GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA SESSION 2003

SENATE BILL 230*

1

S

29

Short Title: Revise UCC Article on Bulk Transfers. (Public) Senators Hartsell; and Clodfelter. Sponsors: Referred to: Judiciary II. February 26, 2003 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1 AN ACT TO ENACT REVISED ARTICLE 6 OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL 2 3 CODE, BULK SALES, AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ARTICLES OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE, AS RECOMMENDED 4 BY THE GENERAL STATUTES COMMISSION. 5 6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: 7 8 PART I. REVISED ARTICLE 6 OF THE UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE. 9 10 **SECTION 1.** Article 6 of Chapter 25 of the General Statutes is rewritten to 11 read: 12 "Article 6. "Bulk Sales. 13 14 "<u>§ 25-6-101. Short title.</u> This Article shall be known and may be cited as Uniform Commercial Code-Bulk 15 16 Sales. 17 "§ 25-6-102. Definitions and index of definitions. In this Article: 18 (a) 19 'Assets' means the inventory that is the subject of a bulk sale and any (1) tangible and intangible personal property used or held for use 20 primarily in, or arising from, the seller's business and sold in 21 connection with that inventory, but the term does not include: 22 Fixtures (G.S. 25-9-102(a)(41)) other than readily removable 23 24 factory and office machines; The lessee's interest in a lease of real property; or 25 b. Property to the extent it is generally exempt from creditor 26 c. process under nonbankruptcy law. 27 'Auctioneer' means a person whom the seller engages to direct, 28 (2)

conduct, control, or be responsible for a sale by auction.

1	(3)	'Bulk sale' means:
2		a. In the case of a sale by auction or a sale or series of sales
3		conducted by a liquidator on the seller's behalf, a sale or series
4		of sales not in the ordinary course of the seller's business of
5		more than half of the seller's inventory, as measured by value
6		on the date of the bulk-sale agreement, if on that date the
7		auctioneer or liquidator has notice, or after reasonable inquiry
8		would have had notice, that the seller will not continue to
9		operate the same or a similar kind of business after the sale or
10		series of sales; and
11		b. In all other cases, a sale not in the ordinary course of the seller's
12		business of more than half the seller's inventory, as measured
13		by value on the date of the bulk-sale agreement, if on that date
14		the buyer has notice, or after reasonable inquiry would have had
15		notice, that the seller will not continue to operate the same or a
16		similar kind of business after the sale.
17	<u>(4)</u>	'Claim' means a right to payment from the seller, whether or not the
18		right is reduced to judgment, liquidated, fixed, matured, disputed,
19		secured, legal, or equitable. The term includes costs of collection and
20		attorneys' fees only to the extent that the laws of this State permit the
21		holder of the claim to recover them in an action against the obligor.
22	<u>(5)</u>	'Claimant' means a person holding a claim incurred in the seller's
23		business other than:
24		a. An unsecured and unmatured claim for employment
25		compensation and benefits, including commissions and
26		vacation, severance, and sick-leave pay;
27		b. A claim for injury to an individual or to property, or for breach
28		of warranty, unless:
29		1. A right of action for the claim has accrued;
30		2. The claim has been asserted against the seller; and
31		3. The seller knows the identity of the person asserting the
32		claim and the basis upon which the person has asserted
33		it; and
34		c. A claim for taxes owing to a governmental unit.
35	<u>(6)</u>	'Creditor' means a claimant or other person holding a claim.
36	<u>(7)</u>	'Date of the bulk sale' means (i) if the sale is by auction or is conducted
37		by a liquidator on the seller's behalf, the date on which more than ten
38		percent (10%) of the net proceeds is paid to or for the benefit of the
39		seller and (ii) in all other cases, the later of the date on which more
40		than ten percent (10%) of the net contract price is paid to or for the
41		benefit of the seller or the date on which more than ten percent (10%)
42		of the assets, as measured by value, are transferred to the buyer. For
43		purposes of this subdivision:

1		<u>a.</u>	Delivery of a negotiable instrument (G.S. 25-3-104(a)) to or for
2			the benefit of the seller in exchange for assets constitutes
3			payment of the contract price pro tanto;
4		<u>b.</u>	To the extent that the contract price is deposited in an escrow,
5			the contract price is paid to or for the benefit of the seller when
6			the seller acquires the unconditional right to receive the deposit
7			or when the deposit is delivered to the seller or for the benefit of
8			the seller, whichever is earlier; and
9		<u>c.</u>	An asset is transferred when a person holding an unsecured
10			claim can no longer obtain through judicial proceedings rights
11			to the asset that are superior to those of the buyer arising as a
12			result of the bulk sale. A person holding an unsecured claim can
13			obtain those superior rights to a tangible asset at least until the
14			buyer has an unconditional right, under the bulk-sale
15			agreement, to possess the asset, and a person holding an
16			unsecured claim can obtain those superior rights to an
17			intangible asset at least until the buyer has an unconditional
18			right, under the bulk-sale agreement, to use the asset.
19	<u>(8)</u>	<u>'Date</u>	of the bulk-sale agreement' means:
20		<u>a.</u>	In the case of a sale by auction or conducted by a liquidator
21			(subdivision (a)(3)a. of this section), the date on which the
22			seller engages the auctioneer or liquidator; and
23		<u>b.</u>	In all other cases, the date on which a bulk-sale agreement
24			becomes enforceable between the buyer and the seller.
25	<u>(9)</u>	'Debt'	means liability on a claim.
26	<u>(10)</u>	<u>'Liqui</u>	idator' means a person who is regularly engaged in the business
27		of di	sposing of assets for businesses contemplating liquidation or
28		<u>dissol</u>	lution.
29	<u>(11)</u>	'Net c	contract price' means the new consideration the buyer is obligated
30		to pay	y for the assets less:
31		<u>a.</u>	The amount of any proceeds of the sale of an asset, to the extent
32			the proceeds are applied in partial or total satisfaction of a debt
33			secured by the asset; and
34		<u>b.</u>	The amount of any debt to the extent it is secured by a security
35			interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset before and
36			after it has been sold to a buyer. If a debt is secured by an asset
37			and other property of the seller, the amount of the debt secured
38			by a security interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset
39			is determined by multiplying the debt by a fraction, the
40			numerator of which is the value of the new consideration for the
41			asset on the date of the bulk sale and the denominator of which
42			is the value of all property securing the debt on the date of the
43			bulk sale.

1		<u>(12)</u>	'Net proceeds' means the new consideration received for assets sold at
2			a sale by auction or a sale conducted by a liquidator on the seller's
3			behalf less:
4			a. Commissions and reasonable expenses of the sale;
5			b. The amount of any proceeds of the sale of an asset, to the extent
6			the proceeds are applied in partial or total satisfaction of a debt
7			secured by the asset; and
8			c. The amount of any debt to the extent it is secured by a security
9			interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset before and
10			after it has been sold to a buyer. If a debt is secured by an asset
11			and other property of the seller, the amount of the debt secured
12			by a security interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset
13			is determined by multiplying the debt by a fraction, the
14			numerator of which is the value of the new consideration for the
15			asset on the date of the bulk sale and the denominator of which
16			is the value of all property securing the debt on the date of the
17			<u>bulk sale.</u>
18		<u>(13)</u>	A sale is 'in the ordinary course of the seller's business' if the sale
19			comports with usual or customary practices in the kind of business in
20			which the seller is engaged or with the seller's own usual or customary
21			<u>practices.</u>
22		<u>(14)</u>	'United States' includes its territories and possessions and the
23			Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
24		<u>(15)</u>	'Value' means fair market value.
25	<i>a</i> .	<u>(16)</u>	'Verified' means signed and sworn to or affirmed.
26	<u>(b)</u>	The 1	following definitions in other Articles of this Chapter apply to this
27	Article:		
28			<u>'Buyer'</u> <u>G.S. 25-2-103(l)(a).</u>
29			<u>'Equipment'</u> <u>G.S. 25-9-102(a)(33).</u>
30			<u>'Inventory'</u> <u>G.S. 25-9-102(a)(48).</u>
31			<u>'Sale'</u> <u>G.S. 25-2-106(1).</u>
32	()	т :	<u>'Seller'</u> <u>G.S. 25-2-103(l)(d).</u>
33	· <u>(c)</u>		ldition, Article 1 of this Chapter contains general definitions and
34			nstruction and interpretation applicable throughout this Article.
35			oplicability of Article.
36 27	(a)		ot as otherwise provided in subsection (c) of this section, this Article
37 28	applies to		The seller's principal business is the sale of inventory from stock; and
38 30		$\frac{(1)}{(2)}$	On the date of the bulk-sale agreement, the seller is located in this
39 40		<u>(2)</u>	State.
4 0 41	(b)	11م ک	ler is deemed to be located at the seller's place of business. If a seller has
42			place of business, the seller is deemed located at the seller's chief
43	executive		

