Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response............38

Page 1 of	* 21	WASHING	EXCHANGE COMMI STON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4		File No.* S	SR - 2020 - * 05 mendments *)
Filing by Nasdaq GEMX, LLC						
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934						
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	(2) 19b-4(f)(5)	
	of proposed change pursuant	to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) *	ng, and Settlement Ac	et of 2010	Security-Based Swap to the Securities Exch Section 3C(b)(2)	-
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *).  Proposed rule to amend Options 3 Section 7 Types of Order to permit the Exchange to determine the availability of order types and time-in-force provisions						
Contact Information  Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.						
First Na	ame * Angela		Last Name * Dunn			
Title * Principal Associate General Counsel						
E-mail * angela.dunn@nasdaq.com						
Telepho	one * (215) 496-5692	Fax				
Signature  Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.						
Date 02/14/2020			(Title *)  EVP and Chief Legal Officer			
By John Zecca  (Name *)  NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.						

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information \* clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \* in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Add Remove View Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \* guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add Remove View of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy Partial Amendment proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial

amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

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# 1. <u>Text of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange"), pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule to amend Options 3, Section 7, "Types of Orders" to permit the Exchange to determine the availability of order types and time-in-force provisions.

The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay period contained in Exchange Act Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii).<sup>3</sup>

A notice of the proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u> is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.

The text of the proposed rule change is attached as Exhibit 5.

- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

### 2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board") on September 25, 2019. Exchange staff will advise the Board of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

Questions and comments on the proposed rule change may be directed to:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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# Angela Saccomandi Dunn Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. 215-496-5692

# 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

## a. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Options 3, Section 7, "Types of Orders" to provide that the Exchange may determine which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. This proposed change is based on the rules of Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX Options"),<sup>4</sup> Rule 21.1, Cboe EDGX Exchange, Inc. ("EDGX Options") Rule 21.1<sup>5</sup>, Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe") Rule 5.6<sup>6</sup> and Cboe

BZX Options Rule 21.1(d), Definitions, provides "The term "Order Type" shall mean the unique processing prescribed for designated orders, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (l) below with respect to orders and bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, that are eligible for entry into the System. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Order Types are available on a class or system basis."

BZX Options Rule 21.1(f), Definitions, provides "The term "Time in Force" means the period of time that the System will hold an order, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (j) below with respect to bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, for potential execution. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Times-in-Force are available on a class, system, or trading session basis. Rule 21.20 sets forth the Times-in-Force the Exchange may make available for complex orders."

EDGX Options Rule 21.1, Definitions, provides, "The term "Order Type" shall mean the unique processing prescribed for designated orders, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (j) below with respect to orders and bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, that are eligible for entry into the System. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Order Types are available on a class, system, or trading session basis. Rule 21.20 sets forth the Order Types the Exchange may make available for complex orders."

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C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2") Rule 6.10(a).<sup>7</sup> The Exchange proposes to also amend the title of the rule from "Types of Orders" to "Types of Orders and Order and Quote Protocols" to reflect the information in the rule.

The Exchange proposes to add rule text at the beginning of Options 3, Section 7 which states, "The Exchange may determine to make certain order types and time-inforce, respectively, available on a class or System basis." The purpose of this rule change is to provide the Exchange with appropriate flexibility to address different trading characteristics, market models, and the investor base of each class, as well as to handle any System issues that may arise and require the Exchange to temporarily not accept certain order types. This rule is consistent with BZX Options Rule 21.1, EDGX Options Rules 21.1(d) and 21.1(f), Cboe Rule 5.6 and C2 Rule 6.10(a), each of which provides these exchanges with the same flexibility. The Exchange intends to file rule changes to adopt this rule across all Nasdaq affiliated markets.

This rule change will not permit the Exchange to discriminate among market participants when determining which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. The Exchange's proposal allows the Exchange to make certain order types and time-in-force, respectively, available on a class or System

Cboe Rule 5.6, Availability of Orders, provides, "Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following order types are available on a class-by-class and system-by-system basis."

C2 Rule 6.10(a), Availability of Orders, provides, "Availability. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following order types, Order Instructions, and Times-in-Force are available on a class, system, or trading session basis. Rule 6.13 sets forth the order types, Order Instructions, and Times-in-Force the Exchange may make available for complex orders."

