Page 1 of * 24		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4			File No. * SR 2025 - * 101  nt No. (req. for Amendments *)			
Filing by Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.								
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934								
Initial *  ✓	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(t	b)(2) * Section 19(b	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 proposed change pursuant to the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010  Section 806(e)(1) *  Section 806(e)(2) *  Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  Section 3C(b)(2) *								
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 *).  The Exchange proposes to amend its Fee Schedule.								
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 Name *	Allyson	Last Name *	Van Marter					
Title *	Counsel							
E-mail *	avanmarter@cboe.com							
Telephone *	(312) 786-7098	Fax						
Signature  Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange of 1934, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.								
Date	07/29/2025		(	(Title *)				
Ву	Matthew Iwamaye		√P, Associate Genera	al Counsel				
	(Name *)				_			
NOTE: Clicking the signature block at right will initiate digitally signing the form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.  Matthew Twamaye  Date: 2025.07.29  11:51:40 -05'00'								

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website.

Form 19b-4 Information *					
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25-101 (SV&TR Discount) 19b4.docx					

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.

### Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \*

Add Remove View
25-101 (SV & TR Discount) Exhibit 1.0

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 \*

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### Exhibit 2- Notices, Written Comments, Transcripts, Other Communications

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Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction  $\mathsf{F}$ , they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction  $\mathsf{G}$ .

### Exhibit Sent As Paper Document

### Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire

Add Remove View

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 Sent As Paper Document

#### **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

25-101 (SV&TR Discount) Exhibit 5.dc

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

#### **Partial Amendment**

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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.

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

- (a) Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") proposes to amend its Fee Schedule. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.

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

- (a) The Exchange's President (or designee) pursuant to delegated authority approved the proposed rule change on July 28, 2025.
- (b) Please refer questions and comments on the proposed rule change to Pat Sexton, Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary, (312) 786-7467, or Allyson Van Marter, (312) 786-7098, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc., 433 West Van Buren Street, Chicago, Illinois 60607.

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

#### (a) Purpose

The Exchange proposes to update its Fee Schedule to provide a temporary discount on fees assessed to BZX Members ("Members")<sup>1</sup> and non-Members that purchase \$20,000 or more of ad hoc purchases of historical U.S. Equity Short Volume and Trades Reports ("Short Volume Reports"), effective July 29, 2025 through September 30, 2025.

See Rule 1.5(n) ("Member"). The term "Member" shall mean any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange. A Member will have the status of a "member" of the Exchange as that term is defined in Section 3(a)(3) of the Act. Membership may be granted to a sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other organization which is a registered broker or dealer pursuant to Section 15 of the Act, and which has been approved by the Exchange.

By way of background, the Short Volume Report is an end-of-day report that summarizes certain equity trading activity on the Exchange, including trade date,<sup>2</sup> total volume,<sup>3</sup> short volume,<sup>4</sup> and sell short exempt volume,<sup>5</sup> by symbol.<sup>6</sup> The Short Volume Report also includes an end-of-month report that provides a record of all short sale transactions for the month, including trade date and time (in microseconds),<sup>7</sup> trade size,<sup>8</sup> trade price,<sup>9</sup> and type of short sale execution,<sup>10</sup> by symbol and exchange.<sup>11</sup> The Short Volume Report is a completely voluntary product, in that the Exchange is not required by any rule or regulation to make this data available and that potential customers may purchase it on an ad-hoc basis only if they voluntarily choose to do so.

Cboe LiveVol, LLC ("LiveVol"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Exchange's parent company, Cboe Global Markets, Inc., makes the Short Volume Report available for purchase to Users on the LiveVol DataShop website (datashop.cboe.com). Both the end-of-day report and end-of-month report are included in the cost of the Short Volume

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "Trade date" is the date of trading activity in yyyy-mm-dd format.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Total volume" is the total number of shares transacted.

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Short volume" is the total number of shares sold short.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Short exempt volume" is the total number of shares sold short classified as exempt.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Symbol" refers to the Cboe formatted symbol in which the trading activity occurred. <u>See https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/membership/US</u> Symbology Reference.pdf.

Trade date and time" is the date and time of trading activity in yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss.000000 ET format.