<u>(c)</u>

This Article does not apply to:

1	<u>(1)</u>	A transfer made to secure payment or performance of an obligation;
2	<u>(2)</u>	A transfer of collateral to a secured party pursuant to G.S. 25-9-609;
3	<u>(3)</u>	A disposition of collateral pursuant to G.S. 25-9-610;
4	<u>(4)</u>	Retention of collateral pursuant to G.S. 25-9-620;
5	<u>(5)</u>	A sale of an asset encumbered by a security interest or lien if (i) all the
6		proceeds of the sale are applied in partial or total satisfaction of the
7		debt secured by the security interest or lien or (ii) the security interest
8		or lien is enforceable against the asset after it has been sold to the
9		buyer and the net contract price is zero;
10	<u>(6)</u>	A general assignment for the benefit of creditors or to a subsequent
11		transfer by the assignee;
12	<u>(7)</u>	A sale by an executor, administrator, receiver, trustee in bankruptcy, or
13	3, -, /	any public officer under judicial process;
14	<u>(8)</u>	A sale made in the course of judicial or administrative proceedings for
15	<u> </u>	the dissolution or reorganization of an organization;
16	<u>(9)</u>	A sale to a buyer whose principal place of business is in the United
17	<u> </u>	States and who:
18		a. Not earlier than 21 days before the date of the bulk sale, (i)
19		obtains from the seller a verified and dated list of claimants of
20		whom the seller has notice three days before the seller sends or
21		delivers the list to the buyer or (ii) conducts a reasonable
22		inquiry to discover the claimants;
23		b. Assumes in full the debts owed to claimants of whom the buyer
24		has knowledge on the date the buyer receives the list of
25		claimants from the seller or on the date the buyer completes the
26		reasonable inquiry, as the case may be;
27		T
28		 <u>Is not insolvent after the assumption; and</u> <u>Gives written notice of the assumption not later than 30 days</u>
29		after the date of the bulk sale by sending or delivering a notice
30		to the claimants identified in sub-subdivision (c)(9)b. of this
31		section;
32	(10)	A sale to a buyer whose principal place of business is in the United
33	(10)	States and who:
34		
35		a. Assumes in full the debts that were incurred in the seller's business before the date of the bulk sale;
36		
37		
		_ -
38		after the date of the bulk sale by sending or delivering a notice
39	(11)	to each creditor whose debt is assumed;
40	<u>(11)</u>	A sale to a new organization that is organized to take over and
41		continue the business of the seller and that has its principal place of
42		business in the United States if:
43		a. The buyer assumes in full the debts that were incurred in the
44		seller's business before the date of the bulk sale;

