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## **Consumer Protection Committee**

## Filed: 2/14/2006

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1	AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5376
2	AMENDMENT NO Amend House Bill 5376 by replacing
3	everything after the enacting clause with the following:
4	"Section 5. The Business Corporation Act of 1983 is amended
5	by changing Sections 6.15, 8.75, 11.70, and 12.56 as follows:
6	(805 ILCS 5/6.15) (from Ch. 32, par. 6.15)
7	Sec. 6.15. Issuance of fractional shares or scrip. A
8	corporation may, but shall not be obliged to, issue a
9	certificate for a fractional share, and, by action of its board
10	of directors, may in lieu thereof, pay cash equal to the <u>fair</u>
11	value of said fractional share, or issue scrip in registered or
12	bearer form which shall entitle the holder to receive a
13	certificate for a full share upon the surrender of such scrip
14	aggregating a full share. A certificate for a fractional share
15	shall, but scrip shall not unless otherwise provided therein,
16	entitle the holder to exercise fractional voting rights, to
17	receive dividends thereon and to participate in any of the
18	assets of the corporation in the event of liquidation. The
19	board of directors may cause such scrip to be issued subject to
20	the condition that it shall become void if not exchanged for
21	certificates representing full shares before a specified date,
22	or subject to the condition that the shares for which such
23	scrip is exchangeable may be sold by the corporation or by ar
24	agent on behalf of the holder thereof and the proceeds thereof

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1 distributed to the holders of such scrip or subject to any 2 other conditions which the board of directors may deem 3 advisable.

For purposes of this Section, "fair value", with respect to the cashout of a fractional share, means the proportionate interest of the fractional share in the corporation, without any discount for minority status or, absent extraordinary circumstance, lack of marketability.

9 (Source: P.A. 83-1025.)

10 (805 ILCS 5/8.75) (from Ch. 32, par. 8.75)

Sec. 8.75. Indemnification of officers, directors,
employees and agents; insurance.

13 (a) A corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a 14 party, or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, 15 pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, administrative or investigative (other than an 16 criminal, 17 action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a director, officer, employee or 18 19 agent of the corporation, or who is or was serving at the 20 request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or 21 agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including 22 23 attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in 24 settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in 25 connection with such action, suit or proceeding, if such person acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably 26 27 believed to be in, or not opposed to the best interests of the 28 corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her 29 30 conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or 31 proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction, or upon 32 a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of 33 itself, create a presumption that the person did not act in good faith and in a manner which he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation or, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, that the person had reasonable cause to believe that his or her conduct was unlawful.

(b) A corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a 6 7 party, or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, 8 pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the corporation to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the 9 10 fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee 11 or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or 12 agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, 13 14 trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including 15 attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such 16 17 action or suit, if such person acted in good faith and in a 18 manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed 19 to, the best interests of the corporation, provided that no 20 indemnification shall be made with respect to any claim, issue, 21 or matter as to which such person has been adjudged to have been liable to the corporation, unless, and only to the extent 22 23 that the court in which such action or suit was brought shall 24 determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of 25 liability, but in view of all the circumstances of the case, 26 such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for 27 such expenses as the court shall deem proper.

(c) To the extent that a present or former director, officer or employee of a corporation has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, in the defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subsections (a) and (b), or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in 1 connection therewith, if the person acted in good faith and in 2 a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed 3 to, the best interests of the corporation.

4 (d) Any indemnification under subsections (a) and (b) 5 (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the corporation only as authorized in the specific case, upon a determination 6 7 that indemnification of the present or former director, 8 officer, employee or agent is proper in the circumstances because he or she has met the applicable standard of conduct 9 10 set forth in subsections (a) or (b). Such determination shall be made with respect to a person who is a director or officer 11 at the time of the determination: (1) by the majority vote of 12 13 the directors who are not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, (2) by a committee 14 15 of the directors who are not parties to such action, suit, or proceeding, even though less than a quorum, designated by a 16 majority vote of the directors, even though less than a quorum, 17 18 (3) if there are no such directors, or if the directors so direct, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion, or 19 20 (4) by the shareholders.

