

2020 Kansas Statutes

17-6712. Appraisal rights for shares of stock of constituent corporation in a merger or consolidation; perfection; petition for determination of value of stock of all stockholders, procedure, determination by court. (a) Any stockholder of a corporation of this state who holds shares of stock on the date of the making of a demand pursuant to subsection (d) with respect to such shares, who continuously holds such shares through the effective date of the merger or consolidation, who has otherwise complied with subsection (d) and who has neither voted in favor of the merger or consolidation nor consented thereto in writing pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6518, and amendments thereto, shall be entitled to an appraisal by the district court of the fair value of the stockholder's shares of stock under the circumstances described in subsections (b) and (c). As used in this section, the word "stockholder" means a holder of record of stock in a corporation; the words "stock" and "share" mean and include what is ordinarily meant by those words; and the words "depository receipt" mean a receipt or other instrument issued by a depository representing an interest in one or more shares, or fractions thereof, solely of stock of a corporation, which stock is deposited with the depository.

(b) Appraisal rights shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock of a constituent corporation in a merger or consolidation to be effected pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6701, and amendments thereto, other than a merger effected pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6701(g), and amendments thereto, and, subject to subsection (b)(3), K.S.A. 17-7601(h), 17-6702, 17-6705, 17-6706, 17-6707 and 17-6708, and amendments thereto:

(1) Except as expressly provided in K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 17-72a03, and amendments thereto, no appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock, which stock, or depository receipts in respect thereof, at the record date fixed to determine the stockholders entitled to receive notice of the meeting of stockholders to act upon the agreement of merger or consolidation, were either: (A) Listed on a national securities exchange; or (B) held of record by more than 2,000 holders, except that no appraisal rights shall be available for any shares of stock of the constituent corporation surviving a merger if the merger did not require for its approval the vote of the stockholders of the surviving corporation as provided in K.S.A. 17-6701(f), and amendments thereto.

(2) Notwithstanding subsection (b)(1), appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of stock of a constituent corporation if the holders thereof are required by the terms of an agreement of merger or consolidation pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6701, 17-6702, 17-6705, 17-6706, 17-6707 and 17-6708, and amendments thereto, to accept for such stock anything except:

(A) Shares of stock of the corporation surviving or resulting from such merger or consolidation, or depository receipts in respect thereof;

(B) shares of stock of any other corporation, or depository receipts in respect thereof, which shares of stock, or depository receipts in respect thereof, or depository receipts at the effective date of the merger or consolidation will be either listed on a national securities exchange or held of record by more than 2,000 holders;

(C) cash in lieu of fractional shares or fractional depository receipts described in subparagraphs (A) and (B); or

(D) any combination of the shares of stock, depository receipts and cash in lieu of fractional shares or fractional depository receipts described in subparagraphs (A), (B) and (C).

(3) In the event all of the stock of a subsidiary Kansas corporation party to a merger effected under K.S.A. 17-6701(h) or 17-6703, and amendments thereto, is not owned by the parent immediately prior to the merger, appraisal rights shall be available for the shares of the subsidiary Kansas corporation.

(4) In the event of an amendment to a corporation's articles of incorporation contemplated by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 17-72a03, and amendments thereto, appraisal rights shall be available as contemplated by K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 17-72a03, and amendments thereto, and the procedures of this section, including those set forth in subsections (d) and (e), shall apply as nearly as practicable, with the word

"amendment" substituted for the words "merger or consolidation," and the word "corporation" substituted for the words "constituent corporation" or "surviving or resulting corporation."

(c) Any corporation may provide in its articles of incorporation that appraisal rights under this section shall be available for the shares of any class or series of its stock as a result of an amendment to its articles of incorporation, any merger or consolidation in which the corporation is a constituent corporation or the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the corporation. If the articles of incorporation contain such a provision, the procedures of this section, including those set forth in subsections (d) and (e), shall apply as nearly as is practicable.

(d) Appraisal rights shall be perfected as follows:

(1) If a proposed merger or consolidation for which appraisal rights are provided under this section is to be submitted for approval at a meeting of stockholders, the corporation, not less than 20 days prior to the meeting, shall notify each of its stockholders who was such on the record date for notice of such meeting, or such members who received notice in accordance with K.S.A. 17-6705, and amendments thereto, with respect to shares for which appraisal rights are available pursuant to subsection (b) or (c) that appraisal rights are available for any or all of the shares of the constituent corporations, and shall include in such notice a copy of this section and, if one of the constituent corporations is a nonstock corporation, a copy of K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 17-6014, and amendments thereto. Each stockholder electing to demand the appraisal of such stockholder's shares shall deliver to the corporation, before the taking of the vote on the merger or consolidation, a written demand for appraisal of such stockholder's shares. Such demand will be sufficient if it reasonably informs the corporation of the identity of the stockholder and that the stockholder intends thereby to demand the appraisal of such stockholder's shares. A proxy or vote against the merger or consolidation shall not constitute such a demand. A stockholder electing to take such action must do so by a separate written demand as herein provided. Within 10 days after the effective date of such merger or consolidation, the surviving or resulting corporation shall notify each stockholder of each constituent corporation who has complied with this subsection and has not voted in favor of or consented to the merger or consolidation of the date that the merger or consolidation has become effective; or

