#### Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

Page 1 of * 30			CHANGE COMMIS N, D.C. 20549 19b-4		File No. * SR       2022       - *       035         Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)	
Filing by The	Nasdaq Stock Market LLC					
Pursuant to Ru	le 19b-4 under the Securities Exchan	ge Act of 1934				
Initial * ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(I	b)(2) * Section 19(b)(	(3)(A) * Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		Rule 19b-4(f)(1) 19b-4(f)(2) 19b-4(f)(3) ✓	19b-4(f)(4) 19b-4(f)(5) 19b-4(f)(6)	
Notice of pr Section 806	oposed change pursuant to the Paym S(e)(1) *	ent, Clearing, and Settlem Section 806(e)(2) *	nent Act of 2010	Security-Based Swap Securities Exchange Section 3C(b)(2) *	o Submission pursuant to the Act of 1934	
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document						
Description Provide a brief description of the action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). A proposed rule change relating to the ALPS Active REIT ETF of ALPS ETF Trust, to provide for the use of Custom Baskets consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.						
<b>Contact Information</b> 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 Name	* Jonathan	Last Name *	Cayne			
Title *	Principal Associate General Cour	Principal Associate General Counsel				
E-mail *	jonathan.cayne@nasdaq.com					
Telephone	* (301) 978-8493	Fax				
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC has duty caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duty authorized.						
Date	05/27/2022			(Title *)		
Ву	John Zecca		EVP and Chief Legal	Officer		
form. A digital	(Name *) g the signature block at right will initiate digitally si signature is as legally binding as a physical signa his form cannot be changed.		John A. Jean	Date: 2022.05.27 17:07:59 -04'00'		

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION							
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549							
For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.							
Form 19b-4 Information *       Add     Remove     View	The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act.						
SR-NASDAQ-2022-035 19b-4.doc							
Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change *         Add       Remove       View         SR-NASDAQ-2022-035       Exhibit 1.doc	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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)						
Exhibit 1A - Notice of Proposed Rule Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, or Advanced Notice by Clearing Agencies *AddRemoveView	The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication 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 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)						
Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications Add Remove View	Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G.						
	Exhibit Sent As Paper Document						
Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, orQuestionnaireViewAddRemove	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 referred to by the proposed rule change.						
Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies       Add     Remove     View	The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit 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       Add     Remove     View	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 of the proposed rule change						
Add     Remove     View	If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy 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 Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC ("Nasdaq" or "Exchange") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change relating to the ALPS Active REIT ETF (the "Fund") of ALPS ETF Trust (the "Trust"), to provide for the use of "Custom Baskets" consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares. The shares of the Fund are collectively referred to herein as the "Shares."

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

# 2. <u>Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization</u>

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors (the "Board"). 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:

Jonathan F. Cayne Principal Associate General Counsel Nasdaq, Inc. (301) 978-8493

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

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

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

a. <u>Purpose</u>

In June 2020 Nasdaq submitted a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness with the Commission for the listing and trading, or trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges, of Proxy Portfolio Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("Proxy Portfolio Shares"), the rule governing the listing and trading of Proxy Portfolio Shares on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> In February 2021 Nasdaq filed a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness to list and trade shares of the Fund under Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("ALPS Fund Filing").<sup>4</sup> Subsequently, the Commission approved a filing to amend Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("Custom Baskets Filing") to provide for the use of "Custom Baskets" consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act") applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.<sup>5</sup> The Exchange filed this proposed rule change to permit the Fund to use Custom Baskets.

As set forth in the ALPS Fund Filing, the Fund is an actively-managed exchange-traded fund. The Shares are offered by the Trust, which was established as a

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nasdaq submitted for immediate effectiveness a proposed rule change for Nasdaq Rule 5750 in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89110 (June 22, 2020), 85 FR 38461 (June 26, 2020) (SR-NASDAQ-2020-032).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 91062 (Feb. 4, 2021), 86 FR 8972 (Feb. 10, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-005).

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 93277 (Oct. 8, 2021), 86 FR 57227 (Oct. 14, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-065); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 92790 (Aug. 27, 2021), 86 FR 49357 (Sept. 2, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-065); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34194 (Feb. 10, 2021) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34221 (March 9, 2021) (order).