21 (e) Expenses (including attorney's fees) incurred by an officer or director in defending a civil or criminal action, 22 23 suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of 24 the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon 25 receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the director or 26 officer to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that such person is not entitled to be indemnified 27 28 by the corporation as authorized in this Section. Such expenses 29 (including attorney's fees) incurred by former directors and 30 officers or other employees and agents may be so paid on such 31 terms and conditions, if any, as the corporation deems 32 appropriate.

33 (f) The indemnification and advancement of expenses 34 provided by or granted under the other subsections of this 1 Section shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to 2 which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses 3 may be entitled under any by-law, agreement, vote of 4 shareholders or disinterested directors, or otherwise, both as 5 to action in his or her official capacity and as to action in 6 another capacity while holding such office.

7 (g) A corporation may purchase and maintain insurance on 8 behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or who is or was serving 9 10 at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint 11 venture, trust or other enterprise, against any liability 12 asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any 13 14 such capacity, or arising out of his or her status as such, 15 whether or not the corporation would have the power to 16 indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of this Section. 17

(h) If a corporation indemnifies or advances expenses to a director or officer under subsection (b) of this Section, the corporation shall report the indemnification or advance in writing to the shareholders with or before the notice of the next shareholders meeting.

(i) For purposes of this Section, references to "the 23 24 corporation" shall include, in addition to the surviving 25 corporation, any merging corporation (including any 26 corporation having merged with a merging corporation) absorbed in a merger which, if its separate existence had continued, 27 28 would have had the power and authority to indemnify its 29 directors, officers, and employees or agents, so that any person who was a director, officer, employee or agent of such 30 31 merging corporation, or was serving at the request of such merging corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent 32 33 of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, shall stand in the same position under the 34

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provisions of this Section with respect to the surviving corporation as such person would have with respect to such merging corporation if its separate existence had continued.

4 (j) For purposes of this Section, references to "other 5 enterprises" shall include employee benefit plans; references to "fines" shall include any excise taxes assessed on a person 6 7 with respect to an employee benefit plan; and references to 8 "serving at the request of the corporation" shall include any service as a director, officer, employee or agent of the 9 10 corporation which imposes duties on, or involves services by 11 such director, officer, employee, or agent with respect to an employee benefit plan, its participants, or beneficiaries. A 12 person who acted in good faith and in a manner he or she 13 14 reasonably believed to be in the best interests of the 15 participants and beneficiaries of an employee benefit plan 16 shall be deemed to have acted in a manner "not opposed to the best interest of the corporation" as referred to in this 17 18 Section.

indemnification and advancement 19 (k) The of expenses 20 provided by or granted under this Section shall, unless 21 otherwise provided when authorized or ratified, continue as to a person who has ceased to be a director, officer, employee, or 22 23 agent and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors, 24 and administrators of that person.

(1) The changes to this Section made by this amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly apply only to actions commenced on or after the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 92nd General Assembly.

29 (Source: P.A. 91-464, eff. 1-1-00; 92-33, eff. 7-1-01.)

30 (805 ILCS 5/11.70) (from Ch. 32, par. 11.70)

31 Sec. 11.70. Procedure to Dissent.

32 (a) If the corporate action giving rise to the right to33 dissent is to be approved at a meeting of shareholders, the

notice of meeting shall inform the shareholders of their right 1 2 to dissent and the procedure to dissent. If, prior to the 3 meeting, the corporation furnishes to the shareholders 4 material information with respect to the transaction that will 5 objectively enable a shareholder to vote on the transaction and to determine whether or not to exercise dissenters' rights, a 6 7 shareholder may assert dissenters' rights only if the 8 shareholder delivers to the corporation before the vote is taken a written demand for payment for his or her shares if the 9 10 proposed action is consummated, and the shareholder does not 11 vote in favor of the proposed action.

