

# Chapter 63

2017 EDITION

## Limited Liability Companies

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**GENERAL PROVISIONS****(Definitions)**

**63.001 Definitions.** As used in this chapter:

(1) “Anniversary” means the day each year that is exactly one or more years after:

(a) The date on which the Secretary of State files the articles of organization for a domestic limited liability company.

(b) The date on which the Secretary of State files a foreign limited liability company’s application for authority to transact business in this state.

(2) “Articles of organization” means the document described in ORS 63.047 that forms a limited liability company, including articles of organization as the articles of organization may be amended or restated, articles of conversion and articles of merger.

(3) “Bankruptcy” means:

(a) A member’s assignment for the benefit of creditors;

(b) A member’s commencement of a voluntary bankruptcy case;

(c) Adjudication of a member as bankrupt or insolvent;

(d) A member’s filing of a petition or answer to seek for the member any reorganization, arrangement, composition, readjustment, liquidation, dissolution or similar relief under any statute, law or rule;

(e) A member’s filing of an answer or other pleading that admits or fails to contest the material allegations of a petition filed against the member in a bankruptcy procedure;

(f) Seeking, consenting to or acquiescing in the appointment of a trustee, receiver or liquidator of the member or of all or any substantial part of the member’s properties;

(g) A commencement of an involuntary bankruptcy case against a member that has not been dismissed on or before the 120th day after the commencement of the case;

(h) An appointment, without the member’s consent, of a trustee, receiver or liquidator either of the member or of all or any substantial part of the member’s properties that is not vacated or stayed on or before the 90th day after the appointment; or

(i) An appointment described in paragraph (h) of this subsection that is not vacated on or before the 90th day after the stay described in paragraph (h) of this subsection expires.

(4) “Contribution” means anything of value that a person contributes to the limited liability company as a prerequisite for or in connection with membership including cash,

property or services rendered or a promissory note or other binding obligation to contribute cash or property or to perform services.

(5) “Corporation” or “domestic corporation” means a corporation for profit that is incorporated under ORS chapter 60.

(6) “Distribution” means a direct or indirect transfer of money or other property, except of a limited liability company’s own interests, or a limited liability company’s incurrence of indebtedness to or for the benefit of the limited liability company’s members in respect of a member’s interests, whether in the form of a declaration or payment of profits, a purchase, retirement or other acquisition of interests, a distribution of indebtedness, or otherwise.

(7) “Domestic nonprofit corporation” means a corporation not for profit that is incorporated under ORS chapter 65.

(8) “Domestic professional corporation” means a corporation that is organized under ORS chapter 58 for the purpose of rendering professional services and for the purposes provided under ORS chapter 58.

(9) “Entity” means a domestic or foreign limited liability company, corporation, professional corporation, foreign corporation, domestic or foreign nonprofit corporation, domestic or foreign cooperative corporation, profit or nonprofit unincorporated association, business trust, domestic or foreign general or limited partnership, two or more persons that have a joint or common economic interest, any state, the United States, a federally recognized Native American or American Indian tribal government or any foreign government.

(10) “Foreign corporation” means a corporation for profit that is incorporated under laws other than the laws of the state.

(11) “Foreign limited liability company” means an entity that is an unincorporated association organized under laws other than the laws of the state and that is organized under a statute under which an association may be formed that affords to each of the entity’s members limited liability with respect to the liabilities of the entity.

(12) “Foreign limited partnership” means a limited partnership formed under laws other than the laws of the state and that has as partners one or more general partners and one or more limited partners.

(13) “Foreign nonprofit corporation” means a corporation not for profit that is organized under laws other than the laws of the state.

(14) “Foreign professional corporation” means a professional corporation that is or-

ganized under laws other than the laws of the state.

(15) “Incompetency” means the entry of a judgment by a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating the member incompetent to manage the member’s person or estate.

(16) “Individual” means a natural person.

(17) “Limited liability company” or “domestic limited liability company” means an entity that is an unincorporated association that has one or more members and is organized under this chapter.

(18) “Limited partnership” or “domestic limited partnership” means a partnership formed by two or more persons under ORS chapter 70 that has one or more general partners and one or more limited partners.

(19) “Manager” means a person, not necessarily a member, that the members of a manager-managed limited liability company designate to manage the limited liability company’s business and affairs.

(20) “Manager-managed limited liability company” means a limited liability company that is designated as a manager-managed limited liability company in the limited liability company’s articles of organization or the articles of organization of which otherwise expressly provide that a manager will manage the limited liability company.

(21)(a) “Member” means a person with both an ownership interest in a limited liability company and all the rights and obligations of a member specified under this chapter.

(b) “Member” does not include an assignee of an ownership interest that has not also acquired the voting and other rights appurtenant to membership.

(22) “Member-managed limited liability company” means a limited liability company other than a manager-managed limited liability company.

(23) “Membership interest” means a member’s collective rights in a limited liability company, including the member’s share of profits and losses of the limited liability company, the right to receive distributions of the limited liability company’s assets and any right to vote or participate in management.

(24) “Office,” when used to refer to the administrative unit directed by the Secretary of State, means the office of the Secretary of State.

(25) “Operating agreement” means any valid agreement, written or oral, of the member or members as to the affairs of a limited liability company and the conduct of the limited liability company’s business.

(26) “Organizer” means one of the signers of the initial articles of organization.

(27) “Party” includes an individual who was, is or is threatened to be made a named defendant or respondent in a proceeding.

(28) “Person” means an individual or entity.

(29)(a) “Principal office” means the physical street address of an office, in or out of this state, where the principal executive offices of a domestic or foreign limited liability company are located and designated in the annual report or in the application for authority to transact business in this state.

(b) “Principal office” does not include a commercial mail receiving agency, a mail forwarding business or a virtual office.

(30) “Proceeding” means any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigatory and whether formal or informal.

(31) “Shell entity” means an entity that has the characteristics described in ORS 63.661 (1)(a)(C)(i).

(32) “State,” when referring to a part of the United States, means a state, commonwealth, territory or insular possession of the United States and the agencies and governmental subdivisions of the state, commonwealth, territory or insular possession.

(33) “United States” means the federal government and a district, authority, bureau, commission, department or any other agency of the United States. [1993 c.173 §2; 1995 c.93 §1; 1997 c.646 §1; 1999 c.86 §1; 1999 c.362 §28; 2001 c.315 §34; 2005 c.107 §3; 2009 c.14 §3; 2009 c.294 §6; 2017 c.705 §18]

**63.002 Inclusion of limited liability companies and managers and members of limited liability companies in definitions.** Unless the context otherwise requires, throughout Oregon Revised Statutes:

(1) Wherever the term “person” is defined to include both a corporation and a partnership, the term “person” shall also include a limited liability company.

(2) Wherever a section of Oregon Revised Statutes applies to both “partners” and “directors,” the section shall also apply:

(a) In a limited liability company with one or more managers, to the managers of the limited liability company.

(b) In a limited liability company without managers, to the members of the limited liability company.

(3) Wherever a section of Oregon Revised Statutes applies to both “partners” and “shareholders,” the section shall also apply to members of a limited liability company. [1995 c.93 §25]

**(Filing Documents)**

**63.004 Filing requirements.** (1) For the Secretary of State to file a document under this chapter, the document must satisfy the requirements set forth in this section and any other requirements in this chapter that supplement or modify the requirements set forth in this section.

(2) The document must be a type of document that this chapter or another law requires or permits a person to file with the Office of the Secretary of State.

(3) The document must contain the information required by this chapter and may contain other information.

(4) The document must be legible.

(5) The document must be in the English language. The certificate of existence required of foreign limited liability companies under ORS 63.707 need not be in English if accompanied by a reasonably authenticated English translation.

(6)(a) Unless otherwise specified in this chapter, each document or report required by this chapter to be filed with the office must be executed in the following manner:

(A) Articles of organization must be signed by or on behalf of one or more persons wishing to form the limited liability company.

(B) Articles of amendment must be signed by at least one member or manager.

(C) Each annual report must be signed by one member or manager.

(D) If the limited liability company is in the hands of a receiver, trustee or other court-appointed fiduciary, a document or report must be signed by that receiver, trustee or fiduciary.

(b) An agent of a person identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection may execute a document identified in paragraph (a) of this subsection, if the person authorizes the agent to execute the document.

(7) The person that executes the document shall:

(a) Declare, above the person's signature and under penalty of perjury, that the document does not fraudulently conceal, fraudulently obscure, fraudulently alter or otherwise misrepresent the identity of the person or any of the members, managers, employees or agents of the limited liability company on behalf of which the person signs; and

(b) State beneath or opposite the signature the person's name and the capacity in which the person signs.

(8) The document may, but is not required to, contain an acknowledgment, verification or proof.

(9) If the Secretary of State has prescribed a mandatory form for the document under ORS 63.016, the document must be in or on the prescribed form.

(10) The document must be delivered to the office accompanied by the required fees.

(11) Delivery of a document to the office occurs only when the office actually receives the document. [1993 c.173 §3; 2013 c.159 §6; 2017 c.705 §19]

**63.007 Filing, service, copying and certification fees.** The Secretary of State shall collect the fees described in ORS 56.140 for each document delivered for filing under this chapter and for process served on the secretary under this chapter. The secretary may collect the fees described in ORS 56.140 for copying any public record under this chapter, certifying the copy or certifying to other facts of record under this chapter. [1993 c.173 §4; 1995 c.93 §2; 1999 c.362 §§29,29a]

**63.010** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

**63.011 Effective time and date of document.** (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section and ORS 63.014 (3), a document accepted for filing is effective on the date it is filed by the Secretary of State and at the time, if any, specified in the document as its effective time or at 12:01 a.m. on that date if no effective time is specified.

(2) If a document specifies a delayed effective time and date, the document becomes effective at the time and date specified. If a document specifies a delayed effective date but no time, the document becomes effective at 12:01 a.m. on that date. A delayed effective date for a document may not be later than the 90th day after the date it is filed. [1993 c.173 §5]

**63.014 Correcting filed document.** (1) A domestic or foreign limited liability company may correct a document filed by the Secretary of State, other than an annual report, if the document contains an incorrect statement or was defectively executed, attested, sealed, verified or acknowledged.

(2) A domestic or foreign limited liability company shall correct a document by delivering articles of correction to the office. The articles shall include the following:

(a) A description of the document, including its filing date, or a copy of the document.

(b) The incorrect statement and the reason it is incorrect, or a description of the manner in which the execution, attestation, seal, verification or acknowledgment is defective.

(c) A correction of the incorrect statement or defective execution, attestation, seal, verification or acknowledgment.

(3) Articles of correction are effective on the effective date of the document they correct except as to persons relying on the uncorrected document and adversely affected by the correction. As to those persons, articles of correction are effective when filed. [1993 c.173 §6]

**63.016 Forms; rules.** Upon request, the Secretary of State may furnish forms for documents required or permitted to be filed by this chapter. The Secretary of State may by rule require the use of the forms. [1993 c.173 §7; 1995 c.215 §10]

**63.017 Filing duty of Secretary of State.** (1) If a document delivered to the Office of the Secretary of State for filing satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.004, the Secretary of State shall file the document.

(2) The Secretary of State files a document by indicating on the document that the Secretary of State filed the document, along with the date of filing. Except as provided in ORS 63.114, 63.117, 63.671, 63.674, 63.724, 63.727 and 63.787, after filing a document the Secretary of State shall return an acknowledgment of filing to the domestic or foreign limited liability company or the representative of the domestic or foreign limited liability company.

(3) If the Secretary of State refuses to file a document, the Secretary of State shall return the document to the domestic or foreign limited liability company or the representative of the domestic or foreign limited liability company within 10 business days after the document was delivered, together with a brief written explanation of the reason for the refusal.

(4) The Secretary of State's duty to file documents under this section is ministerial. The Secretary of State is not required to verify or inquire into the legality or truth of any matter included in any document delivered to the office for filing. The Secretary of State's filing or refusing to file a document does not:

(a) Affect the validity or invalidity of the document in whole or part; or

(b) Relate to the correctness or incorrectness of information contained in the document.

(5) The Secretary of State's refusal to file a document does not create a presumption that the document is invalid or that information contained in the document is incorrect. [1993 c.173 §8; 1999 c.486 §9; 2013 c.159 §7]

**63.020** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

**63.021 Appeal from Secretary of State's refusal to file document.** If the Secretary of State refuses to file a document delivered to the office for filing, the domestic or foreign limited liability company, in addition to any other legal remedy which may be available, shall have the right to appeal from such order pursuant to the provisions of ORS chapter 183. [1993 c.173 §9]

**63.024 Evidentiary effect of copy of filed document.** (1) A certificate attached to a copy of a document filed by the Secretary of State, bearing the Secretary of State's signature, which may be in facsimile, is conclusive evidence that the document or a facsimile thereof is on file with the office.

(2) The provisions of ORS 56.110 shall apply to all documents filed pursuant to this chapter. [1993 c.173 §10]

**63.027 Certificate of existence or authorization.** (1) Anyone may apply to the Secretary of State to furnish a certificate of existence for a domestic limited liability company or a certificate of authorization for a foreign limited liability company.

(2) A certificate of existence or authorization when issued means that:

(a) The domestic limited liability company's name or the foreign limited liability company's name is registered in this state;

(b) The domestic limited liability company is duly organized under the laws of this state or the foreign limited liability company is authorized to transact business in this state;

(c) All fees payable to the Secretary of State under this chapter have been paid, if nonpayment affects the existence or authorization of the domestic or foreign limited liability company;

(d) An annual report required by ORS 63.787 has been filed by the Secretary of State within the preceding 14 months; and

(e) Articles of dissolution or an application for withdrawal have not been filed by the Secretary of State.