Delaware statutory trust on September 13, 2007. The Commission issued an order, upon which the Trust may rely, granting certain exemptive relief under the 1940 Act.<sup>6</sup> The Trust, which is registered with the Commission as an investment company under the 1940 Act, has filed a registration statement on Form N-1A ("Registration Statement") relating to the Fund with the Commission.<sup>7</sup> The Fund is a series of the Trust.

The Shares are currently listed and traded on the Exchange and the proposed rule change updates certain representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing to incorporate the necessary additional representations in the Custom Baskets Filing to permit the Fund to avail itself of the use of Custom Baskets.

The ALPS Fund Filing currently says that the names and quantities of the instruments that constitute the basket of securities for creations and redemptions will be the same as the Fund's Proxy Basket, except to the extent purchases and redemptions are made entirely or in part on a cash basis. The representation adds that in the event that the value of the Proxy Basket is not the same as the Fund's net asset value ("NAV"), the creation and redemption baskets will consist of the securities included in the Proxy Basket plus or minus an amount of cash equal to the difference between the NAV and the value of the Proxy Basket, as described in more detail in the ALPS Fund Filing (the

See ALPS ETF Trust, et al., Investment Company Act Release No. 34149 (Dec. 22, 2020) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34181 (Jan. 21, 2021) (order); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34194 (Feb. 10, 2021) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34221 (March 9, 2021) (order).

The Registration Statement, as amended to date, is available on the Commission's website: <u>https://www.sec.gov/ix?doc=/Archives/edgar/data/0001414040/00013983442200</u> <u>6698/fp0074021\_485bpos-ixbrl.htm</u>.

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representations referred to in this paragraph are collectively referred to hereafter as the "Names and Quantities Rep").

This Names and Quantities Rep will be updated to take into account that the Custom Baskets Filing adopted subparagraph (c)(6) under Nasdaq Rule 5750 (Definitions), which defines "Custom Basket," for the purposes of Nasdaq Rule 5750. The issuer represents that for the purposes of this rule, the term "Custom Basket" means a portfolio of securities that is different from the Proxy Basket and is otherwise consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.

The ALPS Fund Filing also says the Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the shares of the Fund that the NAV per share of the Fund will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time. This representation will be updated to comply with the Custom Baskets Filing's initial listing requirement and as reflected in Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(1)(B). The issuer represents that (i) the NAV per share for the Fund will be calculated daily, (ii) each of the following will be made available to all market participants at the same time when disclosed: the NAV, the Proxy Basket, and the Fund Portfolio, and (iii) the issuer and any person acting on behalf of the series of Proxy Portfolio Shares will comply with Regulation Fair Disclosure under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,<sup>8</sup> including with respect to any Custom Basket.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 243.100-243.103. Regulation Fair Disclosure provides that whenever an issuer, or any person acting on its behalf, discloses material nonpublic information regarding that issuer or its securities to certain individuals or entities—generally, securities market professionals, such as stock analysts, or holders of the issuer's securities who may well trade on the basis of the information—the issuer must make public disclosure of that information.

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The issuer represents that it will update the representation in the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(5), as amended by the Custom Basket filing, to take into account Custom Baskets. Specifically, the issuer represents that if the investment adviser to the Investment Company issuing Proxy Portfolio Shares is registered as a broker-dealer or is affiliated with a broker-dealer, such investment adviser will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the investment adviser and personnel of the broker-dealer or broker-dealer affiliate, as applicable, with respect to access to information concerning the composition of and/or changes to the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable. Any person related to the investment adviser or Investment Company who makes decisions pertaining to the Investment Company's Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio and/or the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto.

Under the ALPS Fund Filing, the issuer represents that it will continue to comply with all aspects of the listing rule and additionally will comply with the revised listing rule, Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(2)(A), as amended by the Custom Baskets Filing, to provide that with respect to each Custom Basket utilized by a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, each business day, before the opening of trading in the regular market session, the investment company shall make publicly available on its website the composition of any Custom Basket transacted on the previous business day, except a Custom Basket that

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differs from the applicable Proxy Basket only with respect to cash.