(b) If the corporate action giving rise to the right to 12 13 dissent is not to be approved at a meeting of shareholders, the 14 notice to shareholders describing the action taken under Section 11.30 or Section 7.10 shall inform the shareholders of 15 their right to dissent and the procedure to dissent. If, prior 16 to or concurrently with the notice, the corporation furnishes 17 18 to the shareholders material information with respect to the 19 transaction that will objectively enable a shareholder to 20 determine whether or not to exercise dissenters' rights, a 21 shareholder may assert dissenter's rights only if he or she delivers to the corporation within 30 days from the date of 22 23 mailing the notice a written demand for payment for his or her 24 shares.

25 (c) Within 10 days after the date on which the corporate 26 action giving rise to the right to dissent is effective or 30 days after the shareholder delivers to the corporation the 27 28 written demand for payment, whichever is later, the corporation 29 shall send each shareholder who has delivered a written demand 30 for payment a statement setting forth the opinion of the 31 corporation as to the estimated fair value of the shares, the 32 corporation's latest balance sheet as of the end of a fiscal year ending not earlier than 16 months before the delivery of 33 the statement, together with the statement of income for that 34

1 year and the latest available interim financial statements, and either a commitment to pay for the shares of the dissenting 2 3 shareholder the estimated fair value thereof upon at corporation 4 transmittal to the of the certificate or certificates, or other evidence of ownership, with respect to 5 the shares, or instructions to the dissenting shareholder to 6 7 sell his or her shares within 10 days after delivery of the 8 corporation's statement to the shareholder. The corporation may instruct the shareholder to sell only if there is a public 9 10 market for the shares at which the shares may be readily sold. 11 If the shareholder does not sell within that 10 day period after being so instructed by the corporation, for purposes of 12 this Section the shareholder shall be deemed to have sold his 13 or her shares at the average closing price of the shares, if 14 15 listed on a national exchange, or the average of the bid and 16 asked price with respect to the shares quoted by a principal market maker, if not listed on a national exchange, during that 17 18 10 day period.

19 (d) A shareholder who makes written demand for payment 20 under this Section retains all other rights of a shareholder 21 until those rights are cancelled or modified by the 22 consummation of the proposed corporate action. Upon 23 consummation of that action, the corporation shall pay to each 24 dissenter who transmits to the corporation the certificate or 25 other evidence of ownership of the shares the amount the 26 corporation estimates to be the fair value of the shares, plus accrued interest, accompanied by a written explanation of how 27 28 the interest was calculated.

(e) If the shareholder does not agree with the opinion of the corporation as to the estimated fair value of the shares or the amount of interest due, the shareholder, within 30 days from the delivery of the corporation's statement of value, shall notify the corporation in writing of the shareholder's estimated fair value and amount of interest due and demand payment for the difference between the shareholder's estimate of fair value and interest due and the amount of the payment by the corporation or the proceeds of sale by the shareholder, whichever is applicable because of the procedure for which the corporation opted pursuant to subsection (c).

(f) If, within 60 days from delivery to the corporation of 6 7 the shareholder notification of estimate of fair value of the shares and interest due, the corporation and the dissenting 8 shareholder have not agreed in writing upon the fair value of 9 10 the shares and interest due, the corporation shall either pay 11 the difference in value demanded by the shareholder, with interest, or file a petition in the circuit court of the county 12 in which either the registered office or the principal office 13 of the corporation is located, requesting the court to 14 determine the fair value of the shares and interest due. The 15 corporation shall make all dissenters, whether or not residents 16 of this State, whose demands remain unsettled parties to the 17 18 proceeding as an action against their shares and all parties 19 shall be served with a copy of the petition. Nonresidents may 20 be served by registered or certified mail or by publication as 21 provided by law. Failure of the corporation to commence an action pursuant to this Section shall not limit or affect the 22 23 right of the dissenting shareholders to otherwise commence an 24 action as permitted by law.

