them
11 as if they were not stated.

12 **(8)** An issuer that has dishonored a presentation shall return the documents
13 or hold them at the disposal of, and send advice to that effect to, the presenter.

14 **(9)** An issuer that has honored a presentation as permitted or required by this
15 chapter:

16 (a) Is entitled to be reimbursed by the applicant in immediately available funds
17 not later than the date of its payment of funds;

18 (b) Takes the documents free of claims of the beneficiary or presenter;

19 (c) Is precluded from asserting a right of recourse on a draft under ss. 403.414
20 and 403.415;

21 (d) Except as otherwise provided in ss. 405.110 and 405.117, is precluded from
22 restitution of money paid or other value given by mistake to the extent the mistake
23 concerns discrepancies in the documents or tender that are apparent on the face of
24 the presentation; and

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1 (e) Is discharged to the extent of its performance under the letter of credit
2 unless the issuer honored a presentation in which a required signature of a
3 beneficiary was forged.

4 **405.109 Fraud and forgery. (1)** If a presentation is made that appears on
5 its face strictly to comply with the terms and conditions of the letter of credit, but a
6 required document is forged or materially fraudulent, or honor of the presentation
7 would facilitate a material fraud by the beneficiary on the issuer or applicant:

8 (a) The issuer shall honor the presentation, if honor is demanded by any of the
9 following:

10 1. A nominated person that has given value in good faith and without notice
11 of forgery or material fraud.

12 2. A confirmer that has honored its confirmation in good faith.

13 3. A holder in due course of a draft drawn under the letter of credit that was
14 taken after acceptance by the issuer or nominated person.

15 4. An assignee of the issuer's or nominated person's deferred obligation that
16 was taken for value and without notice of forgery or material fraud after the
17 obligation was incurred by the issuer or nominated person.

18 (b) The issuer, acting in good faith, may honor or dishonor the presentation in
19 any case not described under par. (a).

20 **(2)** If an applicant claims that a required document is forged or materially
21 fraudulent or that honor of the presentation would facilitate a material fraud by the
22 beneficiary on the issuer or applicant, a court of competent jurisdiction may
23 temporarily or permanently enjoin the issuer from honoring a presentation or grant
24 similar relief against the issuer or other persons only if the court finds that all of the
25 following conditions are met:

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1 (a) The relief is not prohibited under the law applicable to an accepted draft or
2 deferred obligation incurred by the issuer.

3 (b) A beneficiary, issuer, or nominated person who may be adversely affected
4 is adequately protected against loss that it may suffer because the relief is granted.

5 (c) All of the conditions to entitle a person to the relief under the law of this state
6 have been met.

7 (d) On the basis of the information submitted to the court, the applicant is more
8 likely than not to succeed under its claim of forgery or material fraud and the person
9 demanding honor does not qualify for protection under sub. (1) (a).

10 **405.110 Warranties. (1)** If its presentation is honored, the beneficiary
11 warrants all of the following:

12 (a) To the issuer, any other person to whom presentation is made, and the
13 applicant, that there is no fraud or forgery of the kind described in s. 405.109 (1).

14 (b) To the applicant, that the drawing does not violate any agreement between
15 the applicant and beneficiary or any other agreement intended by them to be
16 augmented by the letter of credit.

17 **(2)** The warranties in sub. (1) are in addition to warranties arising under chs.
18 403, 404, 407, and 408 because of the presentation or transfer of documents covered
19 by any of those chapters.

20 **405.111 Remedies. (1)** If an issuer wrongfully dishonors or repudiates its
21 obligation to pay money under a letter of credit before presentation, the beneficiary,
22 successor, or nominated person presenting on its own behalf may recover from the
23 issuer the amount that is the subject of the dishonor or repudiation. If the issuer's
24 obligation under the letter of credit is not for the payment of money, the claimant may
25 obtain specific performance or, at the claimant's election, recover an amount equal

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1 to the value of performance from the issuer. In either case, the claimant may also
2 recover incidental but not consequential damages. The claimant is not obligated to
3 take action to avoid damages that might be due from the issuer under this
4 subsection. If, although not obligated to do so, the claimant avoids damages, the
5 claimant's recovery from the issuer must be reduced by the amount of damages
6 avoided. The issuer has the burden of proving the amount of damages avoided. In
7 the case of repudiation the claimant need not present any document.