The Custom Baskets Filing added "Custom Basket" to the non-exclusive list of information relating to Proxy Portfolio Shares that a Reporting Authority calculates and reports, i.e., including, but not limited to, the Proxy Basket; the Fund Portfolio; the amount of any cash distribution to holders of Proxy Portfolio Shares, net asset value, or other information relating to the issuance, redemption or trading of Proxy Portfolio Shares. The issuer represents that it will comply with this and the Custom Baskets Filing's additional requirement in Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(6). Thus, the issuer represents that any person or entity, including a custodian, Reporting Authority, distributor, or administrator, who has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the applicable Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto. Moreover, if any such person or entity is registered as a broker-dealer or affiliated with a broker-dealer, such person or entity will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the person or entity and the broker-dealer with respect to access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to such Fund Portfolio, Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable.

The adviser/sub-adviser firewall representation in the ALPS Fund Filing is being updated to reflect Custom Baskets and will now state that in the event (a) the Adviser or any sub adviser registers as a broker dealer, or becomes newly affiliated with a broker dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub adviser is a registered broker dealer or becomes affiliated with another broker dealer, it will implement and will maintain a fire wall with

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respect to its relevant personnel and/or such broker dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable.

The Fund will comply with the above-described conditions and with the Proxy Portfolio Shares listing rule Nasdaq Rule 5750, as amended, to provide for the use of Custom Baskets consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940<sup>9</sup> applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares. Otherwise, the listing and trading rules, including all representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing, will remain unchanged and will continue to comply with Nasdaq Rule 5750.

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

Nasdaq believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act in general and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that proposed rule change to update certain representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing to incorporate the necessary additional representations in the Custom Baskets Filing to permit the Fund to use Custom Baskets

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 80a <u>et seq</u>.

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will perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest in that it will permit use of Custom Baskets by the Fund, and is consistent with the applicable exemptive relief, in a manner that will benefit investors by increasing efficiencies in the creation and redemption process. More specifically, Custom Baskets will provide flexibility in portfolio construction that may assist in reducing taxable capital gains distributions for investors and may generally improve tax efficiencies. Further, the use of Custom Baskets, to the extent permitted by the Fund's exemptive relief, may also result in narrower bid/ask spreads and smaller premiums and discounts to the NAV for Proxy Portfolio Shares to the extent that the Fund utilizes Custom Baskets with fewer securities which may, in turn, allow authorized participants to more efficiently hedge and participate generally in the Proxy Portfolio Shares. In addition to this, the flexibility provided in the creation of Custom Baskets may serve to increase competition between the issuer of the Shares and other issuers. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance competition among market participants overall, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

The Exchange also believes that updating the Names and Quantities Rep in the ALPS Fund Filing to take into account that the Custom Baskets Filing adopted subparagraph (c)(6) under Nasdaq Rule 5750 (Definitions), which defines "Custom Basket," for the purposes of Nasdaq Rule 5750, to mean a portfolio of securities that is different from the Proxy Basket and is otherwise consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the 1940 Act applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, will remove impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protects investors and the public interest.

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Additionally, the Exchange believes that updating the current representation in the ALPS Fund Filing that says the Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the Shares of the Fund that the NAV per share of the Fund will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time, to provide that the Exchange will also obtain a representation from the issuer of each series of Proxy Portfolio Shares that the issuer and any person acting on behalf of the series of Proxy Portfolio Shares will comply with Regulation Fair Disclosure under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including with respect to any Custom Basket,<sup>10</sup> will be to the benefit of the investing public and market participants.

Nasdaq believes that having the issuer update its representation in the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(5), as amended by the Custom Basket filing, to take into account Custom Baskets is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices by acting as a safeguard against any misuse and improper dissemination of nonpublic information related to the Fund's Custom Basket or changes thereto.