(g) The jurisdiction of the court in which the proceeding is commenced under subsection (f) by a corporation is plenary and exclusive. The court may appoint one or more persons as appraisers to receive evidence and recommend decision on the question of fair value. The appraisers have the power described in the order appointing them, or in any amendment to it.

31 (h) Each dissenter made a party to the proceeding is 32 entitled to judgment for the amount, if any, by which the court 33 finds that the fair value of his or her shares, plus interest, 34 exceeds the amount paid by the corporation or the proceeds of

sale by the shareholder, whichever amount is applicable.

(i) The court, in a proceeding commenced under subsection 2 3 (f), shall determine all costs of the proceeding, including the 4 reasonable compensation and expenses of the appraisers, if any, 5 appointed by the court under subsection (g), but shall exclude the fees and expenses of counsel and experts for the respective 6 parties. If the fair value of the shares as determined by the 7 8 court materially exceeds the amount which the corporation estimated to be the fair value of the shares or if no estimate 9 10 was made in accordance with subsection (c), then all or any part of the costs may be assessed against the corporation. If 11 the amount which any dissenter estimated to be the fair value 12 of the shares materially exceeds the fair value of the shares 13 as determined by the court, then all or any part of the costs 14 15 may be assessed against that dissenter. The court may also 16 assess the fees and expenses of counsel and experts for the respective parties, in amounts the court finds equitable, as 17 18 follows:

(1) Against the corporation and in favor of any or all
dissenters if the court finds that the corporation did not
substantially comply with the requirements of subsections
(a), (b), (c), (d), or (f).

(2) Against either the corporation or a dissenter and
in favor of any other party if the court finds that the
party against whom the fees and expenses are assessed acted
arbitrarily, vexatiously, or not in good faith with respect
to the rights provided by this Section.

If the court finds that the services of counsel for any dissenter were of substantial benefit to other dissenters similarly situated and that the fees for those services should not be assessed against the corporation, the court may award to that counsel reasonable fees to be paid out of the amounts awarded to the dissenters who are benefited. Except as otherwise provided in this Section, the practice, procedure, judgment and costs shall be governed by the Code of Civil
 Procedure.

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(j) As used in this Section:

4 (1) "Fair value", with respect to a dissenter's shares, 5 means the proportionate interest of the shareholder in the corporation, without discount for minority status or, 6 7 absent extraordinary circumstance, lack of marketability, value of the shares immediately before the consummation of 8 9 the corporate action to which the dissenter objects excluding any appreciation or depreciation in anticipation 10 of the corporate action, unless exclusion would be 11 inequitable. 12

(2) "Interest" means interest from the effective date
of the corporate action until the date of payment, at the
average rate currently paid by the corporation on its
principal bank loans or, if none, at a rate that is fair
and equitable under all the circumstances.

18 (Source: P.A. 86-1156.)

19 (805 ILCS 5/12.56)

Sec. 12.56. Shareholder remedies: non-public corporations.

(a) In an action by a shareholder in a corporation that has
no shares listed on a national securities exchange or regularly
traded in a market maintained by one or more members of a
national or affiliated securities association, the Circuit
Court may order one or more of the remedies listed in
subsection (b) if it is established that:

(1) The directors are deadlocked, whether because of even division in the number of directors or because of greater than majority voting requirements in the articles of incorporation or the by-laws or otherwise, in the management of the corporate affairs; the shareholders are unable to break the deadlock; and either irreparable injury to the corporation is thereby caused or threatened or the

business of the corporation can no longer be conducted to the general advantage of the shareholders; or

3 (2) The shareholders are deadlocked in voting power and 4 have failed, for a period that includes at least 2 5 consecutive annual meeting dates, to elect successors to 6 directors whose terms have expired and either irreparable 7 injury to the corporation is thereby caused or threatened 8 or the business of the corporation can no longer be 9 conducted to the general advantage of the shareholders; or

10 (3) The directors or those in control of the 11 corporation have acted, are acting, or will act in a manner 12 that is illegal, oppressive, or fraudulent with respect to 13 the petitioning shareholder whether in his or her capacity 14 as a shareholder, director, or officer; or

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(4) The corporation assets are being misapplied or wasted.