1		<u>b.</u>	The seller receives nothing from the sale except an interest in
2			the new organization that is subordinate to the claims against
3			the organization arising from the assumption; and
4		<u>c.</u>	The buyer gives written notice of the assumption not later than
5			30 days after the date of the bulk sale by sending or delivering a
6			notice to each creditor whose debt is assumed;
7	<u>(12)</u>	A sal	e of assets having:
8		<u>a.</u>	A value, net of liens and security interests, of less than ten
9			thousand dollars (\$10,000). If a debt is secured by assets and
10			other property of the seller, the net value of the assets is
11			determined by subtracting from their value an amount equal to
12			the product of the debt multiplied by a fraction, the numerator
13			of which is the value of the assets on the date of the bulk sale
14			and the denominator of which is the value of all property
15			securing the debt on the date of the bulk sale; or
16		<u>b.</u>	A value of more than twenty-five million dollars (\$25,000,000)
17			on the date of the bulk-sale agreement; or
18	<u>(13)</u>		le required by, and made pursuant to, statute.
19	<u>(d)</u> The n	otice	under sub-subdivision (c)(9)d. of this section must state: (i) that a
20	sale that may co	nstitu	te a bulk sale has been or will be made; (ii) the date or prospective
21	date of the bulk	sale;	(iii) the individual or entity names and the addresses of the seller
22	and buyer; (iv)	the ad	dress to which inquiries about the sale may be made, if different
23			ess; and (v) that the buyer has assumed or will assume in full the
24			ants of whom the buyer has knowledge on the date the buyer
25			elaimants from the seller or completes a reasonable inquiry to
26	discover the cla		
27			under sub-subdivisions (c)(10)c. and (c)(11)c. of this section must
28			at may constitute a bulk sale has been or will be made; (ii) the date
29			of the bulk sale; (iii) the individual or entity names and the
30			and buyer; (iv) the address to which inquiries about the sale may
31	be made, if diffe	erent f	rom the seller's address; and (v) that the buyer has assumed or will
32	assume the deb	ts that	were incurred in the seller's business before the date of the bulk
33	<u>sale.</u>		
34	_	_	es of subdivision (c)(12) of this section, the value of assets is
35	_	_	to the price the buyer agrees to pay for the assets. However, in a
36			ale conducted by a liquidator on the seller's behalf, the value of
37	assets is presun	ned to	be the amount the auctioneer or liquidator reasonably estimates
38	the assets will b	ring at	auction or upon liquidation.
39	" <u>§ 25-6-104. Ol</u>	<u>oligati</u>	ons of buyer.
40	<u>In a bulk sal</u>	e as de	efined in G.S. 25-6-102(a)(3)b. the buyer shall:
11	<u>(1)</u>		in from the seller a list of all business names and addresses used
12		bv tl	ne seller within three years before the date the list is sent or

delivered to the buyer;

(2) Obtain from the seller a verified and dated list of claimants of whom 1 2 the seller has notice three days before the seller sends or delivers the 3 list to the buyer and including, to the extent known by the seller, the address of and the amount claimed by each claimant; 4 5 Obtain from the seller or prepare a schedule of distribution (G.S. (3) 6 25-6-106(a)); 7 Give notice of the bulk sale in accordance with G.S. 25-6-105; <u>(4)</u> 8 Unless excused under G.S. 25-6-106(d), distribute the net contract (5) 9 price in accordance with the undertakings of the buyer in the schedule 10 of distribution; and Make available the list of claimants (subdivision (2) of this section) 11 (6) 12 by: 13 Promptly sending or delivering a copy of the list without charge a. 14 to any claimant whose written request is received by the buyer 15 no later than six months after the date of the bulk sale; or Permitting any claimant to inspect and copy the list at any 16 b. 17 reasonable hour upon request received by the buyer no later 18 than six months after the date of the bulk sale. "<u>§ 25-6-105. Notice</u> to claimants. 19 To comply with G.S. 25-6-104(4), the buyer shall send or deliver written 20 21 notice of the bulk sale to each claimant on the list of claimants (G.S. 25-6-104(2)) and to any other claimant of whom the buyer has knowledge at the time the notice of the 22 23 bulk sale is sent or delivered. 24 The written notice of the bulk sale must be accompanied by a copy of the (b) schedule of distribution (G.S. 25-6-106(a)) and state at least: 25 That the seller and buyer have entered into an agreement for a sale that 26 (1) 27 may constitute a bulk sale under the laws of the State of North 28 Carolina; 29 The date of the agreement: (2) The date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of the assets 30 (3) were or will be transferred; 31 32 (4) The date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of the net contract price was or will be paid, if the date is not stated in the 33 schedule of distribution: 34 The name and a mailing address of the seller; 35 <u>(5)</u> Any other business name and address listed by the seller pursuant to 36 (6) G.S. 25-6-104(1); 37 The name of the buyer and an address of the buyer from which 38 <u>(7)</u> information concerning the sale can be obtained; 39 A statement indicating the type of assets or describing the assets item 40 (8) by item: 41 42 (9) The manner in which the buyer will make available the list of claimants (G.S. 25-6-104(6)); and 43