8 **(2)** If an issuer wrongfully dishonors a draft or demand presented under a letter
9 of credit or honors a draft or demand in breach of its obligation to the applicant, the
10 applicant may recover damages resulting from the breach, including incidental but
11 not consequential damages, less any amount saved as a result of the breach.

12 **(3)** If an adviser or nominated person other than a confirmer breaches an
13 obligation under this chapter or an issuer breaches an obligation not covered in sub.
14 (1) or (2), a person to whom the obligation is owed may recover damages resulting
15 from the breach, including incidental but not consequential damages, less any
16 amount saved as a result of the breach. To the extent of the confirmation, a confirmer
17 has the liability of an issuer specified in this subsection and subs. (1) and (2).

18 **(4)** An issuer, nominated person, or adviser who is found liable under sub. (1),
19 (2), or (3) shall pay interest on the amount owed thereunder from the date of wrongful
20 dishonor or other appropriate date.

21 **(5)** Reasonable attorney's fees and other expenses of litigation shall be awarded
22 to the prevailing party in an action in which a remedy is sought under this chapter.

23 **(6)** Damages that would otherwise be payable by a party for breach of an
24 obligation under this chapter may be liquidated by agreement or undertaking, but
25 only in an amount or by a formula that is reasonable in light of the harm anticipated.

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1 **405.112 Transfer of letter of credit. (1)** Except as otherwise provided in
2 s. 405.113, unless a letter of credit provides that it is transferable, the right of a
3 beneficiary to draw or otherwise demand performance under a letter of credit may
4 not be transferred.

5 **(2)** Even if a letter of credit provides that it is transferable, the issuer may
6 refuse to recognize or carry out a transfer if any of the following conditions are met:

7 (a) The transfer would violate applicable law.

8 (b) The transferor or transferee has failed to comply with any requirement
9 stated in the letter of credit or any other requirement relating to transfer imposed
10 by the issuer which is within the standard practice referred to in s. 405.108 (5) or is
11 otherwise reasonable under the circumstances.

12 **405.113 Transfer by operation of law. (1)** A successor of a beneficiary may
13 consent to amendments, sign and present documents, and receive payment or other
14 items of value in the name of the beneficiary without disclosing its status as a
15 successor.

16 **(2)** A successor of a beneficiary may consent to amendments, sign and present
17 documents, and receive payment or other items of value in its own name as the
18 disclosed successor of the beneficiary. Except as otherwise provided in sub. (5), an
19 issuer shall recognize a disclosed successor of a beneficiary as beneficiary in full
20 substitution for its predecessor upon compliance with the requirements for
21 recognition by the issuer of a transfer of drawing rights by operation of law under the
22 standard practice referred to in s. 405.108 (5) or, in the absence of such a practice,
23 compliance with other reasonable procedures sufficient to protect the issuer.

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1 **(3)** An issuer is not obliged to determine whether a purported successor is a
2 successor of a beneficiary or whether the signature of a purported successor is
3 genuine or authorized.

4 **(4)** Honor of a purported successor's apparently complying presentation under
5 sub. (1) or (2) has the consequences specified in s. 405.108 (9) even if the purported
6 successor is not the successor of a beneficiary. Documents signed in the name of the
7 beneficiary or of a disclosed successor by a person who is neither the beneficiary nor
8 the successor of the beneficiary are forged documents for the purposes of s. 405.109.

9 **(5)** An issuer whose rights of reimbursement are not covered by sub. (4) or
10 substantially similar law and any confirmer or nominated person may decline to
11 recognize a presentation under sub. (2).

12 **(6)** A beneficiary whose name is changed after the issuance of a letter of credit
13 has the same rights and obligations as a successor of a beneficiary under this section.

14 **405.114 Assignment of proceeds. (1)** In this section, "proceeds of a letter
15 of credit" means the cash, check, accepted draft, or other item of value paid or
16 delivered upon honor or giving of value by the issuer or any nominated person under
17 the letter of credit. The term does not include a beneficiary's drawing rights or
18 documents presented by the beneficiary.