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basis uniformly for all market participants. For example, if the Exchange determined to make a certain order type unavailable, that order type would not be available for any market participant.

The Exchange would issue an Options Trader Alert to provide notification to Participants that a change is being made to the availability or unavailability of a certain order type or time-in-force. The Exchange notes that in the event of System disruption, the Exchange would notify Participants of the unavailability of any order type and would also provide notification when that order type was available once the disruption was resolved.

### b. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act, 8 in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, 9 in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change would provide the Exchange with the flexibility to determine the availability of order types and times-in-force on a class and System basis. This flexibility would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system by allowing the Exchange to address the specific characteristics of different classes and different market conditions. The Exchange believes that this proposal serves to protect investors by ensuring that the appropriate order types and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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times-in-force are tailored to the different class characteristics and by mitigating risks associated with changing market conditions. <sup>10</sup> The Exchange would issue a notification to Participants to provide them notice that a change is being made to the availability or unavailability of a certain order type or time-in-force before implementing the change. In the event of a System issue, the Exchange believes that it is consistent with the Act to temporarily not offer a certain order type to ensure the proper executions of transactions within the System thereby protecting investors and the public interest. The Exchange anticipates that exercising its ability to temporarily not offer order types would be infrequent.

Adding this provision on all Nasdaq affiliated markets will ensure consistency between the Exchange rules and that of its affiliates and would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and promote just and equitable principles of trade, as well as foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities. The proposed rule change provides the Exchange with the same flexibility currently permitted on BZX Options, EDGX Options, Cboe and C2. The Exchange believes that this consistency promotes market participants' understanding of the rules across the multiple affiliated exchanges and promotes a fair and orderly national options market system. The Exchange also notes that the proposed change is reasonable and does not affect investor protection because the proposed change does not present any novel or unique issues, as it has previously been filed with the Commission.

The Exchange's proposal is not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will

The Exchange may also determine to temporarily not offer an order type or a time-in-force based on a System issue.

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not discriminate among market participants when determining which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. The Exchange's proposal allows the Exchange to make certain order types and time-in-force, respectively, available on a class or System basis uniformly for all market participants. For example, if the Exchange determined to make a certain order type unavailable, that order type would not be available for any market participant.

### 4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intra-market competition, as the proposed rule change will apply in the same manner to all order types and/or times-in-force, as the Exchange determines, for all Participants. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on inter-market competition because the proposed change provides the Exchange with substantially the same flexibility as the rules of other exchanges. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will allow it to make determinations regarding the availability of orders that will enable it to remain competitive as markets and market conditions evolve.

The Exchange's proposal does not impose an undue burden on competition because the Exchange's proposal will uniformly make certain order types and time-inforce, respectively, available on a class or System basis for market participants.

See notes 4-6 above.

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5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

The Exchange does not consent to an extension of the time period for Commission action.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder in that it effects a change that: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) by its terms, does not become operative for 30 days after the date of the filing, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

The proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors because the rule change would provide the Exchange with the flexibility to determine the availability of order types and times-in-force on a class and System basis. This flexibility would allow the Exchange to address the specific characteristics of different classes and different market conditions. Additionally, the proposal would protect investors by ensuring that the appropriate order types and times-in-force are tailored to the different class characteristics and by mitigating risks associated with changing market conditions. The proposal does not impose any significant burden on competition. The

The Exchange may also determine to temporarily not offer an order type or a time-in-force based on a System issue.

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proposal will apply in the same manner to all order types and/or times-in-force, as the Exchange determines, for all Participants. The proposed change provides the Exchange with substantially the same flexibility as the rules of other exchanges. <sup>13</sup> This proposal will permit the Exchange to make determinations regarding the availability of orders that will enable it to remain competitive as markets and market conditions evolve.

Furthermore, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file a proposed rule change under that subsection at least five business days prior to the date of filing, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has provided such notice.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

A proposed rule change filed under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) normally does not become operative prior to 30 days after the date of filing. Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii), however, permits the Commission to designate a shorter time if such action is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest. The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay contained in Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) so that the Exchange may obtain the same flexibility currently permitted on BZX Options, EDGX Options, Cboe and C2. The waiver of the operative delay will permit the Exchange to utilize this ability

See notes 4-6 above.