I	(10)	If the sale is in total or partial satisfaction of an antecedent debt owed
2		by the seller, the amount of the debt to be satisfied and the name of the
3		person to whom it is owed.
4	(c) For	purposes of subdivisions (b)(5) and (b)(7) of this section, the name of a
5		person's individual or entity name.
6	(d) The	buyer shall give notice of the bulk sale not less than 15 days before the
7		k sale and not more than 10 days after obtaining the list of claimants.
8	(e) A w	ritten notice substantially complying with the requirements of subsection
9		tion is effective even though it contains minor errors that are not seriously
10	misleading.	•
11	<u>(f)</u> A fe	orm substantially as follows is sufficient to comply with subsection (b) of
12	this section:	
13		"Notice of Sale
14	<u>(1)</u>	, whose address is
15		is described in this notice as the "seller."
16	<u>(2)</u>	, whose address is
17		is described in this notice as the "buyer."
18	<u>(3)</u>	The seller has disclosed to the buyer that within the past three years the
19		seller has used other business names, operated at other addresses, or
20		both, as follows:
21	<u>(4)</u>	The seller and the buyer have entered into an agreement dated ,
22		for a sale that may constitute a bulk sale under the laws of the State of
23		North Carolina.
24	<u>(5)</u>	The date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of the assets
25		that are the subject of the sale were or will be transferred is
26		, and [if not stated in the schedule of
27		distribution] the date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of
28		the net contract price was or will be paid is
29		<u> </u>
30	<u>(6)</u>	The following assets are the subject of the sale:
31	<u>(7)</u>	The buyer will make available to claimants of the seller a list of the
32		seller's claimants in the following manner: .
33	<u>(8)</u>	[If applicable] The sale is to satisfy \$ of an antecedent debt
34		owed by the seller to .
35	<u>(9)</u>	A copy of the schedule of distribution of the net contract price
36		accompanies this notice."
37	" <u>§ 25-6-106.</u>	Schedule of distribution.
38	<u>(a)</u> The	seller and buyer shall agree on how the net contract price is to be
39	distributed and	d set forth their agreement in a written schedule of distribution.
40	• •	schedule of distribution may provide for distribution to any person at any
41		g distribution of the entire net contract price to the seller.
42		buyer's undertakings in the schedule of distribution run only to the seller.
43	A buyer who	fails to distribute the net contract price in accordance with the buyer's

1 2

undertakings in the schedule of distribution is liable to a creditor only as provided in G.S. 25-6-107(a).

- (d) If the buyer undertakes in the schedule of distribution to distribute any part of the net contract price to a person other than the seller, and, after the buyer has given notice in accordance with G.S. 25-6-105, some or all of the anticipated net contract price is or becomes unavailable for distribution as a consequence of the buyer's or seller's having complied with an order of court, legal process, statute, or rule of law, the buyer is excused from any obligation arising under this Article or under any contract with the seller to distribute the net contract price in accordance with the buyer's undertakings in the schedule if the buyer:
 - (1) Distributes the net contract price remaining available in accordance with any priorities for payment stated in the schedule of distribution and, to the extent that the price is insufficient to pay all the debts having a given priority, distributes the price pro rata among those debts shown in the schedule as having the same priority;
 - (2) <u>Distributes the net contract price remaining available in accordance</u> with an order of court;
 - (3) Commences an interpleader action in a court of competent jurisdiction against all persons who would otherwise be entitled to a distribution under the schedule and is discharged from the action; or
 - (4) Reaches a new agreement with the seller for the distribution of the net contract price remaining available, sets forth the new agreement in an amended schedule of distribution, gives notice of the amended schedule, and distributes the net contract price remaining available in accordance with the buyer's undertakings in the amended schedule.
- (e) The notice under subdivision (d)(4) of this section must identify the buyer and the seller, set forth the amended schedule, and be given in accordance with G.S. 25-6-105(a) at least 10 days before the buyer distributes any part of the net contract price remaining available.
- (f) If the seller undertakes in the schedule of distribution to distribute any part of the net contract price, and, after the buyer has given notice in accordance with G.S. 25-6-105, some or all of the anticipated net contract price is or becomes unavailable for distribution as a consequence of the buyer's or seller's having complied with an order of court, legal process, statute, or rule of law, the seller and any person in control of the seller are excused from any obligation arising under this Article or under any agreement with the buyer to distribute the net contract price in accordance with the seller's undertakings in the schedule if the seller:
 - (1) Distributes the net contract price remaining available in accordance with any priorities for payment stated in the schedule of distribution and, to the extent that the price is insufficient to pay all the debts having a given priority, distributes the price pro rata among those debts shown in the schedule as having the same priority;
 - (2) <u>Distributes the net contract price remaining available in accordance</u> with an order of court;