<sup>8 &</sup>quot;Trade size" is the number of shares transacted.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Trade price" is the price at which shares were transacted.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Short type" is a data field that will indicate whether the transaction was a short sale or short sale exempt transaction. A short sale transaction is a transaction in which a seller sells a security which the seller does not own, or the seller has borrowed for its own account (see 17 CFR 242.200). A short sale exempt transaction is a short sale transaction that is exempt from the short sale price test restrictions of Regulation SHO Rule 201 (see 17 CFR 242.201(c)).

<sup>&</sup>quot;Exchange" is the market identifier (Z = BZX, Y = BYX, X = EDGX, A = EDGA).

Report and are available for purchase by both Members as well as non-Members on an annual or monthly <sup>12</sup> basis. The monthly fee is \$750 per Internal Distributor <sup>13</sup> and \$1,250 per External Distributor. <sup>14</sup> Additionally, the Exchange offers historical reports containing both the end-of-day volume and end-of-month trading activity. The fee per month of historical data is \$500. The Short Volume Report provided on a historical basis is only for display use redistribution (e.g., the data may be provided on the User's platform). Therefore, Users of the historical data may not charge separately for data included in the Short Volume Report or incorporate such data into their product. The Exchange notes that the Short Volume Report is subject to direct competition from other exchanges, as other exchanges offer similar products for a fee. <sup>15</sup>

The Exchange proposes to provide a temporary pricing incentive program in which Members or Non-Members that purchase historical Short Volume Reports will receive a percentage fee discount where specific purchase thresholds are met.

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to provide a 20% discount for ad-hoc purchases of

The monthly fees for the Report are assessed on a rolling period based on the original subscription date. For example, if a User subscribes to the Report on October 24, 2023, the monthly fee will cover the period of October 24, 2023, through November 23, 2023. If the User cancels its subscription prior to November 23, 2023, and no refund is issued, the User will continue to receive both the end-of-day and end-of-month components of the Report for the subscription period.

An Internal Distributor of an Exchange Market Data product is a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to one or more Users within the Distributor's own entity. <u>See</u> Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

An External Distributor of an Exchange Market Data product is a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor's own entity. See Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

See the Nasdaq Fee Schedule, Equity 7, Section 152. See also, the TAQ Group Short Sales (Monthly File) and Short Volume product, offered by the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE") and affiliated equity markets (the "NYSE Group") at NYSE Exchange Proprietary Market Data | TAQ NYSE Group Short Sales.

historical Short Volume Reports of \$20,000 or more. <sup>16</sup> The proposed program will apply to all market participants irrespective of whether the market participant is a new or current purchaser; however, the discount cannot be combined with any other discounts offered by the Exchange. The Exchange intends to introduce the discount program beginning July 29, 2025, with the program remaining in effect through September 30, 2025. The Exchange also notes that it has previously adopted the same discount program and proposes to update the Fees Schedule with the new program dates accordingly. <sup>17</sup>

### (b) Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act. 18

Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>19</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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

The discount will apply on an order-by-order basis. The discount will apply to the total purchase price, once the \$20,000 minimum purchase is satisfied (for example, a qualifying order of \$25,000 would be discounted to \$20,000, i.e. receive a 20% discount of \$5,000).

See e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173
 (December 20, 2023) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330
 June13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-048).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

interest. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>20</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>21</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities.

In adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission granted self-regulatory organizations ("SROs") and broker-dealers increased authority and flexibility to offer new and unique market data to the public. It was believed that this authority would expand the amount of data available to consumers, and also spur innovation and competition for the provision of market data. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee changes will further broaden the availability of U.S. equity market data to investors consistent with the principles of Regulation NMS. The Exchange believes the dissemination of historical short volume data via historical Short Volume Reports benefits investors through increased transparency and may promote better informed trading, as well as research and studies of the equities industry. Nevertheless, the Exchange notes that such data is not necessary for trading and as noted above, is entirely optional. Moreover, several other exchanges offer a similar data product which offer the same type of data content through similar reports. 22

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

See supra note 15.