(2) if the merger or consolidation was approved pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6518, 17-6701(h) or 17-6703, and amendments thereto, then, either a constituent corporation before the effective date of the merger or consolidation or the surviving or resulting corporation within 10 days thereafter shall notify each of the holders of any class or series of stock of such constituent corporation who are entitled to appraisal rights of the approval of the merger or consolidation and that appraisal rights are available for any or all shares of such class or series of stock of such constituent corporation, and shall include in such notice a copy of this section and, if one of the constituent corporations is a nonstock corporation, a copy of K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 17-6014, and amendments thereto. Such notice may, and, if given on or after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, shall, also notify such stockholders of the effective date of the merger or consolidation. Any stockholder entitled to appraisal rights may, within 20 days after the date of mailing of such notice or, in the case of a merger approved pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6701(h), and amendments thereto, within the later of the consummation of the tender or exchange offer contemplated by K.S.A. 17-6701(h), and amendments thereto, and 20 days after the date of mailing of such notice, demand in writing from the surviving or resulting corporation the appraisal of such holder's shares. Such demand will be sufficient if it reasonably informs the corporation of the identity of the stockholder and that the stockholder intends thereby to demand the appraisal of such holder's shares. If such notice did not notify stockholders of the effective date of the merger or consolidation, either: (A) Each such constituent corporation shall send a second notice before the effective date of the merger or consolidation notifying each of the holders of any class or series of stock of such constituent corporation that are entitled to appraisal rights of the effective date of the merger or consolidation; or (B) the surviving or resulting corporation shall send such a second notice to all such holders on or within 10 days after such effective date; provided, however, that if such second notice is sent more

than 20 days following the sending of the first notice or, in the case of a merger approved pursuant to K.S.A. 17-6701(h), and amendments thereto, later than the later of the consummation of the tender or exchange offer contemplated by K.S.A. 17-6701(h), and amendments thereto, and 20 days following the sending of the first notice, such second notice need only be sent to each stockholder who is entitled to appraisal rights and who has demanded appraisal of such holder's shares in accordance with this subsection. An affidavit of the secretary or assistant secretary or of the transfer agent of the corporation that is required to give either notice that such notice has been given shall, in the absence of fraud, be prima facie evidence of the facts stated therein. For purposes of determining the stockholders entitled to receive either notice, each constituent corporation may fix, in advance, a record date that shall be not more than 10 days prior to the date the notice is given, provided, that if the notice is given on or after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, the record date shall be such effective date. If no record date is fixed and the notice is given prior to the effective date, the record date shall be the close of business on the day next preceding the day on which the notice is given.

(e) Within 120 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, the surviving or resulting corporation or any stockholder who has complied with subsections (a) and (d) and who is otherwise entitled to appraisal rights, may commence an appraisal proceeding by filing a petition in the district court demanding a determination of the value of the stock of all such stockholders. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at any time within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party shall have the right to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the merger or consolidation. Within 120 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, any stockholder who has complied with the requirements of subsections (a) and (d), upon written request, shall be entitled to receive from the corporation surviving the merger or resulting from the consolidation a statement setting forth the aggregate number of shares not voted in favor of the merger or consolidation and with respect to which demands for appraisal have been received and the aggregate number of holders of such shares. Such written statement shall be mailed to the stockholder within 10 days after such stockholder's written request for such a statement is received by the surviving or resulting corporation or within 10 days after expiration of the period for delivery of demands for appraisal under subsection (d), whichever is later. Notwithstanding subsection (a), a person who is the beneficial owner of shares of such stock held either in a voting trust or by a nominee on behalf of such person may, in such person's own name, file a petition or request from the corporation the statement described in this subsection.