(b) The relief which the court may order in an action undersubsection (a) includes but is not limited to the following:

19 (1) The performance, prohibition, alteration, or
20 setting aside of any action of the corporation or of its
21 shareholders, directors, or officers of or any other party
22 to the proceedings;

23 24 (2) The cancellation or alteration of any provision in the corporation's articles of incorporation or by-laws;

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(3) The removal from office of any director or officer;

26 (4) The appointment of any individual as a director or27 officer;

(5) An accounting with respect to any matter indispute;

30 (6) The appointment of a custodian to manage the
31 business and affairs of the corporation to serve for the
32 term and under the conditions prescribed by the court;

33 (7) The appointment of a provisional director to serve34 for the term and under the conditions prescribed by the

court;
 (8) The submission of the dispute to mediation or a

(8) The submission of the dispute to mediation or other forms of non-binding alternative dispute resolution;

(9) The payment of dividends;

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(10) The award of damages to any aggrieved party;

6 (11) The purchase by the corporation or one or more 7 other shareholders of all, but not less than all, of the 8 shares of the petitioning shareholder for their fair value 9 and on the terms determined under subsection (e); or

(12) The dissolution of the corporation if the court 10 determines that no remedy specified in subdivisions (1) 11 through (11) or other alternative remedy is sufficient to 12 13 resolve the matters in dispute. In determining whether to dissolve the corporation, the court shall consider among 14 15 other relevant evidence the financial condition of the 16 corporation but may not refuse to dissolve the corporation 17 solely because it has accumulated earnings or current 18 operating profits.

19 (c) The remedies set forth in subsection (b) shall not be 20 exclusive of other legal and equitable remedies which the court 21 may impose.

(d) In determining the appropriate relief to order pursuant to this Section, the court may take into consideration the reasonable expectations of the corporation's shareholders as they existed at the time the corporation was formed and developed during the course of the shareholders' relationship with the corporation and with each other.

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## (e) If the court orders a share purchase, it shall:

(i) Determine the fair value of the shares, with or
without the assistance of appraisers, taking into
account any impact on the value of the shares resulting
from the actions giving rise to a petition under this
Section;

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(ii) Consider any financial or legal constraints

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on the ability of the corporation or the purchasing shareholder to purchase the shares;

3 Specify the terms of the (iii) purchase, 4 including, if appropriate, terms for installment 5 payments, interest at the rate and from the date determined by the court to be equitable, subordination 6 7 of the purchase obligation to the rights of the corporation's other creditors, security for a deferred 8 purchase price, and a covenant not to compete or other 9 restriction on the seller; 10

(iv) Require the seller to deliver all of his or her shares to the purchaser upon receipt of the purchase price or the first installment of the purchase price; and

(v) Retain jurisdiction to enforce the purchase order by, among other remedies, ordering the corporation to be dissolved if the purchase is not completed in accordance with the terms of the purchase order.

20 <u>For purposes of this subsection (e), "fair value", with</u> 21 <u>respect to a petitioning shareholder's shares, means the</u> 22 <u>proportionate interest of the shareholder in the corporation,</u> 23 <u>without any discount for minority status or, absent</u> 24 <u>extraordinary circumstances, lack of marketability.</u>

The purchase ordered pursuant to this subsection (e) shall be consummated within 20 days after the date the order becomes final unless before that time the corporation files with the court a notice of its intention to dissolve and articles of dissolution are properly filed with the Secretary of State within 50 days after filing the notice with the court.