(3) Subject to any qualification stated in the certificate, a certificate of existence or authorization issued by the Secretary of State may be relied upon as conclusive evidence that the domestic or foreign limited liability company is in existence or is authorized to transact business in this state. [1993 c.173 §11]

**63.030** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

**(Secretary of State)**

**63.031 Powers.** The Secretary of State has the power reasonably necessary to perform the duties required of the Secretary of State by this chapter. [1993 c.173 §12]

**63.032 Investigations of violations of chapter; confidentiality; penalties; administrative dissolution; rules.** (1)(a) The Secretary of State may investigate an alleged or potential violation of this chapter and, in the course of the investigation or in response to a request from a law enforcement agency, may order a limited liability company to:

(A) Prepare and submit to the Secretary of State within 30 days the list described in ORS 63.771 (1)(a); and

(B) Answer within 30 days any interrogatory that is related to an alleged or potential violation of this chapter that the Secretary of State submits to the limited liability company.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of ORS 192.311 to 192.478, the list described in paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection and information that the Secretary of State obtains from an interrogatory under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection is not subject to public disclosure. The Secretary of State may provide a law enforcement agency with the list described in paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection and information the Secretary of State obtains from an interrogatory under paragraph (a)(B) of this subsection.

(2)(a) If a limited liability company fails to comply with an order from the Secretary of State under subsection (1) of this section, the Secretary of State may:

(A) Impose a civil penalty on the limited liability company in accordance with ORS 183.745;

(B) Cancel or revoke an organization, or revoke a foreign limited liability company's authorization to transact business in this state, after conducting a hearing under ORS 183.413 to 183.470; or

(C) Administratively dissolve the limited liability company in accordance with ORS 63.651.

(b) The Secretary of State shall provide in an order that imposes a civil penalty under paragraph (a)(A) of this subsection that the civil penalty is not due and payable until after the order becomes final following any appeal of the order or, if an appeal does not occur, after the order becomes final by operation of law.

(3)(a) The Director of the Department of Revenue may recommend to the Secretary of State that the Secretary of State administratively dissolve a limited liability company for

a failure to comply with the tax laws of the state, but the director may not recommend administrative dissolution if the director has allowed an appeal of the limited liability company's tax liability or another action of the Department of Revenue related to the limited liability company's failure to comply with the tax laws of the state or if an appeal is pending. If the Secretary of State agrees with the director, the Secretary of State may dissolve the limited liability company under ORS 63.651.

(b) The Secretary of State, in consultation with the department, may specify what constitutes a failure to comply with the tax laws of the state for the purposes set forth in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

(4) The Secretary of State may not reinstate a limited liability company that was administratively or judicially dissolved unless, as appropriate:

(a) The limited liability company complies with the Secretary of State's order under subsection (1) of this section;

(b) A law enforcement agency that has completed an investigation of the limited liability company for which the Secretary of State canceled or revoked organization or revoked an authorization to transact business in this state recommends that the Secretary of State allow the organization or reinstatement;

(c) A court order compels a reinstatement; or

(d) The Department of Revenue recommends a reinstatement.

(5) A limited liability company may appeal in accordance with ORS 183.480 to 183.500 an order the Secretary of State issues or an action the Secretary of State takes under this section.

(6) The Secretary of State and the Director of the Department of Revenue may each adopt rules to implement the provisions of this section. [2017 c.705 §5]

**(Notice)**

**63.034 Knowledge and notice.** (1) A person knows a fact if the person has actual knowledge of it.

(2) A person has notice of a fact if the person:

(a) Knows of it;

(b) Has received a notification of it; or

(c) Has reason to know it exists from all the facts known to the person at the time in question.

(3) A person notifies or gives notification to another by taking steps reasonably required to inform the other person in the or-

dinary course, whether or not the other person learns of it.

(4) A person receives a notification when the notification:

(a) Comes to the person's attention; or

(b) Is addressed to the person and is duly delivered at the person's place of business or at any other place held out by the person as a place for receiving communications.

(5) A person other than an individual knows, has notice or receives a notification of a fact for purposes of a particular transaction when the individual conducting the transaction knows, has notice or receives a notification of the fact, or in any event when the fact would have been brought to the individual's attention if the person had exercised reasonable diligence.

(6) Written notice to a domestic limited liability company or to a foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state may be addressed to its registered agent at its registered office or to the domestic or foreign limited liability company or its manager or managers at its principal office or mailing address as shown in the records of the office. [1993 c.173 §13; 1995 c.79 §17; 1999 c.86 §2]

**63.040** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

## ORGANIZATION

**63.044 Formation.** One or more individuals 18 years of age or older or other entities may form a limited liability company by executing and delivering articles of organization to the office for filing. Organizers need not be members of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §14]

**63.047 Articles of organization.** (1) Articles of organization must set forth:

(a) The name of the limited liability company, which must satisfy the requirements of ORS 63.094;

(b) The address, including street and number, and mailing address, if different, of the limited liability company's initial registered office and the name of the initial registered agent at the office;

(c) A mailing address to which notices, as required by this chapter, may be mailed until the limited liability company designates an address in an annual report;

(d) If the limited liability company will be manager-managed, a statement that the limited liability company will be manager-managed or a statement that the limited liability company will be managed by a manager or managers;

(e) The name and address of each organizer;

(f) The latest date on which the limited liability company will dissolve or a statement that the limited liability company's existence is perpetual;

(g) If a limited liability company will render professional service or services, as defined in ORS 58.015, the professional service or services that the limited liability company will render;

(h) The initial physical street address, including the number and name of the street, and the mailing address, if different, of the limited liability company's principal office; and

(i) The name and address of at least one individual who is a member or manager of the limited liability company or an authorized representative with direct knowledge of the operations and business activities of the limited liability company.

(2) The articles of organization may set forth any other provisions, not inconsistent with law, for regulating the internal affairs of the limited liability company, including any provision that is required or permitted to be included in any operating agreement of the limited liability company under this chapter.

(3) The articles of organization need not set forth any of the powers enumerated in this chapter. [1993 c.173 §15; 1997 c.774 §10; 1999 c.86 §3; 2001 c.315 §51; 2017 c.705 §20]

**63.050** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

**63.051 Organization.** (1) Unless a delayed effective date is specified in the articles of organization, the limited liability company's existence begins when the articles of organization are filed by the Secretary of State.

(2) The Secretary of State's filing of the articles of organization is conclusive proof that all conditions precedent to organization were satisfied except in a proceeding by the state to cancel or revoke the organization or involuntarily dissolve the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §16]

**63.054 Liability for preorganization transactions.** All persons purporting to act as or on behalf of a limited liability company, knowing the limited liability company was not then in existence, are jointly and severally liable for all liabilities created while so acting. [1993 c.173 §17]

**63.057 Operating agreements.** The operating agreement, if any, may provide for the regulation and management of the affairs of the limited liability company in any manner not inconsistent with law or the articles of organization and may be in writing or oral. [1993 c.173 §18; 1995 c.93 §3]

**63.060** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]



63.070 [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

### PURPOSES AND POWERS

**63.074 Purposes; prohibition on illegal purposes.** (1) Except as otherwise provided by the laws of the state and in this section, a limited liability company formed under this chapter may conduct or promote any lawful business or purpose that a partnership, corporation or professional corporation as defined in ORS 58.015 may conduct or promote, unless the articles of organization set forth a more limited purpose. A person may not organize a limited liability company under this chapter for any illegal purpose or with an intent to fraudulently conceal any business activity from another person or a governmental agency.

(2) Subject to the laws of the state, the rules and regulations of a regulatory board of a profession, if any, and the standards of professional conduct of the profession, if any, a limited liability company or members of the limited liability company may render professional service in this state. Notwithstanding any other law, members of a limited liability company, including members who are managers, and who are also professionals, as defined in ORS 58.015, are personally liable as members of the limited liability company to the same extent and in the same manner as provided for shareholders of a professional corporation in ORS 58.185 and 58.187 and as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(3) A business that is subject to regulation under another statute of the state may not be organized under this chapter if the business is required to be organized only under the other statute. [1993 c.173 §19; 1995 c.93 §4; 1995 c.327 §4a; 1997 c.774 §11; 2017 c.705 §21]

**63.077 General powers.** (1) Unless its articles of organization provide otherwise, the duration of a limited liability company shall be perpetual.

(2) Unless its articles of organization provide otherwise, and subject to the provisions of ORS 63.074 (2), each limited liability company organized under this chapter may:

(a) Sue and be sued, and complain and defend in all courts in its own name;

(b) Purchase, take, receive, lease, or otherwise acquire, own, hold, improve, use and otherwise deal in or with real or personal property or any interest in real or personal property, wherever situated;

(c) Sell, convey, mortgage, pledge, create a security interest in, lease, exchange or

transfer, and otherwise dispose of all or any part of its property or assets;

(d) Purchase, take, receive, subscribe for or otherwise acquire, own, hold, vote, use, employ, sell, mortgage, lend, pledge, otherwise dispose of, and otherwise use or deal in or with other interests in or obligations of any other entity;

(e) Make contracts or guarantees, incur liabilities, borrow money, issue its notes or other obligations that may be convertible into other securities of the limited liability company or include the option to purchase other securities of the limited liability company, or secure any of its obligations by mortgage or pledge of any of its property, franchises or income;

(f) Lend money, invest or reinvest its funds, or receive and hold real or personal property as security for repayment of funds so loaned, invested or reinvested;

(g) Be a promoter, incorporator, general partner, limited partner, member, associate or manager of any partnership, joint venture, trust or other entity;

(h) Conduct its business, locate offices and exercise the powers granted by this chapter within or without this state;

(i) Elect or appoint managers, employees or agents of the limited liability company, define their duties, fix their compensation and lend them money and credit;

(j) Make and alter an operating agreement, not inconsistent with its articles of organization or with the laws of this state, for managing its business and regulating its affairs;

(k) Pay pensions and establish pension plans, profit-sharing plans, and benefit or incentive plans for any or all of its current or former managers, members, employees and agents;

(L) Make donations for the public welfare or for charitable, scientific or educational purposes;

(m) Transact any lawful business that will aid governmental policy;

(n) Indemnify a member or manager or any other person as and to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter;

(o) Cease its activities and dissolve; and

(p) Have and exercise all powers and do every other act not inconsistent with law which is necessary or convenient to promote and effect any or all of the purposes for which the limited liability company is organized. [1993 c.173 §20; 1997 c.646 §2]

**NAME**

**63.094 Limited liability company name.** (1) The name of a limited liability company must contain the words “limited liability company” or the abbreviation “L.L.C.” or “LLC.”

(2) A limited liability company name may not contain the word or abbreviation “cooperative,” “corporation,” “corp.,” “incorporated,” “Inc.,” “limited partnership,” “L.P.,” “LP,” “Ltd.,” “limited liability partnership,” “L.L.P.” or “LLP” or any derivation of any of the words or abbreviations specified in this subsection.

(3) A limited liability company name must be written in the alphabet used to write the English language and may include Arabic and Roman numerals and incidental punctuation.

(4) A limited liability company name must be distinguishable upon the records of the Office of the Secretary of State from any other limited liability company name, corporate name, professional corporate name, nonprofit corporate name, cooperative name, limited partnership name, business trust name, reserved name, registered corporate name or assumed business name of active record with the office.

(5) The limited liability company name need not satisfy the requirement of subsection (4) of this section if the applicant delivers to the office a certified copy of a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction that finds that the applicant has a prior or concurrent right to use the limited liability company name in this state.

(6) The provisions of this section do not prohibit a limited liability company from transacting business under an assumed business name.

(7) The provisions of this section do not:

(a) Abrogate or limit the law governing unfair competition or unfair trade practices; or

(b) Derogate from the common law, the principles of equity or the statutes of this state or of the United States with respect to the right to acquire and protect trade names. [1993 c.173 §21; 1995 c.93 §5; 2013 c.159 §8]

**63.097 Reserved name.** (1) A person may apply to the office to reserve a limited liability company name. The application must set forth the name and address of the applicant and the name proposed to be reserved.

(2) If the Secretary of State finds that the limited liability company name applied for conforms to ORS 63.094, the Secretary of State shall reserve the name for the applicant for a 120-day period.

(3) A person may transfer the reservation of a limited liability company name to another person by delivering to the office a notice of the transfer executed by the person for whom the name was reserved and specifying the name and address of the transferee. [1993 c.173 §22]

**63.101 Registered name.** (1) A foreign limited liability company may apply to the office to register its name.

(2) The application must set forth the limited liability company name, the state or country of its organization, the date of its organization and a brief description of the nature of the business in which it is engaged and a statement that it is not carrying on or doing business in the State of Oregon. The application must be accompanied by a certificate of existence or a document of similar import current within 60 days of delivery, duly authenticated by the official having custody of the limited liability company records in the state or country under whose law it is organized.

(3) If the Secretary of State finds that the name conforms to ORS 63.094, the Secretary of State shall register the name effective for one year. [1993 c.173 §23]

**63.110** [Repealed by 1959 c.580 §104]

**OFFICE AND AGENT**

**63.111 Registered office and registered agent.** (1) A limited liability company shall continuously maintain in this state a registered agent and registered office that may be, but need not be, the same as any of the limited liability company's places of business. The registered office must be located at a physical street address where process may be personally served on the registered agent. The registered office may not be a commercial mail receiving agency, a mail forwarding business or a virtual office.

(2) A registered agent must be:

(a) An individual who resides in this state and whose business office is identical to the registered office;

(b) A domestic limited liability company, a domestic corporation, a domestic professional corporation or a domestic nonprofit corporation, the business office of which is identical to the registered office; or

(c) A foreign limited liability company, foreign corporation, foreign professional corporation or foreign nonprofit corporation that is authorized to transact business in this state, the business office of which is identical to the registered office. [1993 c.173 §24; 2001 c.315 §27; 2013 c.158 §25; 2017 c.705 §22]

**63.114 Change of registered office or registered agent.** (1) A limited liability company may change its registered office or registered agent by delivering to the office of the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that sets forth:

(a) The name of the limited liability company;

(b) If the registered office is to be changed, the address including street and number of the new registered office;

(c) If the registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent and that the new agent has consented to the appointment; and

(d) That after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of its registered office and the business office of its registered agent will be identical.