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment. Indeed, there are currently 16 registered equities exchanges that trade equities. Based on publicly available information, no single equities exchange has more than 15% of the equity market share. <sup>23</sup> The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Particularly, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies."<sup>24</sup> Making similar data products available to market participants fosters competition in the marketplace, and constrains the ability of exchanges to charge supercompetitive fees. In the event that a market participant views one exchange's data product as more attractive than the competition, that market participant can, and often does, switch between similar products. The proposed fees are a result of the competitive environment of the U.S. equities industry as the Exchange seeks to adopt fees to attract purchasers of historical Short Volume Reports.

The Exchange believes that the proposed incentive program for any Member or non-Member who purchases historical Short Volume Reports is reasonable because such purchasers would receive a 20% discount for purchasing \$20,000 or more worth of historical Short Volume Reports. The Exchange believes the proposed discount is

See Cboe Global Markets, U.S. Equities Market Volume Summary, Month-to-Date (July 28, 2025), available at https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/market\_statistics/.

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

reasonable as it will give purchasers the ability to use and test the historical Short Volume Reports at a discounted rate, prior to purchasing additional months or a monthly subscription, and will therefore encourage users to purchase historical Short Volume Reports. Further, the proposed discount is intended to promote increased use of the Exchange's historical Short Volume Reports by defraying some of the costs a purchaser would ordinarily have to expend before using the data product. The Exchange believes that the proposed discount is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all Members and non-Members who purchase historical Short Volume Reports. Lastly, the purchase of this data product is discretionary and not compulsory. Indeed, no market participant is required to purchase the historical Short Volume Reports, and the Exchange is not required to make historical Short Volume Reports available to all investors. Potential purchasers may request the data at any time if they believe it to be valuable or may decline to purchase such data. As noted above, the Exchange has previously adopted similar discount programs. <sup>25</sup>

### Item 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 operates in a highly competitive environment in which the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, including the adoption of similar discounts to those fees, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes (including discounts and

See e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173
 (December 20, 2023) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330
 June 13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-048).

rebates) in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. As discussed above, the Exchange's historical Short Volume Reports offering is subject to direct competition from several other options exchanges that offer similar data products. Moreover, purchase of historical Short Volume Reports is optional. It is designed to help investors understand underlying market trends to improve the quality of investment decisions, but is not necessary to execute a trade.

The proposed rule changes are grounded in the Exchange's efforts to compete more effectively. In this competitive environment, potential purchasers are free to choose which, if any, similar product to purchase to satisfy their need for market information. As a result, the Exchange believes this proposed rule change permits fair competition among national securities exchanges. Further, the Exchange believes that these changes will not cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intermarket competition, as the proposed incentive program applies uniformly to any purchaser of historical Short Volume Reports.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

### Item 6. <u>Extension of Time Period for Commission Action</u>

Not applicable.

# Item 7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)

- (a) The proposed rule change is filed for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the  $Act^{26}$  and Rule 19b-4(f)(2)<sup>27</sup> thereunder.
- (b) The Exchange designates that the proposed rule change establishes or changes a due, fee, or other charge imposed by the Exchange, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission"). At any time within 60 days of the filing of this 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 will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be approved or disapproved.
  - (c) Not applicable.
  - (d) Not applicable.

# Item 8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

The proposed rule change is not based on a rule either of another self-regulatory organization or of the Commission.

# Item 9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(2).

# Item 10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervision Act

Not applicable.

### Item 11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1. Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for publication in the Federal Register.

Exhibit 5. Proposed rule text.

### EXHIBIT 1

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2025-101]

[Insert date]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Amend its Fee Schedule to Provide a Temporary Discount for U.S. Equity Short Volume and Trade Reports

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on [insert date], Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "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>

Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") proposes to amend its Fee Schedule to provide a temporary discount on fees assessed to BZX Members and non-Members that purchase \$20,000 or more of ad hoc purchases of historical U.S. Equity Short Volume and Trades Reports. The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

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

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

The text of the proposed rule change is also available on the Exchange's website (<a href="http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule\_filings/BZX/">http://markets.cboe.com/us/equities/regulation/rule\_filings/BZX/</a>), at the Exchange's Office of the Secretary, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

### II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> Basis 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 update its Fee Schedule to provide a temporary discount on fees assessed to BZX Members ("Members")<sup>3</sup> and non-Members that purchase \$20,000 or more of ad hoc purchases of historical U.S. Equity Short Volume and Trades Reports ("Short Volume Reports"), effective July 29, 2025 through September 30, 2025.