After the purchase order is entered and before the purchase price is fully paid, any party may petition the court to modify the terms of the purchase and the court may do so if it finds that such changes are equitable. 1 Unless the purchase order is modified by the court, the 2 selling shareholder shall have no further rights as a 3 shareholder from the date the seller delivers all of his or her 4 shares to the purchaser or such other date specified by the 5 court.

If the court orders shares to be purchased by one or more 6 7 other shareholders, in allocating the shares to be purchased by 8 the other shareholders, unless equity requires otherwise, the court shall attempt to preserve the existing distribution of 9 other designations, 10 voting rights and preferences, qualifications, limitations, restrictions and special 11 or relative rights among the holders of the class or classes and 12 13 may direct that holders of a specific class or classes shall 14 not participate in the purchase.

15 (f) When the relief requested by the petition includes the 16 purchase of the petitioner's shares, then at any time within 90 days after the filing of the petition under this Section, or at 17 18 such time determined by the court to be equitable, the 19 corporation or one or more shareholders may elect to purchase 20 all, but not less than all, of the shares owned by the 21 petitioning shareholder for their fair value. An election pursuant to this Section shall state in writing the amount 22 23 which the electing party will pay for the shares.

(1) The election shall be irrevocable unless the court
 determines that it is equitable to set aside or modify the
 election.

(2) If the election to purchase is filed by one or more 27 28 shareholders, the corporation shall, within 10 days 29 thereafter, give written notice to all shareholders. The notice must state: (i) the name and number of shares owned 30 31 by the petitioner; (ii) the name and number of shares owned by each electing shareholder; and (iii) the amount which 32 33 each electing party will pay for the shares and must advise the recipients of their right to join in the election to 34

1 purchase shares. Shareholders who wish to participate must file notice of their intention to join in a purchase no 2 later than 30 days after the date of the notice to them or 3 4 at such time as the court in its discretion may allow. All 5 shareholders who have filed an election or notice of their intention to participate in the election to purchase 6 thereby become parties to the proceeding and shall 7 8 participate in the purchase in proportion to their ownership of shares as of the date the first election was 9 filed, unless they otherwise agree or the court otherwise 10 directs. 11

The court in its discretion may allow 12 (3) the corporation and all non-petitioning shareholders to file 13 14 an election to purchase the petitioning shareholder's 15 shares at a higher price. If the court does so, it shall allow other shareholders an opportunity to join in the 16 purchase at the higher price in accordance with their 17 18 proportionate ownership interest.

19 (4) After an election has been filed by the corporation 20 or one or more shareholders, the proceeding filed under 21 this Section may not be discontinued or settled, nor may the petitioning shareholder sell or otherwise dispose of 22 his or her shares, unless the court determines that it 23 24 would be equitable to the corporation and the shareholders, other than the petitioner, to permit the discontinuance, 25 26 settlement, sale, or other disposition. In considering 27 whether equity exists to approve any settlement, the court may take into consideration the reasonable expectations of 28 29 the shareholders as set forth in subsection (d), including 30 any existing agreement among the shareholders.

31 (5) If, within 30 days of the filing of the latest 32 election allowed by the court, the parties reach agreement 33 as to the fair value and terms of purchase of the 34 petitioner's shares, the court shall enter an order

directing the purchase of petitioner's shares upon the terms and conditions agreed to by the parties.

3 (6) If the parties are unable to reach an agreement as 4 provided for in paragraph (5) of this subsection (f), the 5 court, upon application of any party, shall stay the proceeding under subsection (a) and shall determine the 6 7 fair value of the petitioner's shares pursuant to 8 subsection (e) as of the day before the date on which the petition under subsection (a) was filed or as of such other 9 date as the court deems appropriate under 10 the 11 circumstances.

(g) In any proceeding under this Section, the court shall allow reasonable compensation to the custodian, provisional director, appraiser, or other such person appointed by the court for services rendered and reimbursement or direct payment of reasonable costs and expenses, which amounts shall be paid by the corporation.

18 (Source: P.A. 94-394, eff. 8-1-05.)".