1	<u>(3)</u>	Commences an interpleader action in a court of competent jurisdiction
2		against all persons who would otherwise be entitled to a distribution
3		under the schedule and is discharged from the action; or
4	<u>(4)</u>	Prepares a written amended schedule of distribution of the net contract
5		price remaining available for distribution, gives notice of the amended
6		schedule, and distributes the net contract price remaining available in
7		accordance with the amended schedule.
8	(g) The	notice under subdivision (f)((4) of this section must identify the buyer
9	and the seller,	set forth the amended schedule, and be given in accordance with G.S.
10	25-6-105(a) at	least 10 days before the seller distributes any part of the net contract
11	price remaining	<u>gavailable.</u>
12	" <u>§ 25-6-107. Li</u>	ability for noncompliance.
13	(a) Exce	pt as provided in subsection (c) of this section, and subject to the
14	limitation in sul	bsection (d) of this section:
15	<u>(1)</u>	A buyer who fails to comply with the requirements of G.S.
16		25-6-104(5) with respect to a creditor is liable to the creditor for
17		damages in the amount of the claim, reduced by any amount that the
18		creditor would not have realized if the buyer had complied; and
19	<u>(2)</u>	A buyer who fails to comply with the requirements of any other
20		subdivision of G.S. 25-6-104 with respect to a claimant is liable to the
21		claimant for damages in the amount of the claim, reduced by any
22		amount that the claimant would not have realized if the buyer had
23		complied.
24	(b) In an	action under subsection (a) of this section, the creditor has the burden of
25	establishing the	e validity and amount of the claim, and the buyer has the burden of
26		e amount that the creditor would not have realized if the buyer had
27	complied.	·
28	(c) A bu	yer is not liable to creditors for failure to comply with the requirements
29	of G.S. 25-6-10	
30	<u>(1)</u>	Made a good faith and commercially reasonable effort to comply with
31		the requirements of G.S. 25-6-104 or to exclude the sale from the
32		application of this Article under G.S. 25-6-103(c); or
33	<u>(2)</u>	On or after the date of the bulk-sale agreement, but before the date of
34		the bulk sale, held a good faith and commercially reasonable belief
35		that this Article does not apply to the particular sale.
36	The buyer has t	the burden of establishing the good faith and commercial reasonableness
37	of the effort or	belief under this subsection.
38	(d) In a s	single bulk sale the cumulative liability of the buyer for failure to comply
39	with the require	ements of G.S. 25-6-104 shall not exceed an amount equal to:
40	<u>(1)</u>	If the assets consist only of inventory and equipment, the net contract
41		price; or
42	<u>(2)</u>	If the assets include property other than inventory and equipment, the
43		net value of the inventory and equipment.