The Exchange also believes that updating the current representation under the ALPS Fund Filing will continue to comply with all aspects of the listing rule and additionally will comply with the revised listing rule, Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(2)(A), as amended by the Custom Baskets Filing, to provide that with respect to each Custom Basket utilized by a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, each business day, before the opening of trading in the regular market session, the investment company shall make publicly available on its website the composition of any Custom Basket transacted on the previous business day, except a Custom Basket that differs from the applicable Proxy

<sup>10</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(1)(B).

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Basket only with respect to cash, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that in accordance with the Custom Baskets Filing that added "Custom Basket" to the non-exclusive list of information relating to Proxy Portfolio Shares that a Reporting Authority calculates and reports, that updating the representation to include the issuer representing the Custom Baskets Filing's additional requirement set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(6) that says any person or entity, including a custodian, Reporting Authority, distributor, or administrator, who has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the applicable Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Nasdaq also believes that the issuer updating its representation to include that if any such person or entity is registered as a broker-dealer or affiliated with a broker-dealer, such person or entity will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the person or entity and the brokerdealer with respect to access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to such Fund Portfolio, Proxy Basket, or Custom Basket, as applicable, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange also believes that updating the current adviser/sub-adviser firewall representation under the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Custom Baskets and to now

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state that in the event (a) the Adviser or any sub adviser registers as a broker dealer, or becomes newly affiliated with a broker dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub adviser is a registered broker dealer or becomes affiliated with another broker dealer, it will implement and will maintain a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel and/or such broker dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

#### 4. <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 believes the proposed rule change, by permitting the use of Custom Baskets by the Fund, is consistent with the Fund's exemptive relief and would be to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

 <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u> Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section  $19(b)(3)(A)^{11}$  of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>12</sup> The Exchange asserts that the 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 after its filing date, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate if consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.

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.

The Exchange believes that its rule change proposal is appropriate for filing on an immediately effective basis under Rule 19b-4(f)(6). The Exchange believes that the proposed rule change does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest because the proposal contains no new issues that the Commission has not previously contemplated and does not impose any significant burden on competition.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 94401 (March 11, 2022), 87 FR 15296 (March 17, 2022) (SR-CboeBZX-2022-16) (Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.'s ("Cboe") immediately effective filing to modify representations included in its original notice and order to permit funds to use a Custom Basket, in addition to a "Tracking Basket" (the equivalent of a Proxy Basket as discussed in this filing) or cash, to create or redeem fund shares in accordance with Cboe's amended exemptive relief and amended Cboe Rule 14.11(m).

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This rule proposal only updates certain representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing to incorporate the certain additional representations in the Custom Baskets Filing to permit the Fund to avail itself of the use Custom Baskets. For the foregoing reasons, this Exchange believes that this rule filing qualifies for immediate effectiveness as a "non-controversial" rule change under Rule 19b-4(f)(6) of the Act.

The Exchange respectfully requests that the Commission waive the 30-day operative delay so that the proposed rule change may become effective and operative upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>14</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder.<sup>15</sup> A waiver of the 30-day operative delay will allow the Fund to use Custom Baskets without unnecessary delay. The Exchange does not believe that there is any reason for delay since the additional representations are consistent with the Commission's prior approval of the Custom Baskets Filing. A waiver of the operative delay is consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest for the reasons described above.

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: (i) necessary or appropriate in the public interest; (ii) for the protection of investors; or (iii) 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 change should be approved or disapproved.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> 17 CFR240.19b-4(f)(6).

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

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

- 11. <u>Exhibits</u>
  - 1. Notice of proposed rule change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

# EXHIBIT 1

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. ; File No. SR-NASDAQ-2022-035)

May \_\_, 2022

Self-Regulatory Organizations; The Nasdaq Stock Market LLC; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Proposed Rule Change relating to the ALPS Active REIT ETF of ALPS ETF Trust, to Provide for the Use of "Custom Baskets" Consistent with the Exemptive Relief Issued Pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 Applicable to a Series of Proxy Portfolio Shares

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 May 27, 2022, The Nasdaq Stock

Market LLC ("Nasdaq" 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</u> <u>Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange proposes to provide for the use of "Custom Baskets" consistent

with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940

applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Exchange's Website at <u>https://listingcenter.nasdaq.com/rulebook/nasdaq/rules</u>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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