(2) If a registered agent changes the street address of the agent's business office, the registered agent shall change the street address of the registered office of the limited liability company for which the agent is the registered agent by notifying the limited liability company in writing of the change and signing, either manually or in facsimile, and delivering to the office of the Secretary of State a statement that complies with the requirements of subsection (1) of this section and recites that the limited liability company has been notified of the change.

(3) The filing of the statement by the Secretary of State shall terminate the existing registered office or agent, or both, on the effective date of the filing and establish the newly appointed registered office or agent, or both, as that of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §25]

**63.117 Resignation of registered agent.**

(1) A registered agent may resign as agent upon delivering a signed statement to the office and giving notice in the form of a copy of the statement to the limited liability company. The statement may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued.

(2) Upon delivery of the signed statement, the Secretary of State shall file the resignation statement. The copy of the statement given to the limited liability company under subsection (1) of this section shall be addressed to the limited liability company at its mailing address or its principal office as shown by the records of the office of the Secretary of State.

(3) The agency appointment is terminated and the registered office discontinued, if so provided, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement was filed by the Secretary of State, unless the limited liability company shall sooner appoint a successor

registered agent as provided in ORS 63.114 thereby terminating the capacity of such agent. [1993 c.173 §26; 1993 c.173 §105]

**63.121 Service on limited liability company.** (1) The registered agent appointed by a limited liability company shall be an agent of the limited liability company upon whom any process, notice or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the limited liability company may be served.

(2) The Secretary of State shall be an agent of a limited liability company including a dissolved limited liability company upon whom any such process, notice or demand may be served whenever the limited liability company fails to appoint or maintain a registered agent in this state or whenever the limited liability company's registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office.

(3) Service shall be made on the Secretary of State by:

(a) Serving on the Secretary of State or a clerk on duty at the office a copy of the process, notice or demand, with any papers required by law to be delivered in connection with the service, and the required fee for each party being served or by mailing to the office a copy of the process, notice or demand and the required fee for each party being served by certified or registered mail.

(b) Transmittal by the person instituting the proceedings of notice of the service on the Secretary of State and copy of the process, notice or demand and accompanying papers to the limited liability company being served by certified or registered mail:

(A) At the last registered office of the limited liability company as shown by the records on file in the office of the Secretary of State; and

(B) At such address of the use of which the person initiating the proceedings knows or, on the basis of reasonable inquiry, has reason to believe is most likely to result in actual notice.

(c) Filing with the appropriate court or other body, as part of the return of service, the return receipt of mailing and an affidavit of the person initiating the proceedings stating that this section has been complied with.

(4) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices and demands served upon the Secretary of State under this section.

(5) After completion of initial service upon the Secretary of State, no additional documents need be served upon the Secretary of State to maintain jurisdiction in the same proceeding or to give notice of any motion or provisional process.

(6) Nothing contained in this section shall limit or affect the right to serve any process, notice or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon a limited liability company in any other manner now or hereafter permitted by law, or enlarge the purposes for which service on the Secretary of State is permitted where such purposes are limited by other provisions of law. [1993 c.173 §27]

### MANAGEMENT AND MANAGEMENT RIGHTS OF MEMBERS

**63.130 Rights of members and managers; matters requiring consent of all or majority of members.** (1) In a member-managed limited liability company, unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement:

(a) Each member has equal rights in the management and conduct of the limited liability company's business; and

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section, any matter relating to the business of the limited liability company may be decided by a majority of the members.

(2) In a manager-managed limited liability company, unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement:

(a) Each manager has equal rights in the management and conduct of the limited liability company's business;

(b) Except as otherwise provided in subsections (3) and (4) of this section, any matter relating to the business of the limited liability company may be exclusively decided by the manager or, if there is more than one manager, by a majority of the managers; and

(c) A manager:

(A) Must be designated, appointed, elected, removed or replaced by a vote, approval or consent of a majority of the members; and

(B) Holds office until a successor has been elected and qualified, unless the manager sooner resigns or is removed.

(3) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the following matters of a member-managed or a manager-managed limited liability company require the consent of all of the members:

(a) The amendment of the operating agreement or the articles of organization under ORS 63.444;

(b) The compromise, as among the members, of an obligation to make a contribution under ORS 63.180 (4) or to return money or

other property paid or distributed in violation of any provision of this chapter; and

(c) The consent to dissolve the limited liability company under ORS 63.621 (3).

(4) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the following matters of a member-managed or a manager-managed limited liability company require the consent of a majority of the members:

(a) The making of interim distributions under ORS 63.200, including the redemption of an interest;

(b) The admission of a new member;

(c) The use of the limited liability company's property to redeem an interest subject to a charging order;

(d) The sale, lease, exchange, mortgage, pledge or other transfer or disposition of all, or substantially all, of the limited liability company's property, with or without goodwill;

(e) The merger of the limited liability company with any other entity;

(f) The conversion of the limited liability company into any other type of entity;

(g) The incurring of indebtedness by the limited liability company other than in the ordinary course of the business of the limited liability company;

(h) A transaction involving an actual or a potential conflict of interest between a member or a manager and the limited liability company;

(i) A change in the nature of the limited liability company's business; and

(j) Any other matter specified in the articles of organization or any operating agreement as requiring member approval if no number or percentage of members is otherwise stated.

(5) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, action requiring the consent of members or managers under this chapter may be taken without a meeting.

(6) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, a member or manager may appoint a proxy to vote or otherwise act for the member or manager by signing an appointment instrument, either personally or by the member's or manager's attorney-in-fact.

(7) Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, references in this chapter to managers apply both to managers of a manager-managed limited liability company and to members of a member-managed limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §28; 1999 c.86 §4]

**63.135** [1993 c.173 §29; repealed by 1999 c.86 §23]

**63.140 Agency power of managers and members; interest in real property.** (1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3) of this section:

(a) Each member is an agent of the limited liability company for the purpose of its business, and an act of a member, including the signing of an instrument in the limited liability company's name, for apparently carrying on in the ordinary course the business of the limited liability company, or business of the kind carried on by the limited liability company, binds the limited liability company unless the member had no authority to act for the limited liability company in the particular matter and the person with whom the member was dealing knew or had notice that the member lacked authority.

(b) An act of a member that is not apparently for carrying on in the ordinary course the business of the limited liability company, or business of the kind carried on by the limited liability company, binds the limited liability company only if the act was authorized by the other members.

(2) Subject to subsection (3) of this section, in a manager-managed limited liability company:

(a) A member is not an agent of the limited liability company for the purpose of its business solely by reason of being a member. Each manager is an agent of the limited liability company for the purpose of its business, and an act of a manager, including the signing of an instrument in the limited liability company's name, for apparently carrying on in the ordinary course the business of the limited liability company, or business of the kind carried on by the limited liability company, binds the limited liability company unless the manager had no authority to act for the limited liability company in the particular matter and the person with whom the manager was dealing knew or had notice that the manager lacked authority.

(b) An act of a manager that is not apparently for carrying on in the ordinary course the business of the limited liability company, or business of the kind carried on by the limited liability company, binds the limited liability company only if the act was authorized under ORS 63.130.

(3) Unless the articles of organization limit their authority, any member of a member-managed limited liability company or manager of a manager-managed limited liability company may sign and deliver any instrument transferring or affecting the limited liability company's interest in real property. The instrument is conclusive in favor of a person who gives value without knowledge of the lack of the authority of the per-

son signing and delivering the instrument. [1993 c.173 §30; 1999 c.86 §5]

**63.145** [1993 c.173 §31; repealed by 1999 c.86 §23]

**63.150** [1993 c.173 §32; 1995 c.93 §6; repealed by 1999 c.86 §23]

**63.155 Duties and standard of conduct.**

(1) The only fiduciary duties a member owes to a member-managed limited liability company and its other members are the duty of loyalty and the duty of care set forth in subsections (2) and (3) of this section.

(2) A member's duty of loyalty to a member-managed limited liability company and its other members includes the following:

(a) To account to the limited liability company and hold for it any property, profit or benefit derived by the member in the conduct and winding up of the limited liability company's business or derived from a use by the member of limited liability company property, including the appropriation of a limited liability company opportunity;

(b) Except as provided in subsections (5) and (6) of this section, to refrain from dealing with the limited liability company in a manner adverse to the limited liability company and to refrain from representing a person with an interest adverse to the limited liability company, in the conduct or winding up of the limited liability company's business; and

(c) To refrain from competing with the limited liability company in the conduct of the business of the limited liability company before the dissolution of the limited liability company.

(3) A member's duty of care to a member-managed limited liability company and the other members in the conduct and winding up of the business of the limited liability company is limited to refraining from engaging in grossly negligent or reckless conduct, intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law.

(4) A member shall discharge the duties to a member-managed limited liability company and the other members under this chapter or under any operating agreement of the limited liability company and exercise any rights consistent with the obligation of good faith and fair dealing.

(5) A member of a member-managed limited liability company does not violate a duty or obligation under this chapter or under any operating agreement of the limited liability company merely because the member's conduct furthers the member's own interest.

(6) A member of a member-managed limited liability company may lend money to or transact other business with the limited liability company, provided that any loan or

transaction between the member and the limited liability company must be:

- (a) Fair to the limited liability company;
- (b) Authorized by an operating agreement; or
- (c) Authorized or ratified by a majority of the disinterested members or by a number or percentage of members specified in the operating agreement after full disclosure of all material facts.

(7) Loans and other transactions between a member-managed limited liability company and a member are binding on the parties in the same manner as transactions between the limited liability company and persons who are not members, subject to other applicable law.

(8) This section also applies to a person who is not a member and who is winding up the limited liability company's business.

(9) In a manager-managed limited liability company:

(a) A member who is not also a manager owes no duties to the limited liability company or the other members solely by reason of being a member;

(b) A manager is held to the same standards of conduct prescribed for members in subsections (2) to (8) of this section;

(c) A member who, pursuant to an operating agreement, exercises some or all of the rights of a manager in the management and conduct of the limited liability company's business is held to the standards of conduct described in subsections (2) to (8) of this section to the extent that the member exercises the managerial authority vested in a manager by this chapter; and

(d) A manager is relieved of liability imposed by law for violation of the standards prescribed by this section to the extent, if any, of the managerial authority delegated to the members who are not also managers by an operating agreement.

(10) The articles of organization or an operating agreement of a limited liability company may not:

(a) Eliminate completely the duty of loyalty under subsection (2) of this section, but the articles of organization or an operating agreement may:

(A) Identify specific types or categories of activities that do not violate the duty of loyalty, if not unconscionable; and

(B) Specify the number or percentage of members, whether interested or disinterested, or disinterested managers that may authorize or ratify, after full disclosure of all

material facts, a specific act or transaction that otherwise would violate the duty of loyalty.

(b) Unreasonably reduce the duty of care under subsection (3) of this section.

(c) Eliminate completely the obligation of good faith and fair dealing under subsection (4) of this section, but the articles of organization or an operating agreement may determine the standards by which performance of the obligation of good faith and fair dealing is to be measured, if the standards are not unconscionable.

(11) For the purposes of subsection (10)(a) of this section, specific types or categories of activities that may be identified as not violating the duty of loyalty include, but are not limited to:

(a) Competing with the limited liability company in the conduct of the business of the limited liability company before the dissolution of the limited liability company; and

(b) Entering into or engaging in, for a member's own account, an investment, business, transaction or activity that is similar to the investments, businesses, transactions or activities of the limited liability company without:

(A) First offering the limited liability company or the other members an opportunity to participate in the investment, business, transaction or activity; or

(B) Having any obligation to account to the limited liability company or the other members for the investment, business, transaction or activity or the profits from the investment, business, transaction or activity. [1993 c.173 §33; 1999 c.86 §8; 2001 c.315 §23]

**63.160 Limitation of liability and indemnification.** The articles of organization or any operating agreement may provide for indemnification of any person for acts or omissions as a member, manager, employee or agent and may eliminate or limit the liability of a member, manager, employee or agent to the limited liability company or its members for damages from such acts or omissions. However, no such provision shall eliminate or limit the liability or provide for indemnification of a member of a member-managed limited liability company or a manager of a manager-managed limited liability company for any act or omission occurring prior to the date when such provision became effective, and no such provision shall eliminate or limit the liability or provide for indemnification of a member or manager for:

(1) Any breach of the member's or manager's duty of loyalty to the limited liability company or its members;

(2) Acts or omissions not in good faith which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;

(3) Any unlawful distribution under ORS 63.235; or

(4) Any transaction from which the member or manager derives an improper personal benefit. [1993 c.173 §34; 1995 c.93 §7; 1997 c.646 §16; 1999 c.86 §9]

**63.165 Liability of members and managers.** (1) The debts, obligations and liabilities of a limited liability company, whether arising in contract, tort or otherwise, are solely the debts, obligations and liabilities of the limited liability company. A member or manager is not personally liable for a debt, obligation or liability of the limited liability company solely by reason of being or acting as a member or manager.

(2) The failure of a limited liability company to observe the usual limited liability company formalities or requirements relating to the exercise of its limited liability company powers or management of its business is not a ground for imposing personal liability on the members or managers for liabilities of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §35; 1999 c.86 §10]

**63.170 Liability of limited liability company for acts, omissions or conduct of member or manager.** A limited liability company is liable for loss or injury caused to a person, or for a penalty incurred, as a result of a wrongful act or omission, or other actionable conduct, of a member or manager acting in the ordinary course of the business of the limited liability company or with authority of the limited liability company. [1999 c.86 §7]

## FINANCES

**63.175 Contributions.** The contributions of a member to the limited liability company may consist of cash, property, services rendered, a promissory note or other obligation to contribute cash or property or to perform services. [1993 c.173 §36]

**63.180 Liability for contributions.** (1) A promise by a member to contribute to the limited liability company is not enforceable unless it is set out in writing and signed by the member.

(2) Except as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, a member is obligated to the limited liability company to perform any enforceable promise to contribute cash or property or to perform services, even if the member is unable to perform because of death, disability or any other reason.