19 **(2)** A beneficiary may assign its right to part or all of the proceeds of a letter
20 of credit. The beneficiary may do so before presentation as a present assignment of
21 its right to receive proceeds contingent upon its compliance with the terms and
22 conditions of the letter of credit.

23 **(3)** An issuer or nominated person need not recognize an assignment of
24 proceeds of a letter of credit until it consents to the assignment.

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1 **(4)** An issuer or nominated person has no obligation to give or withhold its
2 consent to an assignment of proceeds of a letter of credit, but consent may not be
3 unreasonably withheld if the assignee possesses and exhibits the letter of credit and
4 presentation of the letter of credit is a condition to honor.

5 **(5)** Rights of a transferee beneficiary or nominated person are independent of
6 the beneficiary's assignment of the proceeds of a letter of credit and are superior to
7 the assignee's right to the proceeds.

8 **(6)** Neither the rights recognized by this section between an assignee and an
9 issuer, transferee beneficiary, or nominated person nor the issuer's or nominated
10 person's payment of proceeds to an assignee or a third person affects the rights
11 between the assignee and any person other than the issuer, transferee beneficiary,
12 or nominated person. The mode of creating and perfecting a security interest in or
13 granting an assignment of a beneficiary's rights to proceeds is governed by ch. 409
14 or other law. Against persons other than the issuer, transferee beneficiary, or
15 nominated person, the rights and obligations arising upon the creation of a security
16 interest or other assignment of a beneficiary's right to proceeds and its perfection are
17 governed by ch. 409 or other law.

18 **405.115 Statute of limitations.** An action to enforce a right or obligation
19 arising under this chapter must be commenced within one year after the expiration
20 date of the relevant letter of credit or one year after the date the cause of action
21 accrues, whichever occurs later. A cause of action accrues when the breach occurs,
22 regardless of the aggrieved party's lack of knowledge of the breach.

23 **405.116 Choice of law and forum. (1)** The liability of an issuer, nominated
24 person, or adviser for action or omission is governed by the law of the jurisdiction
25 chosen by an agreement in the form of a record signed or otherwise authenticated by

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1 the affected parties in the manner provided in s. 405.104 or by a provision in the
2 person's letter of credit, confirmation, or other undertaking. The jurisdiction whose
3 law is chosen need not bear any relation to the transaction.

4 **(2)** Unless sub. (1) applies, the liability of an issuer, nominated person, or
5 adviser for action or omission is governed by the law of the jurisdiction in which the
6 person is located. The person is considered to be located at the address indicated in
7 the person's undertaking. If more than one address is indicated, the person is
8 considered to be located at the address from which the person's undertaking was
9 issued. For the purpose of jurisdiction, choice of law, and recognition of interbranch
10 letters of credit, but not enforcement of a judgment, all branches of a bank are
11 considered separate juridical entities and a bank is considered to be located at the
12 place where its relevant branch is considered to be located under this subsection.

13 **(3)** Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the liability of an issuer,
14 nominated person, or adviser is governed by any rules of custom or practice, such as
15 the Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits, to which the letter of
16 credit, confirmation, or other undertaking is expressly made subject. If this chapter
17 would govern the liability of an issuer, nominated person, or adviser under sub. (1)
18 or (2), if the relevant undertaking incorporates rules of custom or practice, and if
19 there is conflict between this chapter and those rules as applied to that undertaking,
20 those rules govern except to the extent of any conflict with the nonvariable provisions
21 specified in s. 405.103 (3).

22 **(4)** If there is conflict between this chapter and ch. 403, 404, 409, or 410, this
23 chapter governs.

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1 **(5)** The forum for settling disputes arising out of an undertaking within this
2 chapter may be chosen in the manner and with the binding effect that governing law
3 may be chosen in accordance with sub. (1).