By way of background, the Short Volume Report is an end-of-day report that summarizes certain equity trading activity on the Exchange, including trade date,<sup>4</sup> total

<sup>3 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 1.5(n) ("Member"). The term "Member" shall mean any registered broker or dealer that has been admitted to membership in the Exchange. A Member will have the status of a "member" of the Exchange as that term is defined in Section 3(a)(3) of the Act. Membership may be granted to a sole proprietor, partnership, corporation, limited liability company or other organization which is a registered broker or dealer pursuant to Section 15 of the Act, and which has been approved by the Exchange.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> "Trade date" is the date of trading activity in yyyy-mm-dd format.

volume,<sup>5</sup> short volume,<sup>6</sup> and sell short exempt volume,<sup>7</sup> by symbol.<sup>8</sup> The Short Volume Report also includes an end-of-month report that provides a record of all short sale transactions for the month, including trade date and time (in microseconds),<sup>9</sup> trade size,<sup>10</sup> trade price,<sup>11</sup> and type of short sale execution,<sup>12</sup> by symbol and exchange.<sup>13</sup> The Short Volume Report is a completely voluntary product, in that the Exchange is not required by any rule or regulation to make this data available and that potential customers may purchase it on an ad-hoc basis only if they voluntarily choose to do so.

Cboe LiveVol, LLC ("LiveVol"), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Exchange's parent company, Cboe Global Markets, Inc., makes the Short Volume Report available for purchase to Users on the LiveVol DataShop website (datashop.cboe.com). Both the end-of-day report and end-of-month report are included in the cost of the Short Volume Report and are available for purchase by both Members as well as non-Members on an

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Total volume" is the total number of shares transacted.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Short volume" is the total number of shares sold short.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Short exempt volume" is the total number of shares sold short classified as exempt.

Symbol" refers to the Cboe formatted symbol in which the trading activity occurred. <u>See https://cdn.cboe.com/resources/membership/US</u> Symbology Reference.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> "Trade date and time" is the date and time of trading activity in yyyy-mm-dd hh:mm:ss.000000 ET format.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Trade size" is the number of shares transacted.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Trade price" is the price at which shares were transacted.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Short type" is a data field that will indicate whether the transaction was a short sale or short sale exempt transaction. A short sale transaction is a transaction in which a seller sells a security which the seller does not own, or the seller has borrowed for its own account (see 17 CFR 242.200). A short sale exempt transaction is a short sale transaction that is exempt from the short sale price test restrictions of Regulation SHO Rule 201 (see 17 CFR 242.201(c)).

<sup>&</sup>quot;Exchange" is the market identifier (Z = BZX, Y = BYX, X = EDGX, A = EDGA).

annual or monthly <sup>14</sup> basis. The monthly fee is \$750 per Internal Distributor <sup>15</sup> and \$1,250 per External Distributor. <sup>16</sup> Additionally, the Exchange offers historical reports containing both the end-of-day volume and end-of-month trading activity. The fee per month of historical data is \$500. The Short Volume Report provided on a historical basis is only for display use redistribution (e.g., the data may be provided on the User's platform). Therefore, Users of the historical data may not charge separately for data included in the Short Volume Report or incorporate such data into their product. The Exchange notes that the Short Volume Report is subject to direct competition from other exchanges, as other exchanges offer similar products for a fee. <sup>17</sup>

The Exchange proposes to provide a temporary pricing incentive program in which Members or Non-Members that purchase historical Short Volume Reports will receive a percentage fee discount where specific purchase thresholds are met.

Specifically, the Exchange proposes to provide a 20% discount for ad-hoc purchases of historical Short Volume Reports of \$20,000 or more. 18 The proposed program will apply

The monthly fees for the Report are assessed on a rolling period based on the original subscription date. For example, if a User subscribes to the Report on October 24, 2023, the monthly fee will cover the period of October 24, 2023, through November 23, 2023. If the User cancels its subscription prior to November 23, 2023, and no refund is issued, the User will continue to receive both the end-of-day and end-of-month components of the Report for the subscription period.

An Internal Distributor of an Exchange Market Data product is a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to one or more Users within the Distributor's own entity. See Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

An External Distributor of an Exchange Market Data product is a Distributor that receives the Exchange Market Data product and then distributes that data to a third party or one or more Users outside the Distributor's own entity. See Cboe BZX U.S. Equities Exchange Fee Schedule.