1 2

- (e) For the purposes of subdivision (d)(2) of this section, the 'net value' of an asset is the value of the asset less (i) the amount of any proceeds of the sale of an asset, to the extent the proceeds are applied in partial or total satisfaction of a debt secured by the asset and (ii) the amount of any debt to the extent it is secured by a security interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset before and after it has been sold to a buyer. If a debt is secured by an asset and other property of the seller, the amount of the debt secured by a security interest or lien that is enforceable against the asset is determined by multiplying the debt by a fraction, the numerator of which is the value of the asset on the date of the bulk sale and the denominator of which is the value of all property securing the debt on the date of the bulk sale. The portion of a part of the net contract price paid to or applied for the benefit of the seller or a creditor that is 'allocable to the inventory and equipment' is the portion that bears the same ratio to that part of the net contract price as the net value of the inventory and equipment bears to the net value of all of the assets.
- (f) A payment made by the buyer to a person to whom the buyer is, or believes the buyer is, liable under subsection (a) of this section reduces pro tanto the buyer's cumulative liability under subsection (d) of this section.
- (g) No action shall be brought under subdivision (a)(2) of this section by or on behalf of a claimant whose claim is unliquidated or contingent.
- (h) A buyer's failure to comply with the requirements of G.S. 25-6-104 does not (i) impair the buyer's rights in or title to the assets, (ii) render the sale ineffective, void, or voidable, (iii) entitle a creditor to more than a single satisfaction of the creditor's claim, or (iv) create liability other than as provided in this Article.
- (i) Payment of the buyer's liability under subsection (a) of this section discharges pro tanto the seller's debt to the creditor.
- (j) Unless otherwise agreed, a buyer has an immediate right of reimbursement from the seller for any amount paid to a creditor in partial or total satisfaction of the buyer's liability under subsection (a) of this section.
- (k) If the seller is an organization, a person who is in direct or indirect control of the seller, and who knowingly, intentionally, and without legal justification fails, or causes the seller to fail, to distribute the net contract price in accordance with the schedule of distribution is liable to any creditor to whom the seller undertook to make payment under the schedule for damages caused by the failure.

"§ 25-6-108. Bulk sales by auction, bulk sales conducted by liquidator.

- (a) G.S. 25-6-104, 25-6-105, 25-6-106, and 25-6-107 apply to a bulk sale by auction and a bulk sale conducted by a liquidator on the seller's behalf with the following modifications:
 - (1) 'Buyer' refers to auctioneer or liquidator, as the case may be;
 - (2) 'Net contract price' refers to net proceeds of the auction or net proceeds of the sale, as the case may be;
 - (3) The written notice required under G.S. 25-6-105(b) must be accompanied by a copy of the schedule of distribution (G.S. 25-6-106(a)) and state at least:

1		<u>a.</u>	That the seller and the auctioneer or liquidator have entered into
2			an agreement for auction or liquidation services that may
3			constitute an agreement to make a bulk sale under the laws of
4			the State of North Carolina;
5		<u>b.</u>	The date of the agreement;
6		<u>c.</u>	The date on or after which the auction began or will begin or
7			the date on or after which the liquidator began or will begin to
8			sell assets on the seller's behalf;
9		<u>d.</u>	The date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of the
10			net proceeds of the sale were or will be paid, if the date is not
11			stated in the schedule of distribution;
12		<u>e.</u>	The name and a mailing address of the seller;
13		<u>e.</u> <u>f.</u>	Any other business name and address listed by the seller
14			pursuant to G.S. 25-6-104(1);
15		<u>g.</u>	The name of the auctioneer or liquidator and an address of the
16		_	auctioneer or liquidator from which information concerning the
17			sale can be obtained;
18		<u>h.</u>	A statement indicating the type of assets or describing the assets
19		_	item by item;
20		<u>i.</u>	The manner in which the auctioneer or liquidator will make
21			available the list of claimants (G.S. 25-6-104(6)); and
22		<u>j.</u>	If the sale is in total or partial satisfaction of an antecedent debt
23		_	owed by the seller, the amount of the debt to be satisfied and
24			the name of the person to whom it is owed; and
25	<u>(4)</u>	In a	single bulk sale the cumulative liability of the auctioneer or
26			dator for failure to comply with the requirements of this section
27			not exceed the amount of the net proceeds of the sale allocable to
28			ntory and equipment sold.
29	(b) A par		made by the auctioneer or liquidator to a person to whom the
30			or is, or believes the auctioneer or liquidator is, liable under this
31			tanto the auctioneer's or liquidator's cumulative liability under
32	subdivision (a)(_	
33			stantially as follows is sufficient to comply with subdivision (a)(3)
34	of this section:		
35			"Notice of Sale
36	<u>(1)</u>		, whose address is
37	7=7	is de	scribed in this notice as the "seller."
38	<u>(2)</u>		, whose address is
39	<u>√−</u> ∠	is de	scribed in this notice as the "auctioneer" or "liquidator."
40	(3)		seller has disclosed to the auctioneer or liquidator that within the
41	_/		three years the seller has used other business names, operated at
42		_	addresses, or both, as follows:
43	<u>(4)</u>		seller and the auctioneer or liquidator have entered into an
44	<u>\ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ </u>		ement dated for auction or liquidation services that
		<u>5-00</u>	101 decion of inquidation bot freeb that