(3) If a member does not make a required contribution of property or services, the

member is obligated, at the option of the limited liability company, to contribute cash equal to the portion of the value of the contribution, as stated in the limited liability company records required to be kept pursuant to ORS 63.771, that has not been made.

(4) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the obligation of a member to make a contribution may be compromised only by consent of all members. Notwithstanding the compromise, a creditor of the limited liability company may enforce the original obligation if the creditor acted in reliance on that obligation before the amendment or cancellation of the obligation to reflect the compromise. [1993 c.173 §37]

## **63.185 Allocation of profits and losses.**

(1) The profits and losses of a limited liability company shall be allocated among the members, and among classes of members, in the manner provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(2) If neither the articles of organization nor any operating agreement provides for an allocation of profits and losses, then profits and losses shall be allocated among all the members equally.

(3) If profits, but not losses, are allocated in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, then losses shall be deemed allocated in the same proportion as profits. If losses, but not profits, are allocated in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, then profits shall be deemed allocated in the same proportion as losses.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, if after formation of the limited liability company a member is admitted to the limited liability company as described in ORS 63.245 (2)(a), then the profits and losses of the limited liability company shall be allocated among the members as follows:

(a) Profits and losses that would have been realized on the date of admission of the additional member if all the assets of the limited liability company were then sold at their fair value shall be allocated among only the members of the limited liability company who are members immediately prior to the new member's admission based on the respective shares of profits and losses of such preexisting members before such admission. Thereafter the amount of profits or losses so allocated shall be treated as an adjustment to the contributions made by the preexisting members to the limited liability company; except that if the provisions of this subsection have been applied previously by the limited liability company in connection with the admission of a new member, the profits

and losses allocated pursuant to this subsection shall be only those profits and losses realized since the most recent admittance of a new member; and

(b) Profits and losses realized by the limited liability company subsequent to the date of admission of the additional member shall be allocated among all the members, including the additional member, based on the respective shares of profits and losses of all the members after such admission. [1993 c.173 §38; 1995 c.93 §8]

## DISTRIBUTIONS AND WITHDRAWAL

**63.195 Allocation of interim distributions.** Distributions of cash or other assets of a limited liability company before the dissolution and winding up of the limited liability company shall be allocated among the members, and among classes of members, in the manner provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement. If neither the articles of organization nor any operating agreement provides for such allocations, such distributions shall be allocated among the members in proportion to their right to share in the profits of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §39]

**63.200 Right to interim distributions.** Except as provided in ORS 63.205 to 63.235, a member is entitled to receive distributions from a limited liability company before the member's withdrawal from the limited liability company and before the dissolution and winding up of the limited liability company to the extent and at the times or upon the occurrence of the events specified in the articles of organization or any operating agreement. [1993 c.173 §40]

**63.205 Voluntary withdrawal of member.** (1) A member may voluntarily withdraw from a limited liability company:

(a) At the time or upon the occurrence of events specified in the articles of organization or any operating agreement; or

(b) Upon not less than six months' prior written notice to the limited liability company, unless the articles of organization or any operating agreement expressly provide that a member has no power to withdraw voluntarily from the limited liability company or otherwise expressly limit or condition such power.

(2) If a member with the power to withdraw voluntarily from a limited liability company exercises that power, but the withdrawal is in breach of any provision of the articles of organization or any operating agreement, then, unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the limited liability company, in addition to any other remedy available at

law or in equity, may recover from the withdrawing member damages incurred by the limited liability company as a result of the breach and may offset the damages against any amounts otherwise distributable or payable to the withdrawing member.

(3) Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, in the case of a limited liability company for a definite term or particular undertaking, a voluntary withdrawal by a member before the expiration of that term or completion of that undertaking is a breach of the applicable articles of organization or any operating agreement. [1993 c.173 §41; 1995 c.93 §9; 1997 c.646 §3]

**63.209 Expulsion of member.** (1) A member may be expelled from a limited liability company:

(a) In accordance with a written provision in the articles of organization or any operating agreement; or

(b) Except as otherwise provided in writing in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, by a court, upon application of any member, if the court determines that:

(A) The member has been guilty of wrongful conduct that adversely and materially affects the business or affairs of the limited liability company; or

(B) The member has willfully or persistently committed a material breach of the articles of organization or any operating agreement or otherwise breached a duty owed to the limited liability company or the other members to the extent that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business or affairs of the limited liability company with that member.

(2) The power of a limited liability company to expel a member pursuant to this section does not limit or adversely affect any right or power of the limited liability company to recover any damages or to pursue any other remedies provided for in the articles of organization or any operating agreement or permitted under applicable law or at equity. The limited liability company, in addition to any of its other remedies, may offset any such damages against any amounts otherwise distributable or payable to the expelled member. [1993 c.173 §42; 1995 c.93 §10]

**63.210** [1959 c.660 §1; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.215** [1993 c.173 §43; 1995 c.93 §11; repealed by 1997 c.646 §18]

**63.219 Distribution in kind.** Except as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement:

(1) No member, regardless of the nature of the member's contribution, has any right to demand and receive any distribution from



a limited liability company in any form other than cash; and

(2) No member may be compelled to accept a distribution of any asset in kind from a limited liability company to the extent that the percentage of the asset distributed to the member exceeds a percentage of that asset that is equal to the percentage in which the member shares in operating or liquidating distributions, as the case may be, from the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §44]

**63.220** [1959 c.660 §2; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.225 Right to distribution.** When a member becomes entitled to receive a distribution, the member has the status of and is entitled to all remedies available to a creditor of the limited liability company with respect to the distribution. [1993 c.173 §45]

**63.229 Limitations on distribution.** (1) A distribution may be made by a limited liability company to any member only if, after giving effect to the distribution, in the judgment of the members, for a member-managed limited liability company, or the managers, for a manager-managed limited liability company:

(a) The limited liability company would be able to pay its debts as they become due in the ordinary course of business; and

(b) The fair value of the total assets of the limited liability company would at least equal the sum of:

(A) Its total liabilities; plus

(B) Unless the articles of organization permit otherwise, the amount that would be needed, if the limited liability company were to be dissolved at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon dissolution, if any, of other members that are superior to the rights of the members receiving the distribution.

(2) The members or managers of a limited liability company may base a determination that a distribution is not prohibited under subsection (1) of this section either on:

(a) Financial statements that the members or managers reasonably believe have been prepared on the basis of accounting practices and principles that are reasonable in the circumstances; or

(b) A fair valuation or other method that the members or managers reasonably believe is reasonable in the circumstances.

(3) For purposes of this section, the amount, if any, by which a liability as to which the recourse of creditors is limited to specific property of the limited liability company exceeds the fair value of such specific property shall be disregarded as a liability of the limited liability company.

(4) The effect of a distribution under subsection (1) of this section is measured for purposes of this section:

(a) In the case of distribution by purchase, retirement or other acquisition of all or a portion of a member's interest in the limited liability company, as of the earlier of the date the money or other property is transferred or debt incurred by the limited liability company or the date the member ceases to be a member with respect to the membership interest purchased, retired or otherwise acquired;

(b) In the case of any other distribution of indebtedness, as of the date the indebtedness is distributed; and

(c) In all other cases, as of the date a distribution is authorized if the payment occurs within 120 days after the date of authorization or the date the payment is made if it occurs more than 120 days after the date of authorization.

(5) A limited liability company's indebtedness to a member incurred by reason of a distribution made in accordance with this section is at parity with the limited liability company's indebtedness to its general unsecured creditors, unless the member agrees to subordination or the limited liability company grants the member a security interest or other lien against limited liability company assets to secure the indebtedness. [1993 c.173 §46; 1999 c.86 §11]

**63.230** [1959 c.660 §3; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.235 Liability for wrongful distribution.** (1) A member of a member-managed limited liability company or a member or manager of a manager-managed company who votes for or assents to a distribution made in violation of ORS 63.229, the articles of organization or any operating agreement, is personally liable to the limited liability company for the amount of the distribution that exceeds the amount that could have been distributed without violating ORS 63.229, the articles of organization or any operating agreement, if it is established that the member or manager did not perform the member's or manager's duties in compliance with ORS 63.155.

(2) A member of a manager-managed limited liability company who receives a distribution knowing that it was made in violation of ORS 63.229 is personally liable to the limited liability company, but only to the extent that the distribution received by the member exceeded the amount that could have been properly paid under ORS 63.229.

(3) A member or manager against whom an action is brought under subsection (1) of this section may implead in the action all:

(a) Other members or managers who voted for or assented to the distribution in violation of subsection (1) of this section and may compel contribution from them; and

(b) Members who received a distribution in violation of subsection (2) of this section and may compel contribution from them in the amount received in violation of subsection (2) of this section.

(4) A proceeding under this section is barred unless it is commenced within two years after the distribution. [1993 c.173 §47; 1995 c.93 §12; 1999 c.86 §12]

### MEMBERSHIP INTEREST

#### 63.239 Nature of membership interest.

A membership interest is personal property. A member is not a co-owner of and has no interest in specific limited liability company property. [1993 c.173 §48]

**63.240** [1959 c.660 §4; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.245 Admission of members.** (1) A person becomes a member of a limited liability company on the later of:

(a) The date the initial articles of organization are filed; or

(b) The date stated in the records of the limited liability company as the date the person becomes a member.

(2) After the filing of the limited liability company's initial articles of organization, a person may be admitted as a member of the limited liability company upon compliance with the articles of organization or any operating agreement, or, if neither the articles of organization nor any operating agreement so provide:

(a) In the case of a person acquiring a membership interest directly from the limited liability company, upon the consent of a majority of the members;

(b) In the case of an assignee of a limited liability company membership interest not governed by paragraph (c) of this section, upon the consent of a majority of the members other than the assignor; or

(c) In the case of an assignee of a membership interest in a limited liability company in which, immediately following the assignment, the limited liability company otherwise would have no members, simultaneously with and upon the assignment of the membership interest. [1993 c.173 §49; 1995 c.93 §13; 1997 c.646 §4]

**63.249 Assignment of membership interest; effect of assignment.** Except as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement:

(1) A membership interest is assignable in whole or in part.

(2) An assignment of a membership interest does not itself dissolve the limited liability company.

(3) Until the assignee of a membership interest becomes a member with respect to the interest, the assignee shall have the assignor's right to receive and retain, to the extent assigned, the distributions, as and when made, and allocations of profits and losses to which the assignor would be entitled, but shall not exercise any other rights of a member, including without limitation the right to vote or otherwise participate in the management and affairs of the limited liability company.

(4) Except as otherwise provided in ORS 63.229 and 63.235, until the assignee of a membership interest becomes a member, the assignee has no liability, duty or obligation as a member solely as a result of the assignment.

(5) The assignor of all or a portion of a membership interest ceases to be a member with respect to the interest assigned, but is not released from liability as a member accruing or arising prior to assignment solely as a result of the assignment, and is not relieved of any fiduciary duties the assignor otherwise may continue to owe the limited liability company or its remaining members.

(6) Any otherwise permissible assignment of a membership interest shall be effective as to and binding on the limited liability company only after reasonable notice of and proof of the assignment have been provided to the managers of the limited liability company.

(7) The pledge of, or granting of a security interest, lien, or other encumbrance in or against all or any portion of the membership interest of a member is not an assignment of the member's interest. [1993 c.173 §50; 1997 c.646 §5]

**63.250** [1959 c.660 §5; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

#### 63.255 Rights of assignee who becomes member.

(1) An assignee who becomes a member as to the assigned interest has the rights and powers, and is subject to the restrictions and liabilities, of a member under this chapter, the articles of organization and any operating agreement. An assignee who becomes a member also is liable for any obligations of the assignee's assignor to make contributions under ORS 63.180. However, the assignee is not obligated merely by becoming a member for any other liabilities for which the assignor was liable that were unknown to the assignee at the time the assignee became a member and that could not be ascertained from the articles of organization.

(2) Whether or not an assignee of a membership interest becomes a member, the assignor is not released from the assignor's liability to the limited liability company to make contributions under ORS 63.180. [1993 c.173 §51; 1995 c.93 §14; 1997 c.646 §6]

**63.259 Rights of judgment creditor against member.** On application to a court of competent jurisdiction by any judgment creditor of a member, the court may charge the membership interest of the member with payment of the unsatisfied amount of the judgment with interest. To the extent so charged, the judgment creditor has only the rights of an assignee of the membership interest. This chapter shall not deprive any member of the benefit of any exemption laws applicable to the member's membership interest. [1993 c.173 §52]

**63.260** [1959 c.660 §6; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.265 Cessation of membership.** Except as otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement:

(1) A member shall cease to be a member in a limited liability company upon the member's death, incompetency, bankruptcy, dissolution, withdrawal, expulsion or assignment of the member's entire membership interest.

(2)(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, following the cessation of the member's interest, the holder of the former member's interest shall be considered an assignee of such interest and shall have all the rights, duties and obligations of an assignee under this chapter.

(b) If the member who ceases to be a member is the only member of the limited liability company, the holder of the former member's interest shall become a member simultaneously with and upon the cessation of the former member's interest. [1993 c.173 §53; 1995 c.93 §15; 1997 c.646 §7]

**63.270** [1959 c.660 §8; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.280** [1959 c.660 §7; 1967 c.359 §675; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.290** [1959 c.660 §9; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.300** [1959 c.660 §10; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.310** [1959 c.660 §11; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.320** [1959 c.660 §12; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.330** [1959 c.660 §13; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.340** [1959 c.660 §15; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

**63.350** [1959 c.660 §16; repealed by 1981 c.68 §1]

## AMENDMENT OF ARTICLES OF ORGANIZATION AND OPERATING AGREEMENT

**63.431 Operating agreement.** (1) An operating agreement of a limited liability company may provide for the regulation and management of the affairs of the limited li-

ability company in any manner not inconsistent with law or the articles of organization.