See the Nasdaq Fee Schedule, Equity 7, Section 152. See also, the TAQ Group Short Sales (Monthly File) and Short Volume product, offered by the New York Stock Exchange LLC ("NYSE") and affiliated equity markets (the "NYSE Group") at NYSE Exchange Proprietary Market Data | TAQ NYSE Group Short Sales.

The discount will apply on an order-by-order basis. The discount will apply to the total purchase price, once the \$20,000 minimum purchase is satisfied (for example, a qualifying order of \$25,000 would be discounted to \$20,000, i.e. receive a 20% discount of \$5,000).

to all market participants irrespective of whether the market participant is a new or current purchaser; however, the discount cannot be combined with any other discounts offered by the Exchange. The Exchange intends to introduce the discount program beginning July 29, 2025, with the program remaining in effect through September 30, 2025. The Exchange also notes that it has previously adopted the same discount program and proposes to update the Fees Schedule with the new program dates accordingly.<sup>19</sup>

### 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and the rules and regulations thereunder applicable to the Exchange and, in particular, the requirements of Section 6(b) of the Act.<sup>20</sup> Specifically, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>21</sup> requirements that the rules of an exchange be 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 regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in securities, 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. Additionally, the Exchange believes the proposed rule change is consistent with the Section 6(b)(5)<sup>22</sup> requirement that the rules of an exchange not be designed to permit

See e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173
 (December 20, 2023) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330
 June13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-048).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(5).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Id.

unfair discrimination between customers, issuers, brokers, or dealers. The Exchange also believes the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 6(b)(4) of the Act,<sup>23</sup> which requires that Exchange rules provide for the equitable allocation of reasonable dues, fees, and other charges among its Trading Permit Holders and other persons using its facilities.

In adopting Regulation NMS, the Commission granted self-regulatory organizations ("SROs") and broker-dealers increased authority and flexibility to offer new and unique market data to the public. It was believed that this authority would expand the amount of data available to consumers, and also spur innovation and competition for the provision of market data. The Exchange believes that the proposed fee changes will further broaden the availability of U.S. equity market data to investors consistent with the principles of Regulation NMS. The Exchange believes the dissemination of historical short volume data via historical Short Volume Reports benefits investors through increased transparency and may promote better informed trading, as well as research and studies of the equities industry. Nevertheless, the Exchange notes that such data is not necessary for trading and as noted above, is entirely optional. Moreover, several other exchanges offer a similar data product which offer the same type of data content through similar reports. 24

The Exchange operates in a highly competitive environment. Indeed, there are currently 16 registered equities exchanges that trade equities. Based on publicly available information, no single equities exchange has more than 15% of the equity market share.<sup>25</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78f(b)(4).

See supra note 17.

See Cboe Global Markets, U.S. Equities Market Volume Summary, Month-to-Date (July 28, 2025), available at <a href="https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/market\_statistics/">https://www.cboe.com/us/equities/market\_statistics/</a>.

The Commission has repeatedly expressed its preference for competition over regulatory intervention in determining prices, products, and services in the securities markets. Particularly, in Regulation NMS, the Commission highlighted the importance of market forces in determining prices and SRO revenues and, also, recognized that current regulation of the market system "has been remarkably successful in promoting market competition in its broader forms that are most important to investors and listed companies." Making similar data products available to market participants fosters competition in the marketplace, and constrains the ability of exchanges to charge supercompetitive fees. In the event that a market participant views one exchange's data product as more attractive than the competition, that market participant can, and often does, switch between similar products. The proposed fees are a result of the competitive environment of the U.S. equities industry as the Exchange seeks to adopt fees to attract purchasers of historical Short Volume Reports.

The Exchange believes that the proposed incentive program for any Member or non-Member who purchases historical Short Volume Reports is reasonable because such purchasers would receive a 20% discount for purchasing \$20,000 or more worth of historical Short Volume Reports. The Exchange believes the proposed discount is reasonable as it will give purchasers the ability to use and test the historical Short Volume Reports at a discounted rate, prior to purchasing additional months or a monthly subscription, and will therefore encourage users to purchase historical Short Volume Reports. Further, the proposed discount is intended to promote increased use of the

See Securities Exchange Act Release No. 51808 (June 9, 2005), 70 FR 37496, 37499 (June 29, 2005) ("Regulation NMS Adopting Release").