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to make certain order types available and unavailable immediately, which would serve to protect investors and the public interest by mitigating risks associated with changing market conditions. This proposal will enable the Exchange to remain competitive as markets and market conditions evolve.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>

This proposal is consistent with BZX Options Rule 21.1, EDGX Options Rules 21.1(d) and 21.1(f), Cboe Rule 5.6 and C2 Rule 6.10(a), each of which provides these exchanges with the same flexibility to determine the availability of order types and timesin-force on a class and System basis.

- Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act
   Not applicable.
- 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act
   Not applicable.

### 11. Exhibits

- 1. Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.
- 5. Text of the proposed rule change.

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**EXHIBIT 1** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-GEMX-2020-05)

February \_\_\_\_, 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Nasdaq GEMX, LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change to Amend Options 3, Section 7, "Types of Orders" to Permit the Exchange to Determine the Availability of Order Types and Time-In-Force Provisions

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on February 14, 2020, Nasdaq GEMX, LLC ("GEMX" or "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III, below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Options 3, Section 7, "Types of Orders" to permit the Exchange to determine the availability of order types and time-in-force provisions.

The Exchange requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay period contained in Exchange Act Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii).<sup>3</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6)(iii).

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The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <a href="http://nasdaqgemx.cchwallstreet.com/">http://nasdaqgemx.cchwallstreet.com/</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

# 1. <u>Purpose</u>

The Exchange proposes to amend Options 3, Section 7, "Types of Orders" to provide that the Exchange may determine which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. This proposed change is based on the rules of Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. ("BZX Options"), Rule 21.1, Cboe EDGX Exchange,

BZX Options Rule 21.1(d), Definitions, provides "The term "Order Type" shall mean the unique processing prescribed for designated orders, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (l) below with respect to orders and bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, that are eligible for entry into the System. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Order Types are available on a class or system basis."

BZX Options Rule 21.1(f), Definitions, provides "The term "Time in Force" means the period of time that the System will hold an order, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (j) below with respect to bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, for potential execution. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Times-in-Force are available on a class, system, or trading session

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Inc. ("EDGX Options") Rule 21.1<sup>5</sup>, Cboe Exchange, Inc. ("Cboe") Rule 5.6<sup>6</sup> and Cboe C2 Exchange, Inc. ("C2") Rule 6.10(a).<sup>7</sup> The Exchange proposes to also amend the title of the rule from "Types of Orders" to "Types of Orders and Order and Quote Protocols" to reflect the information in the rule.

The Exchange proposes to add rule text at the beginning of Options 3, Section 7 which states, "The Exchange may determine to make certain order types and time-inforce, respectively, available on a class or System basis." The purpose of this rule change is to provide the Exchange with appropriate flexibility to address different trading characteristics, market models, and the investor base of each class, as well as to handle any System issues that may arise and require the Exchange to temporarily not accept certain order types. This rule is consistent with BZX Options Rule 21.1, EDGX Options

basis. Rule 21.20 sets forth the Times-in-Force the Exchange may make available for complex orders."

- EDGX Options Rule 21.1, Definitions, provides, "The term "Order Type" shall mean the unique processing prescribed for designated orders, subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph (j) below with respect to orders and bulk messages submitted through bulk ports, that are eligible for entry into the System. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following Order Types are available on a class, system, or trading session basis. Rule 21.20 sets forth the Order Types the Exchange may make available for complex orders."
- Cboe Rule 5.6, Availability of Orders, provides, "Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following order types are available on a class-by-class and system-by-system basis."
- C2 Rule 6.10(a), Availability of Orders, provides, "Availability. Unless otherwise specified in the Rules or the context indicates otherwise, the Exchange determines which of the following order types, Order Instructions, and Times-in-Force are available on a class, system, or trading session basis. Rule 6.13 sets forth the order types, Order Instructions, and Times-in-Force the Exchange may make available for complex orders."

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Rules 21.1(d) and 21.1(f), Cboe Rule 5.6 and C2 Rule 6.10(a), each of which provides these exchanges with the same flexibility. The Exchange intends to file rule changes to adopt this rule across all Nasdaq affiliated markets.