(2) The power to adopt, alter, amend or repeal an operating agreement of a limited liability company shall be vested in the members of the limited liability company, or for a single member limited liability company, in the sole member of the limited liability company, unless otherwise vested in a manager or managers of the limited liability company by the articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(3) The members may amend or repeal any operating agreement even if the articles of organization or any operating agreement provide that a manager or managers may amend or repeal an operating agreement. [1993 c.173 §70; 1997 c.646 §8]

**63.434 Amendment to articles of organization.** (1) Consistent with the provisions of this chapter, a limited liability company may amend its articles of organization at any time to add, change or delete any provision, provided that the articles of organization as amended contain only such provisions as are required or permitted in initial articles of organization under this chapter as of the effective date of the amendment.

(2) A limited liability company amending its articles of organization shall deliver articles of amendment to the office for filing.

(3) Articles of amendment shall contain:

(a) The name of the limited liability company;

(b) The text of each amendment adopted;

(c) The date of each amendment's adoption;

(d) If an amendment was adopted by the managers without member action, a statement to that effect and a statement that member action was not required; and

(e) If an amendment was approved by the members, a statement that the member approval required under ORS 63.444, the articles of organization or any operating agreement has been obtained and a statement of the percentage of such members' approval. [1993 c.173 §71]

**63.437 Restated articles of organization.** (1) The managers of a manager-managed limited liability company may restate its articles of organization at any time with or without member action.

(2) The restatement may include one or more amendments to the articles of organization. If the restatement includes an amendment requiring member approval, it must be adopted as provided in ORS 63.444.

(3) A limited liability company restating its articles of organization shall deliver to the office for filing articles of restatement setting forth the name of the limited liability company and the text of the restated articles of organization together with a certificate setting forth:

(a) Whether the restatement contains an amendment to the articles of organization requiring member approval and, if it does not, that the managers adopted the restatement; or

(b) If the restatement contains an amendment to the articles of organization requiring member approval, the information required by ORS 63.434.

(4) Restated articles of organization shall contain all statements required to be included in the initial articles of organization except that no statement is required to be made with respect to:

(a) The names and addresses of the organizers or the initial or present registered office or agent; or

(b) The mailing address of the limited liability company if an annual report has been filed with the office of the Secretary of State.

(5) Duly adopted restated articles of organization supersede the initial articles of organization and all amendments to them. [1993 c.173 §72; 1999 c.86 §13]

**63.441 Amendment by managers.** Except as provided in the articles of organization, the manager or managers of a manager-managed limited liability company may adopt without member action one or more amendments to the articles of organization to:

(1) Delete the names and addresses of the initial managers, if named in the initial articles of organization;

(2) Delete the name and address of the initial registered agent or registered office, if a statement of change is filed with the office of the Secretary of State;

(3) Delete the mailing address of the limited liability company if a report reflecting the mailing address has been filed with the office of the Secretary of State;

(4) Change the limited liability company's name by substituting "limited liability company" for the abbreviation "L.L.C." or "LLC," substituting the abbreviation "L.L.C." for "limited liability company" or "LLC" or substituting the abbreviation "LLC" for "limited liability company" or "L.L.C."; or

(5) Make any other changes expressly permitted by this chapter to be made without member action. [1993 c.173 §73; 1995 c.93 §16; 1999 c.86 §14]

**63.444 Amendment by members.** Except as otherwise provided in ORS 63.441 or in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, all amendments to the articles of organization or any operating agreement must be approved unanimously by the members. Unless otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the managers, if any, of the limited liability company may, but need not, propose or take a position recommending or disapproving any such proposed amendment. [1993 c.173 §74; 1995 c.93 §17; 1997 c.646 §9]

## CONVERSIONS AND MERGERS

**63.467 Definitions for ORS 63.467 to 63.497.** As used in ORS 63.467 to 63.497:

(1) "Business entity" means:

(a) Any of the following for-profit entities:

(A) A professional corporation organized under ORS chapter 58, predecessor law or comparable law of another jurisdiction;

(B) A corporation organized under ORS chapter 60, predecessor law or comparable law of another jurisdiction;

(C) A limited liability company organized under this chapter or comparable law of another jurisdiction;

(D) A partnership organized in Oregon after January 1, 1998, or that is registered as a limited liability partnership, or that has elected to be governed by ORS chapter 67, and a partnership governed by law of another jurisdiction that expressly provides for conversions and mergers; and

(E) A limited partnership organized under ORS chapter 70, predecessor law or comparable law of another jurisdiction; and

(b) A cooperative organized under ORS chapter 62, predecessor law or comparable law of another jurisdiction.

(2) "Organizational document" means the following for an Oregon business entity or, for a foreign business entity, a document equivalent to the following:

(a) In the case of a corporation, professional corporation or cooperative, articles of incorporation;

(b) In the case of a limited liability company, articles of organization;

(c) In the case of a partnership, a partnership agreement and, for a limited liability partnership, its registration; and

(d) In the case of a limited partnership, a certificate of limited partnership.

(3) "Owner" means a:

(a) Shareholder of a corporation or of a professional corporation;

- (b) Member or shareholder of a cooperative;
- (c) Member of a limited liability company;
- (d) Partner of a partnership; and
- (e) General partner or limited partner of a limited partnership. [1999 c.362 §31; 2003 c.80 §27]

**63.470 Conversion.** (1)(a) A business entity may be converted to a limited liability company organized under this chapter.

(b) A limited liability company organized under this chapter may be converted to another business entity organized under the laws of this state if the statutes that govern the other business entity permit the conversion.

(c) A business entity may perform a conversion described in paragraph (a) or (b) of this subsection by approving a plan of conversion and filing articles of conversion.

(2) A limited liability company organized under this chapter may be converted to a business entity organized under the laws of another jurisdiction if:

- (a) The laws of the other jurisdiction permit the conversion;
- (b) The converting limited liability company approves a plan of conversion;
- (c) Articles of conversion are filed in this state;
- (d)(A) The converted business entity submits an application for filing to the Secretary of State to transact business as a foreign business entity of the type into which the limited liability company converted unless the converted business entity does not intend to continue to transact business in this state; and

(B) The converted business entity meets all other requirements the laws of this state prescribe for authorization to transact business as a foreign business entity of the type into which the business entity converted; and

(e) The limited liability company complies with any requirements that the laws of the other jurisdiction impose with respect to the conversion.

(3) The plan of conversion must set forth:

- (a) The name and type of the business entity prior to conversion;
- (b) The name and type of the business entity after conversion;
- (c) A summary of the material terms and conditions of the conversion;
- (d) The manner and basis of converting the ownership interests of each owner into ownership interests or obligations of the converted business entity or any other busi-

ness entity, or into cash or other property in whole or in part; and

(e) Any additional information that the statutes that govern converted business entities of the type into which the limited liability company converted require in the organizational document of the converted business entity.

(4) The plan of conversion may set forth other provisions relating to the conversion. [1999 c.362 §32; 2001 c.315 §16; 2003 c.80 §20; 2011 c.147 §9]

#### **63.473 Action on plan of conversion.**

(1) A plan of conversion shall be approved as follows:

(a) In the case of a limited liability company, by a majority vote of its members, or by a greater vote if required by its articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(b) In the case of a business entity other than a limited liability company, as provided by the statutes governing that business entity.

(2) After a conversion is approved, and at any time before articles of conversion are filed, the planned conversion may be abandoned, subject to any contractual rights:

(a) By a limited liability company, without further action by the members, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the plan of conversion or, if none is set forth, in the manner determined by the managers.

(b) By a converting business entity that is not a limited liability company, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the plan of conversion or, if none is set forth, in the manner permitted by the statutes governing that business entity. [1999 c.362 §33]

#### **63.476 Articles and plan of conversion.**

(1) After the owners approve a conversion, the converting business entity shall:

(a) File articles of conversion that state the name and type of business entity that existed before conversion and the name and type of business entity that will exist after conversion; and

(b) File a plan of conversion or, in lieu of a plan of conversion, a written declaration that:

(A) Identifies an address for an office of the converted entity where the plan of conversion is on file; and

(B) States that the converted entity will provide any owner with a copy of the plan of conversion upon request and at no cost.

(2) The conversion takes effect at the later of the date and time determined in accordance with ORS 63.011 or the date and time determined under the statutes that govern the business entity that is not a limited

liability company. [1999 c.362 §34; 2001 c.315 §9; 2015 c.28 §3]

**63.479 Effect of conversion; entity existence continues; assumed business name.** (1) When a conversion to or from a limited liability company pursuant to ORS 63.470 takes effect:

(a) The business entity continues its existence despite the conversion;

(b) Title to all real estate and other property owned by the converting business entity is vested in the converted business entity without reversion or impairment;

(c) All obligations of the converting business entity including, without limitation, contractual, tort, statutory and administrative obligations are obligations of the converted business entity;

(d) An action or proceeding pending against the converting business entity or its owners may be continued as if the conversion had not occurred, or the converted business entity may be substituted as a party to the action or proceeding;

(e) The ownership interests of each owner that are to be converted into ownership interests or obligations of the converted business entity or any other business entity, or into cash or other property, are converted as provided in the plan of conversion;

(f) Liability of an owner for obligations of the business entity shall be determined:

(A) As to liabilities incurred by the business entity prior to conversion, according to laws applicable prior to conversion; and

(B) As to liabilities incurred by the business entity after conversion, according to laws applicable after conversion, except as provided in paragraph (g) of this subsection;

(g) If prior to conversion an owner of a business entity was a partner of a partnership or general partner of a limited partnership and was personally liable for the business entity's liabilities, and after conversion is an owner normally protected from personal liability, then such owner shall continue to be personally liable for the business entity's liabilities incurred during the 12 months following conversion, if the other party or parties to the transaction reasonably believed that the owner would be personally liable and had not received notice of the conversion; and

(h) Unless the converted business entity is a partnership, the registration of an assumed business name of a business entity under ORS chapter 648 shall continue as the assumed business name of the converted business entity. If the converted business entity is a partnership, the converting business entity shall amend or cancel the registration

of the assumed business name under ORS chapter 648, and the partners of the partnership shall register the name as an assumed business name under ORS chapter 648.

(2) Owners of the business entity that converted are entitled to:

(a) In the case of limited liability companies, only the rights provided in the plan of conversion; and

(b) In the case of owners of business entities other than limited liability companies, the rights provided in the plan of conversion and in the statutes applicable to the business entity prior to conversion, including, without limitation, any rights to dissent, to dissociate, to withdraw, to recover for breach of any duty or obligation owed by the other owners, and to obtain an appraisal or payment for the value of an owner's interest. [1999 c.362 §35; 2001 c.315 §4]

**63.481 Merger.** (1) One or more business entities may merge into a limited liability company organized under this chapter if the merger is permitted by the statutes governing each other business entity that is a party to the merger, a plan of merger is approved by each business entity that is a party to the merger and articles of merger are filed. A limited liability company organized under this chapter may be merged into a business entity organized under the laws of this state or under the laws of another jurisdiction if:

(a) The merger is permitted by the laws of this state or by the laws of the other jurisdiction that govern the other business entity;

(b) A plan of merger is approved by each business entity that is a party to the merger;

(c) Articles of merger are filed in this state; and

(d) The limited liability company complies with any requirements imposed under the laws of this state and, if applicable, the laws of the other jurisdiction with respect to the merger.

(2) The plan of merger shall set forth:

(a) The name and type of each business entity planning to merge;

(b) The name and type of the business entity that will survive;

(c) A summary of the material terms and conditions of the merger;

(d) The manner and basis of converting the ownership interests of each owner into ownership interests or obligations of the surviving business entity or any other business entity, or into cash or other property in whole or in part; and

(e) If any party is a business entity other than a limited liability company, any addi-

tional information required for a merger by the statutes governing that business entity.

(3) The plan of merger may set forth:

(a) Amendments to the articles of organization of a limited liability company, if that company is the surviving business entity; and

(b) Other provisions relating to the merger. [1993 c.173 §90; 1999 c.362 §36; 2001 c.315 §17; 2003 c.80 §21]

**63.487 Action on plan of merger.** (1) A plan of merger shall be approved by each business entity that is a party to the merger, as follows:

(a) In the case of a limited liability company, by a majority vote of its members, or by a greater vote if required by its articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(b) In the case of a business entity other than a limited liability company, as provided by the statutes governing that business entity.

(2) After a merger is authorized, and at any time before articles of merger are filed, the planned merger may be abandoned, subject to any contractual rights:

(a) By the limited liability company, without further action by the members, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the plan of merger or, if none is set forth, in the manner determined by the managers.

(b) By a party to the merger that is not a limited liability company, in accordance with the procedure set forth in the plan of merger or, if none is set forth, in the manner permitted by the statutes governing that business entity. [1993 c.173 §91; 1999 c.362 §37]

**63.494 Articles and plan of merger.** (1) After each business entity that is a party to a merger approves a plan of merger, the surviving business entity shall deliver to the office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(a) Articles of merger that set forth the name and type of each business entity that intends to merge and the name and type of the business entity that will survive the merger;

(b) A plan of merger or, in lieu of a plan of merger, a written declaration that:

(A) Identifies an address for an office of the surviving entity where the plan of merger is on file; and

(B) States that the surviving entity will provide any owner, member or shareholder of any constituent entity with a copy of the plan of merger upon request and at no cost; and

(c) A written declaration that states that each business entity that is a party to the merger duly authorized and approved the

plan of merger in accordance with ORS 63.487.