# 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>

In June 2020 Nasdaq submitted a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness with the Commission for the listing and trading, or trading pursuant to unlisted trading privileges, of Proxy Portfolio Shares under Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("Proxy Portfolio Shares"), the rule governing the listing and trading of Proxy Portfolio Shares on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> In February 2021 Nasdaq filed a proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness to list and trade shares of the Fund under Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("ALPS Fund Filing").<sup>4</sup> Subsequently, the Commission approved a filing to amend Nasdaq Rule 5750 ("Custom Baskets Filing") to provide for the use of "Custom Baskets" consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the "1940 Act") applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.<sup>5</sup> The Exchange filed this proposed

 <sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Nasdaq submitted for immediate effectiveness a proposed rule change for Nasdaq Rule 5750 in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 89110 (June 22, 2020), 85 FR 38461 (June 26, 2020) (SR-NASDAQ-2020-032).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 91062 (Feb. 4, 2021), 86 FR 8972 (Feb. 10, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-005).

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rule change to permit the Fund to use Custom Baskets.

As set forth in the ALPS Fund Filing, the Fund is an actively-managed exchange-traded fund. The Shares are offered by the Trust, which was established as a Delaware statutory trust on September 13, 2007. The Commission issued an order, upon which the Trust may rely, granting certain exemptive relief under the 1940 Act.<sup>6</sup> The Trust, which is registered with the Commission as an investment company under the 1940 Act, has filed a registration statement on Form N-1A ("Registration Statement") relating to the Fund with the Commission.<sup>7</sup> The Fund is a series of the Trust.

The Shares are currently listed and traded on the Exchange and the proposed rule change updates certain representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing to incorporate the necessary additional representations in the Custom Baskets Filing to permit the Fund to avail itself of the use of Custom Baskets.

The ALPS Fund Filing currently says that the names and quantities of the instruments that constitute the basket of securities for creations and redemptions will be

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 93277 (Oct. 8, 2021), 86 FR 57227 (Oct. 14, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-065); see also Securities Exchange Act Release No. 92790 (Aug. 27, 2021), 86 FR 49357 (Sept. 2, 2021) (SR-NASDAQ-2021-065); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34194 (Feb. 10, 2021) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34221 (March 9, 2021) (order).

See ALPS ETF Trust, et al., Investment Company Act Release No. 34149 (Dec. 22, 2020) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34181 (Jan. 21, 2021) (order); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34194 (Feb. 10, 2021) (notice); see also Investment Company Act Release No. 34221 (March 9, 2021) (order).

The Registration Statement, as amended to date, is available on the Commission's website:
 <u>https://www.sec.gov/ix?doc=/Archives/edgar/data/0001414040/00013983442200</u>
 <u>6698/fp0074021\_485bpos-ixbrl.htm</u>.

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the same as the Fund's Proxy Basket, except to the extent purchases and redemptions are made entirely or in part on a cash basis. The representation adds that in the event that the value of the Proxy Basket is not the same as the Fund's net asset value ("NAV"), the creation and redemption baskets will consist of the securities included in the Proxy Basket plus or minus an amount of cash equal to the difference between the NAV and the value of the Proxy Basket, as described in more detail in the ALPS Fund Filing (the representations referred to in this paragraph are collectively referred to hereafter as the "Names and Quantities Rep").

This Names and Quantities Rep will be updated to take into account that the Custom Baskets Filing adopted subparagraph (c)(6) under Nasdaq Rule 5750 (Definitions), which defines "Custom Basket," for the purposes of Nasdaq Rule 5750. The issuer represents that for the purposes of this rule, the term "Custom Basket" means a portfolio of securities that is different from the Proxy Basket and is otherwise consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940 applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares.

The ALPS Fund Filing also says the Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the shares of the Fund that the NAV per share of the Fund will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time. This representation will be updated to comply with the Custom Baskets Filing's initial listing requirement and as reflected in Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(1)(B). The issuer represents that (i) the NAV per share for the Fund will be calculated daily, (ii) each of the following will be made available to all market participants at the same time when disclosed: the NAV, the Proxy Basket, and the Fund Portfolio, and (iii) the issuer and any person acting on behalf

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of the series of Proxy Portfolio Shares will comply with Regulation Fair Disclosure under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,<sup>8</sup> including with respect to any Custom Basket.