(f) Upon the filing of any such petition by a stockholder, service of a copy thereof shall be made upon the surviving or resulting corporation, which shall within 20 days after such service file in the office of the clerk of the court in which the petition was filed a duly verified list containing the names and addresses of all stockholders who have demanded payment for their shares and with whom agreements as to the value of their shares have not been reached by the surviving or resulting corporation. If the petition shall be filed by the surviving or resulting corporation, the petition shall be accompanied by such a duly verified list. The clerk of the court, if so ordered by the court, shall give notice of the time and place fixed for the hearing of such petition by registered or certified mail to the surviving or resulting corporation and to the stockholders shown on the list at the addresses therein stated. Such notice shall also be given by one or more publications at least one week before the day of the hearing, in a newspaper of general circulation published in the county in which the court is located or such publication as the court deems advisable. The forms of the notices by mail and by publication shall be approved by the court, and the costs thereof shall be borne by the surviving or resulting corporation.

(g) At the hearing on such petition, the court shall determine the stockholders who have complied with this section and who have become entitled to appraisal rights. The court may require the stockholders who have demanded an appraisal for their shares and who hold stock represented by certificates to submit their certificates of stock to the clerk of the court for notation thereon of the pendency of the appraisal

proceedings; and if any stockholder fails to comply with such direction, the court may dismiss the proceedings as to such stockholder.

(h) After the court determines the stockholders entitled to an appraisal, the appraisal proceeding shall be conducted in accordance with the rules of the district court, including any rules specifically governing appraisal proceedings. Through such proceeding the court shall determine the fair value of the shares exclusive of any element of value arising from the accomplishment or expectation of the merger or consolidation, together with interest, if any, to be paid upon the amount determined to be the fair value. In determining such fair value, the court shall take into account all relevant factors. Unless the court in its discretion determines otherwise for good cause shown, interest from the effective date of the merger through the date of payment of the judgment shall be compounded quarterly and shall accrue at 5% over the federal reserve discount rate, including any surcharge, as established from time to time during the period between the effective date of the merger and the date of payment of the judgment. Upon application by the surviving or resulting corporation or by any stockholder entitled to participate in the appraisal proceeding, the court may, in its discretion, proceed to trial upon the appraisal prior to the final determination of the stockholders entitled to an appraisal. Any stockholder whose name appears on the list filed by the surviving or resulting corporation pursuant to subsection (f) and who has submitted such stockholder's certificates of stock to the clerk of the court, if such is required, may participate fully in all proceedings until it is finally determined that such stockholder is not entitled to appraisal rights under this section.

(i) The court shall direct the payment of the fair value of the shares, together with interest, if any, by the surviving or resulting corporation to the stockholders entitled thereto. Payment shall be so made to each such stockholder, in the case of holders of uncertificated stock forthwith, and in the case of holders of shares represented by certificates upon the surrender to the corporation of the certificates representing such stock. The court's decree may be enforced as other decrees in the district court may be enforced, whether such surviving or resulting corporation be a corporation of this state or of any state.

(j) The costs of the proceeding may be determined by the court and taxed upon the parties as the court deems equitable in the circumstances. Upon application of a stockholder, the court may order all or a portion of the expenses incurred by any stockholder in connection with the appraisal proceeding, including, without limitation, reasonable attorney fees and the fees and expenses of experts, to be charged pro rata against the value of all the shares entitled to an appraisal.

(k) From and after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, no stockholder who has demanded appraisal rights as provided in subsection (d) shall be entitled to vote such stock for any purpose or to receive payment of dividends or other distributions on the stock, except dividends or other distributions payable to stockholders of record at a date which is prior to the effective date of the merger or consolidation; provided, however, that if no petition for an appraisal shall be filed within the time provided in subsection (e), or if such stockholder shall deliver to the surviving or resulting corporation a written withdrawal of such stockholder's demand for an appraisal and an acceptance of the merger or consolidation, either within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation as provided in subsection (e) or thereafter with the written approval of the corporation, then the right of such stockholder to an appraisal shall cease. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no appraisal proceeding in the district court shall be dismissed as to any stockholder without the approval of the court, and such approval may be conditioned upon such terms as the court deems just, except that this provision shall not affect the right of any stockholder who has not commenced an appraisal proceeding or joined that proceeding as a named party to withdraw such stockholder's demand for appraisal and to accept the terms offered upon the merger or consolidation within 60 days after the effective date of the merger or consolidation, as set forth in subsection (e).

(l) The shares of the surviving or resulting corporation to which the shares of such objecting stockholders would have been converted had they assented to the merger or consolidation shall have the status of authorized and unissued shares of the surviving or resulting corporation.

History: L. 1972, ch. 52, § 90; L. 1973, ch. 100, § 9; L. 1986, ch. 399, § 14; L. 1996, ch. 135, § 2; L. 2004, ch. 143, § 56; L. 2016, ch. 110, § 77; L. 2017, ch. 71, § 11; July 1.