(2) The merger takes effect on the later of the date and time determined in accordance with ORS 63.011 or the date and time determined under the statutes that govern any party to the merger that is a business entity other than a limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §92; 1999 c.362 §38; 2015 c.28 §4]

**63.497 Effect of merger.** (1) When a merger involving a limited liability company takes effect:

(a) Every other business entity that is a party to the merger merges into the surviving business entity, and the separate existence of every other party ceases;

(b) Title to all real estate and other property owned by each of the business entities that were parties to the merger is vested in the surviving business entity without reversion or impairment;

(c) All obligations of each of the business entities that were parties to the merger, including, without limitation, contractual, tort, statutory and administrative obligations, are obligations of the surviving business entity;

(d) An action or proceeding pending against each of the business entities or its owners that were parties to the merger may be continued as if the merger had not occurred, or the surviving business entity may be substituted as a party to the action or proceeding;

(e) If a limited liability company is the surviving business entity, its articles of organization are amended to the extent provided in the plan of merger;

(f) The ownership interests of each owner that are to be converted into ownership interests or obligations of the surviving business entity or any other business entity, or into cash or other property, are converted as provided in the plan of merger;

(g) Liability of an owner for obligations of a business entity that is a party to the merger shall be determined:

(A) As to liabilities incurred by the business entity prior to merger, according to the laws applicable prior to merger; and

(B) As to liabilities incurred by the business entity after merger, according to the laws applicable after merger, except as provided in paragraph (h) of this subsection;

(h) If prior to merger an owner of a business entity was a partner of a partnership or general partner of a limited partnership and was personally liable for the business entity's liabilities, and after merger is an owner normally protected from personal liability, then such owner shall continue to be personally liable for the business

entity's liabilities incurred during the 12 months following merger, if the other party or parties to the transaction reasonably believed that the owner would be personally liable and had not received notice of the merger; and

(i) The registration of an assumed business name of a business entity under ORS chapter 648 shall not be affected by the merger.

(2) Owners of the business entities that are parties to the merger are entitled to:

(a) In the case of members of limited liability companies, only the rights provided in the articles of merger; and

(b) In the case of owners of business entities other than limited liability companies, the rights provided in the statutes applicable to the business entity prior to merger, including, without limitation, any rights to dissent, to dissociate, to withdraw, to recover for breach of any duty or obligation owed by the other owners, and to obtain an appraisal or payment for the value of an owner's interest. [1993 c.173 §93; 1999 c.362 §39]

**63.501** [1993 c.173 §94; repealed by 1999 c.362 §67]

## DISSOLUTION

### (Generally)

**63.621 Dissolution.** A limited liability company is dissolved and its affairs shall be wound up upon the first to occur of the following:

(1) Upon reaching the time for dissolution, if any, specified in the articles of organization.

(2) Upon the occurrence of events specified in the articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(3) By the vote or such other action of the members as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement or, if neither the articles of organization nor any operating agreement so provides, by the consent of all the members.

(4) At such time as the limited liability company has no members.

(5) Upon administrative dissolution by the Secretary of State under ORS 63.651.

(6) Upon entry of a judgment of judicial dissolution under ORS 63.671. [1993 c.173 §54; 1995 c.93 §18; 1997 c.646 §10; 2003 c.576 §327]

**63.625 Distribution of assets upon dissolution.** Upon the winding up of a limited liability company, the assets shall be distributed as follows:

(1) To the extent permitted by law, to creditors, including members and former members who are creditors, in satisfaction

of liabilities of the limited liability company other than liabilities for distributions to members under ORS 63.200 or 63.249;

(2) Except as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, to members and former members of the limited liability company in satisfaction of the limited liability company's obligations for distributions due and owing under ORS 63.200 or 63.249; and

(3) Except as provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, to members of the limited liability company first for the return of their previously unreturned contributions and thereafter in the proportions in which the members share in profits. [1993 c.173 §59; 1997 c.646 §11]

**63.629 Agency power of members and managers after dissolution.** (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, and except as otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, after dissolution of the limited liability company, each member of a member-managed limited liability company and each manager of a manager-managed limited liability company can bind the limited liability company:

(a) By any act or omission appropriate for winding up the limited liability company's affairs or completing transactions unfinished at dissolution; and

(b) By any transaction that would have bound the limited liability company if it had not been dissolved, if the other party to the transaction does not have actual notice of the dissolution.

(2) An act or omission of a member or manager that would not be binding on the limited liability company pursuant to subsection (1) of this section is binding if it is otherwise authorized or ratified by the limited liability company.

(3) An act or omission of a member or manager that would be binding on the limited liability company under subsection (1) of this section or that otherwise would be authorized, but that is in contravention of a restriction on the authority of the member or manager shall not bind the limited liability company to persons having knowledge of the restriction. [1993 c.173 §61; 1995 c.93 §19; 1997 c.646 §12; 1999 c.86 §15]

**63.631 Articles of dissolution.** At any time following dissolution of the limited liability company, the limited liability company may deliver to the office of the Secretary of State articles of dissolution setting forth:

(1) The name of the limited liability company; and



(2) The date the dissolution occurred. [1993 c.173 §60; 1995 c.93 §20]

**63.637 Effect of dissolution; winding up.** (1) A dissolved limited liability company continues its existence, but may not carry on any business except that which is appropriate to wind up and liquidate its business and affairs, including the actions specified in ORS 60.637 for a dissolved corporation. The limitation on personal liability otherwise provided in this chapter for members and managers shall continue following dissolution for actions appropriate to the winding up and liquidation.

(2) Dissolution of a limited liability company does not:

(a) Transfer title to the limited liability company's property;

(b) Subject its members, managers or employees to standards of conduct different from those prescribed in this chapter;

(c) Prevent commencement of a proceeding by or against the limited liability company in its limited liability company name;

(d) Abate or suspend a proceeding by or against the limited liability company on the effective date of the dissolution; or

(e) Terminate the authority of the registered agent of the limited liability company.

(3) Except as otherwise provided in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, the manager or managers or, if the articles of organization do not provide for managers, the members who have not wrongfully dissolved a limited liability company may wind up the limited liability company's affairs. However, the circuit court, upon cause shown, may wind up the limited liability company's affairs upon application of any member or the member's legal representative or assignee. [1993 c.173 §55; 1995 c.93 §21]

**63.641 Known claims against dissolved limited liability company.** (1) A dissolved limited liability company may dispose of the known claims against it by the procedure described in this section.

(2) The dissolved limited liability company shall notify its known claimants in writing of the dissolution at any time after the dissolution. The written notice must:

(a) Describe information that must be included in a claim;

(b) Provide a mailing address where a claim may be sent;

(c) State the deadline, which may not be fewer than 120 days from the effective date of the written notice, by which the dissolved limited liability company must receive the claim; and

(d) State that the claim will be barred if not received by the deadline.

(3) A claim against the dissolved limited liability company is barred:

(a) If a claimant who is given written notice under subsection (2) of this section does not deliver the claim to the dissolved limited liability company by the deadline; or

(b) If a claimant whose claim was rejected by the dissolved limited liability company does not commence a proceeding to enforce the claim within 90 days from the effective date of the rejection notice.

(4) For purposes of this section, "claim" does not include a contingent liability or a claim based on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution. [1993 c.173 §56]

**63.644 Unknown claims against dissolved limited liability company.** (1) A dissolved limited liability company which has filed articles of dissolution in accordance with ORS 63.631 may also publish notice of its dissolution and request that persons with claims against the limited liability company present them in accordance with the notice.

(2) The notice must:

(a) Be published one time in a newspaper of general circulation in the county where the dissolved limited liability company's principal office is located or, if the principal office is not in this state, where its registered office is or was last located;

(b) Describe the information that must be included in a claim and provide a mailing address where the claim may be sent; and

(c) State that a claim against the limited liability company will be barred unless a proceeding to enforce the claim is commenced within five years after the publication of the notice.

(3) If the dissolved limited liability company publishes a newspaper notice in accordance with subsection (2) of this section, the claim of each of the following claimants is barred unless the claimant commences a proceeding to enforce the claim against the dissolved limited liability company within five years after the publication date of the newspaper notice:

(a) A claimant who did not receive written notice under ORS 63.641;

(b) A claimant whose claim was sent in a timely manner to the dissolved limited liability company but not acted on; or

(c) A claimant whose claim is contingent or based on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution. [1993 c.173 §57]

**63.645 Enforcement of claims against dissolved limited liability company.** A claim against a dissolved limited liability

company that is not barred under ORS 63.641 or 63.644 may be enforced:

(1) Against the dissolved limited liability company to the extent of its undistributed assets; or

(2) If the assets have been distributed in liquidation, against each member of the dissolved limited liability company for the amount by which such member's liquidation distributions would have been reduced if the claim had been paid by the limited liability company. A member's total liability for all claims under this section may not exceed the total value of assets distributed to the member, as of the date or dates of distribution, less any liability of the limited liability company paid on behalf of the limited liability company by that member after the date of the distribution. [1993 c.173 §58]

#### (Administrative Dissolution)

**63.647 Grounds for administrative dissolution.** The Secretary of State may commence a proceeding under ORS 63.651 to administratively dissolve a limited liability company if:

(1) The limited liability company does not pay when due any fees imposed by this chapter;

(2) The limited liability company does not deliver the limited liability company's annual report to the Secretary of State when due;

(3) The limited liability company fails to comply with an order from the Secretary of State under ORS 63.032 (1) or is the subject of a recommendation for dissolution from the Director of the Department of Revenue under ORS 63.032 (3);

(4) The limited liability company is without a registered agent or registered office in this state;

(5) The limited liability company does not notify the Secretary of State that the limited liability company's registered agent or registered office has changed, that the registered agent has resigned or that the registered office has been discontinued; or

(6) The limited liability company's period of duration stated in the articles of organization expires. [1993 c.173 §62; 2017 c.705 §23]

**63.651 Procedure; effect of administrative dissolution.** (1) If the Secretary of State determines that one or more grounds exist under ORS 63.647 for dissolving a limited liability company, the Secretary of State shall give the limited liability company written notice of the determination.

(2) If the limited liability company does not correct each ground for dissolution or

demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State, within 45 days after notice is given, that each of the grounds that the Secretary of State has determined to be a ground for the dissolution does not exist, the Secretary of State shall dissolve the limited liability company.

(3) A limited liability company administratively dissolved continues the limited liability company's existence but may not carry on any activities except activities that are necessary or appropriate to wind up and liquidate the limited liability company's business and affairs under ORS 63.637 and notify claimants under ORS 63.641 and 63.644.

(4) The administrative dissolution of a limited liability company does not terminate the authority of the limited liability company's registered agent. [1993 c.173 §63; 1993 c.173 §106; 2013 c.159 §9]

**63.654 Reinstatement following administrative dissolution.** (1) A limited liability company that the Secretary of State administratively dissolved under ORS 63.651 may apply to the Secretary of State for reinstatement within five years from the date of dissolution. The application must:

(a) State the name of the limited liability company and the effective date of the limited liability company's administrative dissolution; and

(b) State that the ground or grounds for dissolution either did not exist or have been eliminated.

(2) If the Secretary of State determines that the application contains the information required by subsection (1) of this section, that the information is correct and that the limited liability company's name satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.094, the Secretary of State shall reinstate the limited liability company.

(3) When effective, the reinstatement relates back to and takes effect as of the effective date of the administrative dissolution and the limited liability company resumes carrying on the limited liability company's business as if the administrative dissolution had never occurred.

(4) The Secretary of State may waive the requirement under subsection (1) of this section that the limited liability company apply for reinstatement within five years after the date of administrative dissolution if the limited liability company requests the waiver and provides evidence of the limited liability company's continued existence as an active concern during the period of administrative dissolution. [1993 c.173 §64; 1995 c.215 §11; 2011 c.147 §10]

**63.657 Appeal from denial of reinstatement.** (1) If the Secretary of State denies a limited liability company's application for reinstatement following administrative dissolution, the Secretary of State shall give written notice to the limited liability company that explains the reason or reasons for denial.

(2) The limited liability company may appeal the denial of the reinstatement pursuant to the provisions of ORS chapter 183. [1993 c.173 §65]

#### (Judicial Dissolution)

**63.661 Grounds for judicial dissolution; finding that limited liability company is shell entity; prima facie showing by Attorney General; effects; affirmative defenses.** (1) A circuit court may dissolve a limited liability company:

(a) In a proceeding by the Attorney General if the court finds that:

(A) The limited liability company filed articles of organization with fraudulent intent, with fraudulent information or in a manner that otherwise indicates fraud;

(B) The limited liability company has continued to exceed or abuse the authority conferred upon the limited liability company by law; or

(C) The limited liability company is a shell entity. For purposes of this subparagraph:

(i) A court may find that a limited liability company is a shell entity if the court determines that the limited liability company was used or organized for an illegal purpose, was used or organized to defraud or deceive a person or a governmental agency or was used or organized to fraudulently conceal any business activity from another person or a governmental agency; and

(ii) The Attorney General may make a prima facie showing that a limited liability company is a shell entity by stating in an affidavit that:

(I) The limited liability company did not provide a name or address required by the Secretary of State, or the name or address the limited liability company provided was false, fraudulent or inadequate;

(II) The limited liability company's articles of organization, a record the limited liability company must keep under ORS 63.771 or the limited liability company's annual report is false, fraudulent or inadequate;

(III) A public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, attempted to communicate with, or serve legal process upon, the limited liability company at the address or by means of other

contact information the limited liability company provided to the Secretary of State, but the limited liability company failed to respond; or

(IV) The Attorney General has other evidence that shows that the limited liability company was used or organized for an illegal purpose, was used or organized to defraud or deceive a person or a governmental agency or was used or organized to fraudulently conceal any business activity from another person or a governmental agency.

(b) In a proceeding by or for a member if the court finds that it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the business of the limited liability company in conformance with the articles of organization or any operating agreement.

(c) In a proceeding by the limited liability company to have the limited liability company's voluntary dissolution continued under court supervision.

(2) In addition to subjecting a limited liability company to dissolution under subsection (1)(a)(C) of this section, a finding that a limited liability company is a shell entity has the following effects:

(a) A court may rebuttably presume that the limited liability company's filings with the Secretary of State constitute a false claim, as defined in ORS 180.750, in any action the Attorney General brings against the limited liability company under ORS 180.760 and may award to the Attorney General reasonable attorney fees and the costs of investigation, preparation and litigation if the Attorney General prevails in the action; and

(b) A public body, as defined in ORS 174.109, in any proceeding against the limited liability company, may move to enjoin a member, manager or other person that exercises significant direction or control over the limited liability company from engaging in commercial activity in this state, including but not limited to incorporating or organizing another entity in this state.