The issuer represents that it will update the representation in the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(5), as amended by the Custom Basket filing, to take into account Custom Baskets. Specifically, the issuer represents that if the investment adviser to the Investment Company issuing Proxy Portfolio Shares is registered as a broker-dealer or is affiliated with a broker-dealer, such investment adviser will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the investment adviser and personnel of the broker-dealer or broker-dealer affiliate, as applicable, with respect to access to information concerning the composition of and/or changes to the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable. Any person related to the investment adviser or Investment Company who makes decisions pertaining to the Investment Company's Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio and/or the Proxy Basket, and/or Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto.

Under the ALPS Fund Filing, the issuer represents that it will continue to comply with all aspects of the listing rule and additionally will comply with the revised listing

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> 17 CFR 243.100-243.103. Regulation Fair Disclosure provides that whenever an issuer, or any person acting on its behalf, discloses material nonpublic information regarding that issuer or its securities to certain individuals or entities—generally, securities market professionals, such as stock analysts, or holders of the issuer's securities who may well trade on the basis of the information—the issuer must make public disclosure of that information.

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rule, Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(2)(A), as amended by the Custom Baskets Filing, to provide that with respect to each Custom Basket utilized by a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, each business day, before the opening of trading in the regular market session, the investment company shall make publicly available on its website the composition of any Custom Basket transacted on the previous business day, except a Custom Basket that differs from the applicable Proxy Basket only with respect to cash.

The Custom Baskets Filing added "Custom Basket" to the non-exclusive list of information relating to Proxy Portfolio Shares that a Reporting Authority calculates and reports, i.e., including, but not limited to, the Proxy Basket; the Fund Portfolio; the amount of any cash distribution to holders of Proxy Portfolio Shares, net asset value, or other information relating to the issuance, redemption or trading of Proxy Portfolio Shares. The issuer represents that it will comply with this and the Custom Baskets Filing's additional requirement in Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(6). Thus, the issuer represents that any person or entity, including a custodian, Reporting Authority, distributor, or administrator, who has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the applicable Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto. Moreover, if any such person or entity is registered as a broker-dealer or affiliated with a broker-dealer, such person or entity will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the person or entity and the broker-dealer with respect to access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to such Fund Portfolio, Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable.

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The adviser/sub-adviser firewall representation in the ALPS Fund Filing is being updated to reflect Custom Baskets and will now state that in the event (a) the Adviser or any sub adviser registers as a broker dealer, or becomes newly affiliated with a broker dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub adviser is a registered broker dealer or becomes affiliated with another broker dealer, it will implement and will maintain a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel and/or such broker dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable.

The Fund will comply with the above-described conditions and with the Proxy Portfolio Shares listing rule Nasdaq Rule 5750, as amended, to provide for the use of Custom Baskets consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the Investment Company Act of 1940<sup>9</sup> applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares. Otherwise, the listing and trading rules, including all representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing, will remain unchanged and will continue to comply with Nasdaq Rule 5750.

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

Nasdaq believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act in general and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act, in particular, in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 80a <u>et seq</u>.

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transactions in securities, and to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange believes that proposed rule change to update certain representations made in the ALPS Fund Filing to incorporate the necessary additional representations in the Custom Baskets Filing to permit the Fund to use Custom Baskets will perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest in that it will permit use of Custom Baskets by the Fund, and is consistent with the applicable exemptive relief, in a manner that will benefit investors by increasing efficiencies in the creation and redemption process. More specifically, Custom Baskets will provide flexibility in portfolio construction that may assist in reducing taxable capital gains distributions for investors and may generally improve tax efficiencies. Further, the use of Custom Baskets, to the extent permitted by the Fund's exemptive relief, may also result in narrower bid/ask spreads and smaller premiums and discounts to the NAV for Proxy Portfolio Shares to the extent that the Fund utilizes Custom Baskets with fewer securities which may, in turn, allow authorized participants to more efficiently hedge and participate generally in the Proxy Portfolio Shares. In addition to this, the flexibility provided in the creation of Custom Baskets may serve to increase competition between the issuer of the Shares and other issuers. The Exchange believes the proposed rule change will enhance competition among market participants overall, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