This rule change will not permit the Exchange to discriminate among market participants when determining which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. The Exchange's proposal allows the Exchange to make certain order types and time-in-force, respectively, available on a class or System basis uniformly for all market participants. For example, if the Exchange determined to make a certain order type unavailable, that order type would not be available for any market participant.

The Exchange would issue an Options Trader Alert to provide notification to Participants that a change is being made to the availability or unavailability of a certain order type or time-in-force. The Exchange notes that in the event of System disruption, the Exchange would notify Participants of the unavailability of any order type and would also provide notification when that order type was available once the disruption was resolved.

#### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act,<sup>8</sup> in general, and furthers the objectives of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act,<sup>9</sup> in particular, in that it is designed to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

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national market system, and, in general to protect investors and the public interest. The proposed rule change would provide the Exchange with the flexibility to determine the availability of order types and times-in-force on a class and System basis. This flexibility would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system by allowing the Exchange to address the specific characteristics of different classes and different market conditions. The Exchange believes that this proposal serves to protect investors by ensuring that the appropriate order types and times-in-force are tailored to the different class characteristics and by mitigating risks associated with changing market conditions. 10 The Exchange would issue a notification to Participants to provide them notice that a change is being made to the availability or unavailability of a certain order type or time-in-force before implementing the change. In the event of a System issue, the Exchange believes that it is consistent with the Act to temporarily not offer a certain order type to ensure the proper executions of transactions within the System thereby protecting investors and the public interest. The Exchange anticipates that exercising its ability to temporarily not offer order types would be infrequent.

Adding this provision on all Nasdaq affiliated markets will ensure consistency between the Exchange rules and that of its affiliates and would remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and promote just and equitable principles of trade, as well as foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities. The proposed rule change provides the Exchange with the same flexibility currently permitted on BZX Options, EDGX Options, Cboe and

The Exchange may also determine to temporarily not offer an order type or a time-in-force based on a System issue.

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C2. The Exchange believes that this consistency promotes market participants' understanding of the rules across the multiple affiliated exchanges and promotes a fair and orderly national options market system. The Exchange also notes that the proposed change is reasonable and does not affect investor protection because the proposed change does not present any novel or unique issues, as it has previously been filed with the Commission.

The Exchange's proposal is not unfairly discriminatory because the Exchange will not discriminate among market participants when determining which order types and times-in-force provisions are available on a class or system basis. The Exchange's proposal allows the Exchange to make certain order types and time-in-force, respectively, available on a class or System basis uniformly for all market participants. For example, if the Exchange determined to make a certain order type unavailable, that order type would not be available for any market participant.

# B. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on intra-market competition, as the proposed rule change will apply in the same manner to all order types and/or times-in-force, as the Exchange determines, for all Participants. The Exchange does not believe the proposed rule change will impose any burden on inter-market competition because the proposed change provides the Exchange with substantially the same flexibility as the rules of other exchanges. <sup>11</sup> Therefore, the

See notes 4-6 above.

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Exchange believes that the proposed rule change will allow it to make determinations regarding the availability of orders that will enable it to remain competitive as markets and market conditions evolve.

The Exchange's proposal does not impose an undue burden on competition because the Exchange's proposal will uniformly make certain order types and time-inforce, respectively, available on a class or System basis for market participants.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed</u> <u>Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u>
Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>12</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>13</sup>

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the

<sup>15</sup> U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>17</sup> CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6). In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission. The Exchange has satisfied this requirement.

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protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

### Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-GEMX-2020-05 on the subject line.

### Paper comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-GEMX-2020-05. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml).

Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the

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provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-GEMX-2020-05 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. <sup>14</sup>

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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**EXHIBIT 5** 

New text is underlined; deleted text is in brackets.

Nasdaq GEMX, LLC Rules

\* \* \* \* \*

**Options 3 Options Trading Rules** 

\* \* \* \* \*

# Section 7. Types of Orders and Order and Quote Protocols

The Exchange may determine to make certain order types and time-in-force, respectively, available on a class or System basis.

(a) *Market Orders*. A market order is an order to buy or sell a stated number of options contracts that is to be executed at the best price obtainable when the order reaches the Exchange

\* \* \* \* \*