(3) A limited liability company may affirmatively defend against an allegation that the limited liability company is a shell entity by showing that the limited liability company, within 60 days after receiving a request to provide or correct a name, address or other information required for a filing or in articles of organization, a record the limited liability company must keep or an annual report, or within 60 days after the date of a request to respond to a communication or service of process, provided or corrected the name, address or other information or responded to the communication or service of process. [1993 c.173 §66; 2017 c.705 §24]

**63.664 Procedure for judicial dissolution.** (1) Venue for a proceeding by the Attorney General to dissolve a limited liability company lies in Marion County. Venue for a proceeding brought by any other party named in ORS 63.661 lies in the county where a limited liability company's principal office is located or, if the principal office is not in this state, where its registered office is or was last located.

(2) It is not necessary to make members parties to a proceeding to dissolve a limited liability company unless relief is sought against them individually.

(3) A court in a proceeding brought to judicially dissolve a limited liability company may issue injunctions, appoint a receiver or a custodian with all powers and duties the court directs, and take other action required to preserve or liquidate the limited liability company's assets wherever located or carry on the business of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §67]

**63.671 Judgment of dissolution.** (1) If after a hearing the court determines that one or more grounds for judicial dissolution described in ORS 63.661 exist, it may enter a judgment dissolving the limited liability company and specifying the effective date of the dissolution. The clerk of the court shall deliver a certified copy of the judgment to the office for filing. The Secretary of State shall file the certified copy of the judgment.

(2) After entering the judgment of dissolution, the court shall direct the winding up and liquidation of the limited liability company's business and affairs in accordance with ORS 63.637, the notification of claimants and enforcement of claims in accordance with ORS 63.641 and 63.644, and the distribution of limited liability company assets in accordance with ORS 63.625. [1993 c.173 §68; 2003 c.576 §328]

#### (Disposition of Assets)

**63.674 Deposit with Department of State Lands.** Assets of a dissolved limited liability company that should be distributed to a creditor, claimant or member of the limited liability company who cannot be found or who is not competent to receive them shall be reduced to cash and, within six months after the final distribution of such liquidation or winding up is payable, deposited with the Department of State Lands. The receiver or other liquidating agent shall prepare in duplicate and under oath a statement containing the names and last-known addresses of the persons entitled to such funds. One of the statements shall be filed with the Department of State Lands and another shall be delivered to the office for filing. The funds shall then escheat to and become the prop-

erty of the State of Oregon and shall become a part of the Common School Fund of the state. The owners, heirs or personal representatives of the owner may reclaim any funds so deposited in the manner provided for estates which have escheated to the state. [1993 c.173 §69]

### FOREIGN LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES

#### (Authority to Transact Business)

**63.701 Authority to transact business required.** (1) A foreign limited liability company may not transact business in this state until it has been authorized to do so by the Secretary of State.

(2) The following activities, among others, do not constitute transacting business within the meaning of subsection (1) of this section:

(a) Maintaining, defending or settling any proceeding.

(b) Holding meetings of the managers or members or carrying on other activities concerning internal affairs.

(c) Maintaining bank accounts.

(d) Maintaining offices or agencies for the transfer, exchange and registration of the foreign limited liability company's own securities or maintaining trustees or depositories with respect to those securities.

(e) Selling through independent contractors.

(f) Soliciting or obtaining orders, whether by mail or through employees or agents or otherwise, if the orders require acceptance outside this state before they become contracts.

(g) Creating or acquiring indebtedness, mortgages and security interests in real or personal property.

(h) Securing or collecting debts or enforcing mortgages and security interests in property securing the debts.

(i) Owning, without more, real or personal property.

(j) Conducting an isolated transaction that is completed within 30 days and is not one in the course of repeated transactions of a like nature.

(k) Transacting business in interstate commerce.

(3) The list of activities in subsection (2) of this section is not exhaustive. [1993 c.173 §75]

**63.704 Consequences of transacting business without authority.** (1) A foreign limited liability company transacting business in this state without authorization from

the Secretary of State may not maintain a proceeding in any court in this state until it obtains authorization from the Secretary of State to transact business in this state.

(2) The successor to a foreign limited liability company that transacted business in this state without authority to transact business in this state and the assignee of a cause of action arising out of that business may not maintain a proceeding based on that cause of action in any court in this state until the foreign limited liability company or its successor obtains authorization from the Secretary of State to transact business in this state.

(3) A court may stay a proceeding commenced by a foreign limited liability company or its successor or assignee until it determines whether the foreign limited liability company or its successor requires authorization from the Secretary of State to transact business in this state. If it so determines, the court may further stay the proceeding until the foreign limited liability company or its successor obtains the authorization.

(4) A foreign limited liability company that transacts business in this state without authority shall be liable to this state for the years or parts thereof during which it transacted business in this state without authority in an amount equal to all fees that would have been imposed by this chapter upon the foreign limited liability company had it duly applied for and received authority to transact business in this state as required by this chapter and thereafter filed all reports required by this chapter.

(5) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) of this section, the failure of a foreign limited liability company to obtain authority to transact business in this state does not impair the validity of its acts or prevent it from defending any proceeding in this state.

(6) A member of a foreign limited liability company is not liable for the debts and obligations of the foreign limited liability company solely by reason of the foreign limited liability company's having transacted business in this state without authority. [1993 c.173 §76]

**63.707 Application for authority to transact business.** (1) A foreign limited liability company may apply for authority to transact business in this state by delivering an application to the office of the Secretary of State for filing. The application must set forth:

(a) The name of the foreign limited liability company or, if the name the foreign limited liability company uses is unavailable

for filing in this state, another name that satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.717;

(b) The name of the state or country under whose law the foreign limited liability company is organized;

(c) The foreign limited liability company's registry number in the state or country under whose law the foreign limited liability company is organized;

(d) The foreign limited liability company's date of organization and either the date on which the period of the foreign limited liability company's duration expires or a statement that the duration is perpetual;

(e) The address, including street and number, and mailing address, if different, of the foreign limited liability company's principal office;

(f) The address, including street and number, of the foreign limited liability company's registered office in this state and the name of the foreign limited liability company's registered agent at the registered office;

(g) A statement that the foreign limited liability company satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.714 (3); and

(h) A statement as to whether the foreign limited liability company is member-managed or manager-managed, or whether the foreign limited liability company is managed by a manager or managers.

(2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection, the foreign limited liability company shall deliver with the completed application a certificate of existence, or a document of similar import, current within 60 days of delivery and authenticated by the official having custody of limited liability company records in the state or country under whose law the foreign limited liability company is organized.

(b) A foreign limited liability company need not submit a certificate of existence or document in accordance with paragraph (a) of this subsection if the official who has custody of business entity records in the state or country under whose law the foreign limited liability company is organized provides free access via the Internet to a searchable database that contains evidence of limited liability company registrations. [1993 c.173 §77; 1999 c.86 §16; 2005 c.22 §43; 2011 c.147 §11]

**63.711 Amendment to application for authority.** (1) A foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state shall deliver an amendment to the application for authority to transact business in this state to the office for filing if it changes:

(a) Its name as shown on the records of the office; or

(b) The period of its duration.

(2) The amendment to the application for authority to transact business in this state shall set forth its name shown on the records of the office and the new name or the new period of duration. The name as changed must satisfy the requirements of ORS 63.094. [1993 c.173 §78]

**63.714 Effect of authority.** (1) The laws of the state or other jurisdiction under which a foreign limited liability company is organized shall govern its organization and internal affairs and the liability of its members.

(2) Except as provided in subsection (3) of this section, a foreign limited liability company may not be denied registration by reason of any difference between the laws of this state and the laws of the state or other jurisdiction under which the foreign limited liability company is organized.

(3) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2) of this section, no foreign limited liability company shall be authorized or permitted to exercise any powers or purposes or conduct any business or affairs in this state that a domestic limited liability company is proscribed from exercising, pursuing or undertaking in this state. [1993 c.173 §79; 1995 c.93 §22]

**63.717 Name of foreign limited liability company.** (1) Except as provided in subsections (2) and (3) of this section, the Secretary of State shall not authorize a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state if the name of the foreign limited liability company does not conform to ORS 63.094.

(2) The name of the foreign limited liability company must contain a word or abbreviation required by ORS 63.094 unless the name contains some other word, phrase or abbreviation that the laws of the place of organization require to denote a limited liability company.

(3) If a limited liability company name, corporate name, professional corporate name, nonprofit corporate name, cooperative name, limited partnership name, business trust name, reserved name, registered name or assumed business name of active record with the office is not distinguishable on the records of the office from the name of the applicant foreign limited liability company, the Secretary of State shall not authorize the applicant to transact business in this state unless the foreign limited liability company states its name on the application for authority to transact business in this state under ORS 63.707 as (name under which organized), a limited liability company of (place of organization), the entirety of which

shall be the real and true name of the foreign limited liability company in this state under ORS chapter 648.

(4) If a foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state changes its name to one that does not satisfy the requirements of this section, it may not transact business in this state under the changed name until it adopts a name satisfying the requirements of this section and ORS 63.711. [1993 c.173 §80]

**63.721 Registered office and registered agent of foreign limited liability company.** Each foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state must continuously maintain in this state:

(1) A registered office that may be, but need not be, the same as any of its places of business; and

(2) A registered agent who may be:

(a) An individual who resides in this state and whose business office is identical to the registered office;

(b) A domestic limited liability company, a domestic corporation, a domestic professional corporation or a domestic nonprofit corporation whose business office is identical to the registered office; or

(c) A foreign limited liability company, a foreign corporation, a foreign professional corporation or a foreign nonprofit corporation authorized to transact business in this state whose business office is identical to the registered office. [1993 c.173 §81; 2001 c.315 §28]

**63.724 Change of registered office or registered agent of foreign limited liability company.** (1) A foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state may change its registered office or registered agent by delivering to the office of the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change that sets forth:

(a) The name of the foreign limited liability company;

(b) If the registered office is to be changed, the street address, including street and number, of the new registered office;

(c) If the registered agent is to be changed, the name of the new registered agent and a statement that the new agent has consented to the appointment; and

(d) That after the change or changes are made, the street addresses of the registered office and the business office of its registered agent will be identical.

(2) If a registered agent changes the street address of the agent's business office, the registered agent shall change the street address of the registered office of the foreign limited liability company for which the agent

is the registered agent by notifying the foreign limited liability company in writing of the change and signing, either manually or in facsimile, and delivering to the office of the Secretary of State a statement of change that complies with the requirement of subsection (1) of this section and states that the foreign limited liability company has been notified of the change.

(3) The filing of the statement by the Secretary of State shall terminate the existing registered office or agent, or both, on the effective date of the filing and establish the newly appointed registered office or agent, or both, as that of the foreign limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §82]

**63.727 Resignation of registered agent of a foreign limited liability company.**

(1) The registered agent of a foreign limited liability company may resign as agent upon delivering a signed statement to the office and giving notice in the form of a copy of the statement to the foreign limited liability company. The statement of resignation may include a statement that the registered office is also discontinued.

(2) Upon the delivery of the signed statement, the Secretary of State shall file the resignation statement. The copy of the statement given to the foreign limited liability company under subsection (1) of this section shall be addressed to the foreign limited liability company at its mailing address or its principal office as shown by the records of the Secretary of State.

(3) The agency appointment is terminated, and the registered office discontinued if so provided in the signed statement under subsection (1) of this section, on the 31st day after the date on which the statement was filed by the Secretary of State unless the foreign limited liability company has previously appointed a successor registered agent, as provided in ORS 63.724, thereby terminating the capacity of such agent. [1993 c.173 §83; 1993 c.173 §107]

**63.731 Service on a foreign limited liability company.**

(1) The registered agent appointed by a foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state shall be its agent upon whom any process, notice or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the foreign limited liability company may be served.

(2) The Secretary of State shall be an agent of a foreign limited liability company upon whom any process, notice or demand may be served, if:

(a) The foreign limited liability company is authorized to transact business in this state, and it fails to appoint or maintain a registered agent in this state, or its regis-

tered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office;

(b) The foreign limited liability company's authority to transact business in this state has been revoked;

(c) The foreign limited liability company is transacting business in this state without being authorized as provided in this chapter;

(d) The foreign limited liability company has been authorized to transact business in this state and has withdrawn; or

(e) The foreign limited liability company has transacted business in this state without being authorized to do so and has ceased to transact business.

(3) Service on the Secretary of State of any such process, notice or demand shall be made in the same manner as provided in ORS 63.121, except that when the foreign limited liability company served is not authorized to transact business in this state and was not authorized to transact business in this state at the time the transaction, event or occurrence upon which the proceeding is based occurred, the copy of the process, notice or demand shall be sent immediately by registered or certified mail by the plaintiff or the attorney of the plaintiff to the principal office or place of business of the foreign limited liability company, instead of the last registered office of the foreign limited liability company.

(4) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all processes, notices and demands served upon the Secretary of State under this section.

(5) After completion of initial service upon the Secretary of State, no additional documents need to be served upon the Secretary of State to maintain jurisdiction in the same proceeding or to give notice of any motion or provisional process.

(6) Nothing contained in this section shall limit or affect the right to serve any process, notice or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon a foreign limited liability company in any other manner permitted by law, or enlarge the purposes for which service on the Secretary of State is permitted where such purposes are limited by other provisions of law. [1993 c.173 §84]

**(Withdrawal)**

**63.734 Withdrawal of foreign limited liability company.**

(1) A foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state may withdraw from transacting business in this state by applying to the office for withdrawal. The application shall set forth:

(a) The name of the foreign limited liability company and the name of the state or country under whose law it is organized;

(b) That it is not transacting business in this state and that it surrenders its authority to transact business in this state;

(c) That it revokes the authority of its registered agent to accept service on its behalf and appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action arising during the time it was authorized to transact business in this state;

(d) A mailing address to which the person initiating any proceeding may mail to the foreign limited liability company a copy of any process served on the Secretary of State under paragraph (c) of this subsection; and

(e) A commitment to notify the Secretary of State for a period of five years from the date of withdrawal of any change in its mailing address.