may constitute an agreement to make a bulk sale under the laws of the 1 2 State of North Carolina. 3 **(5)** The date on or after which the auction began or will begin or the date on or after which the liquidator began or will begin to sell assets on the 4 5 seller's behalf is . and [if not stated in the schedule of 6 distribution] the date on or after which more than ten percent (10%) of 7 the net proceeds of the sale were or will be paid is 8 The following assets are the subject of the sale: <u>(6)</u> 9 (7) The auctioneer or liquidator will make available to claimants of the 10 seller a list of the seller's claimants in the following manner: 11 12 [If applicable] The sale is to satisfy \$ of an antecedent debt (8) owed by the seller to 13 A copy of the schedule of distribution of the net proceeds accompanies 14 (9) this notice." 15 16 (d) A person who buys at a bulk sale by auction or conducted by a liquidator 17 need not comply with requirements of G.S. 25-6-104 and is not liable for the failure of 18 an auctioneer or liquidator to comply with the requirements of this section. "§ 25-6-109. Reserved for future codification purposes. 19 20 "§ 25-6-110. Limitation of actions. 21 (a) Except as provided in subsection (b) of this section, an action under this Article against a buyer, auctioneer, or liquidator must be commenced within one year 22 23 after the date of the bulk sale. 24 If the buyer, auctioneer, or liquidator conceals the fact that the sale has (b) occurred, the limitation is tolled and an action under this Article may be commenced 25 within the earlier of (i) one year after the person bringing the action discovers that the 26 sale has occurred or (ii) one year after the person bringing the action should have 27 discovered that the sale has occurred, but no later than two years after the date of the 28 bulk sale. Complete noncompliance with the requirements of this Article does not of 29 30 itself constitute concealment. An action under G.S. 25-6-107(k) must be commenced within one year after 31 32 the alleged violation occurs." 33 PART II. CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO OTHER ARTICLES OF THE 34 35 UNIFORM COMMERCIAL CODE. 36 **SECTION 2.** G.S. 25-1-105(2) reads as rewritten: 37 38 Where one of the following provisions of this Chapter specifies the applicable 39 law, that provision governs and a contrary agreement is effective only to the extent permitted by the law (including the conflict of laws rules) so specified: 40

Letters of Credit. (G.S. 25-5-116).

41 42

43

44

Rights of creditors against sold goods. (G.S. 25-2-402).

Applicability of the article on bank deposits and collections. (G.S. 25-4-102).

Governing law in the article on Funds Transfers. (G.S. 25-4A-507).

1	Bulk transfers sales subject to the article on bulk transfers. (G.S. 25-6-102). sales.
2	(G.S. 25-6-103).
3	Applicability of the article on investment securities. (G.S. 25-8-110).
4	Law governing perfection, the effect of perfection or nonperfection, and the priority
5	of security interests and agricultural liens. (G.S. 25-9-301 through G.S. 25-9-307)."
6	SECTION 3. G. S. 25-2-403(4) reads as rewritten:
7	"(4) The rights of other purchasers of goods and of lien creditors are governed by
8	the articles on secured transactions (article 9), bulk transfers sales (article 6) and
9	documents of title (article 7)."
10	
11	PART III. DIRECTION AND EFFECTIVE DATE.
12	SECTION 4. The Revisor of Statutes shall cause to be printed along with

SECTION 4. The Revisor of Statutes shall cause to be printed along with this act all relevant portions of the official comments to the Uniform Commercial Code, Revised Article 6 and all explanatory comments of the drafters of this act as the Revisor deems appropriate.

SECTION 5. This act becomes effective January 1, 2004.

13

14

15