Exchange's historical Short Volume Reports by defraying some of the costs a purchaser would ordinarily have to expend before using the data product. The Exchange believes that the proposed discount is equitable and not unfairly discriminatory because it will apply equally to all Members and non-Members who purchase historical Short Volume Reports. Lastly, the purchase of this data product is discretionary and not compulsory. Indeed, no market participant is required to purchase the historical Short Volume Reports, and the Exchange is not required to make historical Short Volume Reports available to all investors. Potential purchasers may request the data at any time if they believe it to be valuable or may decline to purchase such data. As noted above, the Exchange has previously adopted similar discount programs. <sup>27</sup>

B. 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 operates in a highly competitive environment in which the Exchange must continually adjust its fees to remain competitive. Because competitors are free to modify their own fees in response, including the adoption of similar discounts to those fees, the Exchange believes that the degree to which fee changes (including discounts and rebates) in this market may impose any burden on competition is extremely limited. As discussed above, the Exchange's historical Short Volume Reports offering is subject to direct competition from several other options exchanges that offer similar data products.

Moreover, purchase of historical Short Volume Reports is optional. It is designed to help

See e.g., Securities Exchange Act Release No. 99182 (December 14, 2023), 88 FR 88173
 (December 20, 2023) (SR-CboeBZX-2023-093) and Securities Exchange Act Release No. 100330
 June 13, 2024), 89 FR 51931 (June 20, 2024) (SR-CboeBZX-2024-048).

investors understand underlying market trends to improve the quality of investment decisions, but is not necessary to execute a trade.

The proposed rule changes are grounded in the Exchange's efforts to compete more effectively. In this competitive environment, potential purchasers are free to choose which, if any, similar product to purchase to satisfy their need for market information. As a result, the Exchange believes this proposed rule change permits fair competition among national securities exchanges. Further, the Exchange believes that these changes will not cause any unnecessary or inappropriate burden on intermarket competition, as the proposed incentive program applies uniformly to any purchaser of historical Short Volume Reports.

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

The Exchange neither solicited nor received comments on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>28</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4<sup>29</sup> thereunder. 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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

Commission will institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change 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
   (<a href="https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>); or
- Send an email to <a href="mailto:rule-comments@sec.gov">rule-comments@sec.gov</a>. Please include file number SR-CboeBZX-2025-101 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-CboeBZX-2025-101. This file number should be included on the subject line if email 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 website (<a href="https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the filing will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. Do not include personal identifiable information in submissions; you should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. We may redact in part or withhold entirely from publication submitted material that is obscene or subject to copyright protection. All

submissions should refer to file number SR-CboeBZX-2025-101 and should be submitted on or before [INSERT DATE 21 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^{30}$ 

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

#### **EXHIBIT 5**

(additions are underlined; deletions are [bracketed])

\* \* \* \* \*

**Cboe U.S. Equities Fee Schedules** 

**BZX** Equities

Effective July [25]29, 2025

\* \* \* \* \*

**Market Data Fees:** 

\* \* \* \* \*

### **US Equity Short Volume & Trades Report**<sup>1</sup>

DELIVERY	FEE
Monthly Fee per Internal Distributor	\$750
Monthly Fee per External Distributor	\$1,250
Fee per Month of Historical Data <sup>2,3</sup>	\$500

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The US Equity Short Volume & Trades Report is available for purchase on a monthly basis or on an annual basis. A User of the US Equity Short Volume & Trades Report will receive access to the end-of-day report beginning on the date of subscription and will receive the end-of-month report for the subscription month on the last business day of the month during which the User subscribed.

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>The US Equity Short Volume & Trades Report provided on a historical basis is only for display use redistribution. Users who subscribe on an annual basis will receive 12 months of historical data included at no extra charge. Users who subscribe on a monthly basis would have the option of purchasing historical data on a per month basis. From [October 10, 2024 through December 31, 2024]July 29, 2025 through September 30, 2025, any single purchase of historical data totaling \$20,000 or more will receive a 20% discount. This discount cannot be combined with any other discount offered by the Exchange.