(2) Upon filing by the Secretary of State of the application to withdraw, the authority of the foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state shall cease. [1993 c.173 §85]

#### (Revocation of Authority)

**63.737 Grounds for revocation.** The Secretary of State may commence a proceeding under ORS 63.741 to revoke the authority of a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state if:

(1) The foreign limited liability company does not deliver the limited liability company's annual report to the Secretary of State within the time prescribed by this chapter;

(2) The foreign limited liability company does not pay within the time prescribed by this chapter any fees imposed by this chapter;

(3) The foreign limited liability company fails to comply with an order from the Secretary of State under ORS 63.032 (1);

(4) The foreign limited liability company has failed to appoint or maintain a registered agent or registered office in this state as prescribed by this chapter;

(5) The foreign limited liability company does not inform the Secretary of State under ORS 63.724 or 63.727 that the limited liability company's registered agent or registered office has changed, that the registered agent has resigned or that the registered office has been discontinued;

(6) An organizer, manager, member or agent of the foreign limited liability company signed a document knowing the document

was false in any material respect with intent that the document be delivered to the office for filing;

(7) The foreign limited liability company no longer satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.714 (3);

(8) The Secretary of State receives a duly authenticated certificate from the official having custody of the limited liability company records in the state or country under whose law the foreign limited liability company is organized stating that the foreign limited liability company has been dissolved or has ceased to exist as the result of a merger or other reorganization transaction; or

(9) The period of duration of the foreign limited liability company expires. [1993 c.173 §86; 2017 c.705 §25]

**63.741 Procedure for and effect of revocation.** (1) If the Secretary of State determines that one or more grounds exist under ORS 63.737 for revocation of authority of a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state, the Secretary of State shall give the foreign limited liability company written notice of the determination.

(2) If the foreign limited liability company does not correct each ground for revocation or demonstrate to the reasonable satisfaction of the Secretary of State that each ground determined by the Secretary of State does not exist within 45 days after notice is given, the Secretary of State shall revoke the foreign limited liability company's authority.

(3) The authority of a foreign limited liability company to transact business in this state ceases as of the date of revocation of its authority to transact business in this state.

(4) The Secretary of State's revocation of a foreign limited liability company's authority to transact business in this state appoints the Secretary of State as the foreign limited liability company's agent for service of process in any proceeding based on a cause of action which arose during the time the foreign limited liability company was authorized to transact business in this state.

(5) Revocation of a foreign limited liability company's authority to transact business in this state terminates the authority of the registered agent of the foreign limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §87; 1993 c.173 §108]

**63.744 Appeal from revocation.** In addition to any other legal remedy which may be available, a foreign limited liability company shall have the right to appeal the Secretary of State's revocation of its authority to transact business in this state pursuant to



the provisions of ORS chapter 183. [1993 c.173 §88]

**63.747 Reinstatement of authority.** (1) A foreign limited liability company that has had its authority revoked under ORS 63.741 may apply to the Secretary of State for reinstatement within five years from the date of revocation. The application shall:

(a) State the name of the foreign limited liability company and the effective date its authority was revoked; and

(b) State that the ground or grounds for revocation of authority either did not exist or have been eliminated.

(2) If the Secretary of State determines that the application contains the information required by subsection (1) of this section, that the information is correct and that the foreign limited liability company's name satisfies the requirements of ORS 63.717, the Secretary of State shall reinstate the authority.

(3) When the reinstatement is effective, it relates back to and takes effect as of the effective date of the administrative revocation of authority and the foreign limited liability company resumes carrying on its business as if the administrative revocation of authority had never occurred. [1993 c.173 §89; 1995 c.215 §12]

## RECORDS AND REPORTS

### (Records)

**63.771 Limited liability company records.** (1) Each limited liability company shall keep at an office specified in the manner provided in any operating agreement or, if none, at the registered office, the following:

(a) A current list of the full name and last-known business, residence or mailing address of each member and manager, both past and present.

(b) A copy of the articles of organization and all amendments thereto, together with executed copies of any powers of attorney pursuant to which any amendment has been executed.

(c) Copies of the limited liability company's federal, state and local income tax returns and reports, if any, for the three most recent years.

(d) Copies of any currently effective written operating agreements and all amendments thereto, copies of any writings permitted or required under this chapter, and copies of any financial statements of the limited liability company for the three most recent years.

(e) Unless contained in a written operating agreement or in a writing permitted or

required under this chapter, a statement prepared and certified as accurate by a manager of the limited liability company which describes:

(A) The amount of cash and a description and statement of the agreed value of other property or services contributed by each member and which each member has agreed to contribute in the future;

(B) The times at which or events on the occurrence of which any additional contributions agreed to be made by each member are to be made; and

(C) If agreed upon, the time at which or the events on the occurrence of which the limited liability company is dissolved and its affairs wound up.

(2) Any limited liability company records are subject to inspection and copying at the reasonable request, and at the expense, of any member during ordinary business hours.

(3) Failure of the limited liability company to keep or maintain any of the records or information required pursuant to this section shall not be grounds for imposing liability on any person for the debts and obligations of the limited liability company. [1993 c.173 §96; 1999 c.86 §22]

**63.777 Scope of inspection right.** (1) A member's agent or attorney has the same inspection and copying rights as the member.

(2) The right to copy records includes, if reasonable, the right to receive copies made by photographic, xerographic or other means.

(3) The limited liability company may impose a reasonable charge, covering the costs of labor and material, for copies of any documents provided to the member. The charge may not exceed the estimated cost of production or reproduction of the records.

(4) The limited liability company may comply with a member's demand to inspect the record of members by providing the member with a list of members that was compiled no earlier than the date of the member's demand. [1993 c.173 §97]

**63.781 Court-ordered inspection.** (1) If a limited liability company does not allow a member to inspect and copy any records required to be available for inspection, the circuit court of the county where the limited liability company's principal office is located, or, if the principal office is not in this state, where its registered office is or was last located, may summarily order inspection and copying of the records demanded at the company's expense upon application of the member.

(2) If a limited liability company does not within a reasonable time allow a member to inspect and copy any other record, the mem-

ber may apply to the circuit court in the county where the company's principal office is located, or, if the principal office is not in this state, where its registered office is or was last located, for an order to permit inspection and copying of the records demanded.

(3) If the court orders inspection and copying of the records demanded, it shall also order the limited liability company to pay the member's costs, including reasonable counsel fees, incurred to obtain the order unless the company proves that it refused inspection in good faith because it had a reasonable basis for doubt about the right of the member to inspect the records demanded.

(4) If the court orders inspection and copying of the records demanded, it may impose reasonable restrictions on the use or distribution of the records by the demanding member.

(5) No order shall be issued under this section without notice to the limited liability company at least five days in advance of the time specified for the hearing unless a different period is fixed by the court. The member's request shall be set for hearing at the earliest possible time and shall take precedence over all matters, except matters of the same character and hearings on preliminary injunctions under ORCP 79 B(3). [1993 c.173 §98]

### (Reports)

**63.784 Certain expense reports to members.** If a limited liability company indemnifies or advances expenses to a member or manager under ORS 63.160 in connection with a proceeding by or in the right of the limited liability company, the limited liability company shall report the indemnification or advance in writing to the members. [1993 c.173 §99; 1999 c.86 §17]

### **63.787 Annual report; updates; rules.**

(1) A domestic limited liability company, and a foreign limited liability company authorized to transact business in this state, shall by the limited liability company's anniversary deliver to the office of the Secretary of State for filing an annual report that sets forth:

(a) The name of the limited liability company and the state or country under whose law the limited liability company is organized;

(b) The street address of the limited liability company's registered office and name of the limited liability company's registered agent at the registered office in this state;

(c) The address, including street and number and mailing address, if different, of

the limited liability company's principal office;

(d) The names and addresses of the managers for a manager-managed limited liability company or the name and address of at least one member for a member-managed limited liability company;

(e) A description of the primary business activity of the limited liability company; and

(f) Additional identifying information that the Secretary of State may require by rule.

(2) The information contained in the annual report must be current as of 30 days before the anniversary of the limited liability company.

(3) The Secretary of State shall mail the annual report form to any address shown for the limited liability company in the current records of the office of the Secretary of State. The failure of the limited liability company to receive the annual report form from the Secretary of State does not relieve the limited liability company of the limited liability company's duty under this section to deliver an annual report to the office.

(4) If an annual report does not contain the information this section requires, the Secretary of State shall notify the reporting domestic or foreign limited liability company in writing and return the report to the domestic or foreign limited liability company for correction. The domestic or foreign limited liability company must correct the error within 45 days after the Secretary of State gives the notice.

(5)(a) A domestic or foreign limited liability company may update information that is required or permitted in an annual report filing at any time by delivering to the office of the Secretary of State for filing:

(A) An amendment to the annual report if a change in the information set forth in the annual report occurs after the report is delivered to the office for filing and before the next anniversary; or

(B) A statement with the change if the update occurs before the domestic or foreign limited liability company files the first annual report.

(b) This subsection applies only to a change that is not required to be made by an amendment to the articles of organization.

(c) The amendment to the annual report filed under paragraph (a) of this subsection must set forth:

(A) The name of the limited liability company as shown on the records of the office; and

(B) The information as changed. [1993 c.173 §100; 1995 c.93 §23; 1999 c.86 §18; 2007 c.186 §7; 2011 c.147 §12]

## DERIVATIVE PROCEEDINGS

**63.801 Derivative proceedings.** (1) A member may not commence a proceeding in the right of a domestic or foreign limited liability company unless the person was a member of the limited liability company when the transaction complained of occurred or unless the member became a member through transfer by operation of law from one who was a member at that time.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in writing in the articles of organization or any operating agreement, a complaint in a proceeding brought in the right of a limited liability company must allege with particularity the demand made, if any, to obtain action by the managers or the members who would otherwise have the authority to cause the limited liability company to sue in its own right, and either that the demand was refused or ignored or the reason why a demand was not made. Whether or not a demand for action was made, if the limited liability company commences an investigation of the charges made in the demand or complaint, the court may stay any proceeding until the investigation is completed.

(3) A proceeding commenced under this section may not be discontinued or settled without the court's approval. If the court determines that a proposed discontinuance or settlement will substantially affect the interest of the members or a class of members, the court shall direct that notice be given to the members affected. [1993 c.173 §95]

## STATE TAXATION

**63.810 Taxation of limited liability companies and members.** For purposes of ORS 320.005 to 320.150 and ORS chapters 305, 306, 307, 308, 308A, 309, 310, 311, 312, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 321, 323 and 324, a limited liability company formed under this chapter or qualified to do business in this state as a foreign limited liability company shall be classified in the same manner as it is classified for federal income tax purposes. For purposes of ORS 320.005 to 320.150 and ORS chapters 305, 306, 307, 308, 308A, 309, 310, 311, 312, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 321, 323 and 324, a member or an assignee of a member of a limited liability company formed under this chapter or qualified to do business in this state as a foreign limited liability company shall have the same status as the member or assignee of a member has for federal income tax purposes. [1993 c.173 §101; 1997 c.646 §13; 1999 c.557 §1; 2009 c.33 §1]

## MISCELLANEOUS

**63.951 Short title.** This chapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Oregon Limited Liability Company Act." [1993 c.173 §1]

**63.955 Interstate application.** A limited liability company organized and existing under this chapter may conduct its business, carry on its operations and have and exercise the powers granted by this chapter in any state, territory, district or possession of the United States, or in any foreign country. [1993 c.173 §104]

**63.960 Applicability of chapter to practice of dentistry.** Nothing in this chapter is intended to supersede the provisions of ORS 679.020. [1997 c.774 §29]

**63.965 Reservation of power to amend or repeal; effect of amendment or repeal.** (1) All or part of this chapter may be amended or repealed at any time and all domestic and foreign limited liability companies subject to this chapter shall be governed by the amendment or repeal.

(2) The amendment or repeal of a statute in this chapter does not affect:

(a) The operation of the statute or any action taken under the statute before its amendment or repeal.

(b) Any ratification, right, remedy, privilege, obligation or liability acquired, accrued or incurred under the statute before its amendment or repeal.

(c) Any violation of the statute, or any penalty, forfeiture or punishment incurred because of the violation, before its amendment or repeal.

(d) Any proceeding, reorganization or dissolution commenced under the statute before its amendment or repeal. The proceeding, reorganization or dissolution may be completed in accordance with the statute as if it had not been amended or repealed. [2001 c.315 §50]

## PENALTY

**63.990 Penalty for signing false document.** (1) A person commits the crime of signing a false document for filing if the person:

(a) Knows the document is false in any material respect; and

(b) Signs the document with an intent that the document be delivered to the office of the Secretary of State for filing under this chapter.

(2) Signing a false document for filing is a Class A misdemeanor. [1993 c.173 §102; 2013 c.158 §26]

**63.992 Liability for certain actions in connection with operation of shell entity; actions as false claim; enforcement by civil action.** (1) A member, manager, employee or agent of a shell entity is liable for damages to a person that suffers an ascertainable loss of money or property as a result of the member, manager, employee or agent:

(a) Making, issuing, delivering or publishing, or participating in making, issuing, delivering or publishing, a prospectus, report, circular, certificate, financial statement, balance sheet, public notice or document concerning the shell entity or the shell entity's shares, assets, liabilities, capital, dividends, earnings, accounts or business operations that the member, manager, employee or agent knows is false in any material respect;

(b) Making an entry or causing another person to make an entry in a shell entity's

books, records, minutes or accounts that the member, manager, employee or agent knows is false in any material respect; or

(c) Removing, erasing, altering or canceling, or causing another person to remove, erase, alter or cancel, an entry in a shell entity's books, records, minutes or accounts if by means of the removal, erasure, alteration or cancellation the member, manager, employee or agent intends to deceive another person.

(2) A member, manager, employee or agent of a shell entity that engages in any of the actions described in subsection (1) of this section in a submission to, or an interaction with, a public agency, as defined in ORS 180.750, makes a false claim and is subject to a civil action as provided in ORS 180.750 to 180.785. [2017 c.705 §6]