4 **405.117 Subrogation of issuer, applicant, and nominated person. (1)**

5 An issuer that honors a beneficiary's presentation is subrogated to the rights of the
6 beneficiary to the same extent as if the issuer were a secondary obligor of the
7 underlying obligation owed to the beneficiary and of the applicant to the same extent
8 as if the issuer were the secondary obligor of the underlying obligation owed to the
9 applicant.

10 **(2)** An applicant that reimburses an issuer is subrogated to the rights of the
11 issuer against any beneficiary, presenter, or nominated person to the same extent as
12 if the applicant were the secondary obligor of the obligations owed to the issuer and
13 has the rights of subrogation of the issuer to the rights of the beneficiary stated in
14 sub. (1).

15 **(3)** A nominated person who pays or gives value against a draft or demand
16 presented under a letter of credit is subrogated to the rights of all of the following:

17 (a) The issuer against the applicant to the same extent as if the nominated
18 person were a secondary obligor of the obligation owed to the issuer by the applicant.

19 (b) The beneficiary to the same extent as if the nominated person were a
20 secondary obligor of the underlying obligation owed to the beneficiary.

21 (c) The applicant to same extent as if the nominated person were a secondary
22 obligor of the underlying obligation owed to the applicant.

23 **(4)** Notwithstanding any agreement or term to the contrary, the rights of
24 subrogation stated in subs. (1) and (2) do not arise until the issuer honors the letter
25 of credit or otherwise pays and the rights in sub. (3) do not arise until the nominated

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1 person pays or otherwise gives value. Until then, the issuer, nominated person, and
2 the applicant do not derive under this section present or prospective rights forming
3 the basis of a claim, defense, or excuse.

4 **405.118 Security interest of issuer or nominated person. (1)** An issuer
5 or nominated person has a security interest in a document presented under a letter
6 of credit to the extent that the issuer or nominated person honors or gives value for
7 the presentation.

8 **(2)** So long as and to the extent that an issuer or nominated person has not been
9 reimbursed or has not otherwise recovered the value given with respect to a security
10 interest in a document under sub. (1), the security interest continues and is subject
11 to ch. 409, but:

12 (a) A security agreement is not necessary to make the security interest
13 enforceable under s. 409.203 (2) (c);

14 (b) If the document is presented in a medium other than a written or other
15 tangible medium, the security interest is perfected; and

16 (c) If the document is presented in a written or other tangible medium and is
17 not a certificated security, a chattel paper, a document of title, an instrument, or a
18 letter of credit, the security interest is perfected and has priority over a conflicting
19 security interest in the document so long as the debtor does not have possession of
20 the document.

21 **SECTION 4.** 440.92 (3) (c) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

22 440.92 **(3)** (c) 3. The preneed seller files with the department a bond furnished
23 by a surety company authorized to do business in this state or files with the
24 department and maintains an irrevocable letter of credit from a financial institution

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1 and the amount of the bond or letter of credit is sufficient to secure the cost to the
2 cemetery authority of constructing the mausoleum.

3 **SECTION 5.** 565.25 (5) (b) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 565.25 (5) (b) 3. The filing with the department and maintenance of an
5 irrevocable letter of credit payable to and for the benefit of the department, in an
6 amount required by the department.

7 **SECTION 6.** 707.49 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

8 707.49 (4) SURETY BOND AND OTHER OPTIONS. Instead of placing deposits in an
9 escrow account, a developer may obtain a surety bond issued by a company
10 authorized to do business in this state, or obtain and maintain an irrevocable letter
11 of credit or a similar arrangement, in an amount which at all times is not less than
12 the amount of the deposits otherwise subject to the escrow requirements of this
13 section. The bond, letter of credit or similar arrangement shall be filed with the
14 department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection and made payable to the
15 department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection for the benefit of
16 aggrieved parties.

17 **SECTION 7. Initial applicability.**

18 (1) This act first applies to a letter of credit that is issued on the effective date
19 of this subsection.

20 (2) This act first applies to a transaction arising out of or associated with a letter
21 of credit that was issued on the effective date of this subsection and to the rights,
22 obligations, and interests flowing from such a transaction.

23 **SECTION 8. Effective date.**

24 (1) This act takes effect on the first day of the 3rd month following publication.

25

(END)