The Exchange also believes that updating the Names and Quantities Rep in the ALPS Fund Filing to take into account that the Custom Baskets Filing adopted subparagraph (c)(6) under Nasdaq Rule 5750 (Definitions), which defines "Custom

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Basket," for the purposes of Nasdaq Rule 5750, to mean a portfolio of securities that is different from the Proxy Basket and is otherwise consistent with the exemptive relief issued pursuant to the 1940 Act applicable to a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, will remove impediments to and perfects the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protects investors and the public interest.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that updating the current representation in the ALPS Fund Filing that says the Exchange will obtain a representation from the issuer of the Shares of the Fund that the NAV per share of the Fund will be calculated daily and will be made available to all market participants at the same time, to provide that the Exchange will also obtain a representation from the issuer of each series of Proxy Portfolio Shares that the issuer and any person acting on behalf of the series of Proxy Portfolio Shares will comply with Regulation Fair Disclosure under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, including with respect to any Custom Basket,<sup>10</sup> will be to the benefit of the investing public and market participants.

Nasdaq believes that having the issuer update its representation in the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(5), as amended by the Custom Basket filing, to take into account Custom Baskets is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices by acting as a safeguard against any misuse and improper dissemination of nonpublic information related to the Fund's Custom Basket or changes thereto.

The Exchange also believes that updating the current representation under the ALPS Fund Filing will continue to comply with all aspects of the listing rule and additionally will comply with the revised listing rule, Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(2)(A), as

<sup>10</sup> See Nasdaq Rule 5750(d)(1)(B).

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amended by the Custom Baskets Filing, to provide that with respect to each Custom Basket utilized by a series of Proxy Portfolio Shares, each business day, before the opening of trading in the regular market session, the investment company shall make publicly available on its website the composition of any Custom Basket transacted on the previous business day, except a Custom Basket that differs from the applicable Proxy Basket only with respect to cash, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

Additionally, the Exchange believes that in accordance with the Custom Baskets Filing that added "Custom Basket" to the non-exclusive list of information relating to Proxy Portfolio Shares that a Reporting Authority calculates and reports, that updating the representation to include the issuer representing the Custom Baskets Filing's additional requirement set forth in Nasdaq Rule 5750(b)(6) that says any person or entity, including a custodian, Reporting Authority, distributor, or administrator, who has access to nonpublic information regarding the Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, must be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the applicable Fund Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, or the Custom Basket, as applicable, or changes thereto, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest. Nasdaq also believes that the issuer updating its representation to include that if any such person or entity is registered as a broker-dealer or affiliated with a broker-dealer, such person or entity will erect and maintain a "fire wall" between the person or entity and the brokerdealer with respect to access to information concerning the composition and/or changes

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to such Fund Portfolio, Proxy Basket, or Custom Basket, as applicable, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

The Exchange also believes that updating the current adviser/sub-adviser firewall representation under the ALPS Fund Filing to reflect Custom Baskets and to now state that in the event (a) the Adviser or any sub adviser registers as a broker dealer, or becomes newly affiliated with a broker dealer, or (b) any new adviser or sub adviser is a registered broker dealer or becomes affiliated with another broker dealer, it will implement and will maintain a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel and/or such broker dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's Portfolio, the Proxy Basket, and/or the Custom Basket, as applicable, will remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and, in general, protect investors and the public interest.

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

#### 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 believes the proposed rule change, by permitting the use of Custom Baskets by the Fund, is consistent with the Fund's exemptive relief and would be to the benefit of investors and the marketplace. 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. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission 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>11</sup> and subparagraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>12</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 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.

<sup>11</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> 17 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.

#### 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 (<u>http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</u>); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-NASDAQ-2022-035 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-NASDAQ-2022-035. 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 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

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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-NASDAQ-2022-035 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>13</sup>

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).