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2020 Blockchain & Emerging Technology Legislation

Includes Distributed Ledger, Cryptocurrency & Digital Asset Bills.

Does Not Include Tax, Budget or Unclaimed Property Bills.

Updated March 20, 2020

| State | Bill | Introduced | Description | Status |
|-------------|-------|------------|--|--|
| Arizona | H2400 | 1/15/20 | Establishes blockchain and cryptocurrency study committee to recommend legislative changes that foster a positive environment for blockchain and cryptocurrency in the state. | Amended in House Commerce Committee on 2/18/20 to strike original text and substitute blockchain provisions. Passed House 2/26/20. Assigned to Senate Finance Committee. |
| California | A2004 | 1/28/20 | Amended on 3/12/20 to provide that the duty to give immediate notice of a security breach to a California resident is also triggered if data stored using blockchain technology is compromised in a breach and would, instead, require that the disclosure of a data breach be made only without unreasonable delay. | Assigned to Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee. |
| California | S373 | 2/20/19 | Authorizes a county to issue certified copies of birth, death, and marriage records by means of blockchain technology and would exempt those records from the required physical properties and features of current law. | Passed Senate on 5/6/19. Assigned to Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection and Health Committees. Carry over to 2020. |
| Colorado | H1072 | 1/8/20 | Directs the university of Colorado, in collaboration with the Colorado water institute, to conduct feasibility studies and pilot deployments of Blockchain and other new technologies and to report to the general assembly on the potential of these technologies to improve Colorado water management. | Passed House 3/10/20. Assigned to Senate Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee. |
| Connecticut | H5210 | 2/20/20 | Prohibits use of non-compete agreements in the blockchain industry. | Pending. |

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| Connecticut | H5489 | 3/9/20 | Establishes a sandbox program that shall enable a person to obtain limited access to the market in this state to test innovative financial products or services without obtaining a license or other authorization that otherwise might be required. | Assigned to Joint Committee on Commerce. |
| Florida | H1077 | 1/14/20 | Substitute bill renames the Florida Blockchain Task Force, which was created by legislation last year, as the Florida Financial Technology and Blockchain Task Force. | FAILED 3/14/20. Withdrawn. |
| Florida | H1391 | 1/14/20 | Creates a Financial Technology Sandbox Program within the Office of Financial Regulation. The program would allow financial technology innovators to test new products and services in a supervised, flexible regulatory sandbox, using waivers of specified general law and rule requirements under defined conditions. | Passed House 3/9/20. Passed Senate 3/10/20. |
| Florida | S1870 | 1/14/20 | Creates a Financial Technology Sandbox Program within the Office of Financial Regulation. The program would allow financial technology innovators to test new products and services in a supervised, flexible regulatory sandbox, using waivers of specified general law and rule requirements under defined conditions. | Tabled on Senate floor in favor of HB 1391. |
| Georgia | HR875 | 1/13/20 | Establishes a committee to study the feasibility of the use of emerging technologies, including, without limitation, blockchain and systems that use a single source of truth, as a means of collecting data and efficiently and effectively utilizing electronic transactions involving cannabis in order to reduce or eliminate the handling of cash. | Pending |
| Hawaii | H70 | 1/17/19 | Adopts the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act and the Uniform Supplemental Commercial Law for the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act. | Pending in multiple committees. Carry over to 2020. |
| Hawaii | H2594 | 1/23/20 | Requires the department of commerce and consumer affairs to establish a blockchain working group to determine a recommended definition for blockchain technology and recommendations for individuals, businesses, and state agencies to use blockchain technology. | Passed House 2/28/20. |

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| Hawaii | S250 | 1/17/19 | Adopts the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act and the Uniform Supplemental Commercial Law for the Uniform Regulation of Virtual-Currency Businesses Act. | Pending in multiple committees. Carry over to 2020. |
| Hawaii | S1364 | 1/24/19 | Regulates and licenses persons engaged in the transmission of virtual currency under the money transmitter laws. | Pending in multiple committees. Carry over to 2020. |
| Hawaii | S2594 | 1/17/20 | Classifies digital assets as general intangibles for purposes of UCC Articles 8 and 9; provides for perfection by filing or control, including by smart contracts; provides that a security interest in digital assets perfected by control has priority over one perfected by filing; and authorizes banks to provide custodial services. | Assigned to Senate Commerce, Consumer Protection and Health Committee. |
| Illinois | H3577 | 2/15/19 | Adopts Blockchain Technology Act. Placeholder bill. | Pending. |
| Illinois | H4418 | 2/15/19 | Requires State Department of Elections to study the use of blockchain technology for voter and election security purposes. | Pending. |
| Illinois | H4573 | 2/5/20 | Provides that virtual currency is presumed abandoned under the state's Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act five years after the last indication of interest in the property. | Pending. |
| Illinois | S3153 | 2/5/20 | Provides that virtual currency is presumed abandoned under the state's Revised Uniform Unclaimed Property Act five years after the last indication of interest in the property. | Assigned to Senate Judiciary Committee. |
| Iowa | H240 | 2/6/19 | Exempts virtual currency from certain regulations applicable to securities and money transmissions. | Assigned to House Commerce Committee. Carry over to 2020. |
| Iowa | S137 | 1/29/19 | Defines "smart contracts" and amends UETA to clarify that a signature obtained through distributed ledger (blockchain) technology is an electronic signature and that a document obtained through distributed ledger (blockchain) technology is an electronic document. | Assigned to the Senate Commerce Committee. Carry over to 2020. |

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| Kentucky | S55 | 1/7/20 | Creates a blockchain technology working group to evaluate the feasibility and efficacy of using blockchain technology to enhance the security of and increase protection for the state's critical infrastructure, including but not limited to the electric utility grid, natural gas pipelines, drinking water supply and delivery, wastewater, telecommunications, and emergency services. | Passed Senate 2/24/20. Passed House Small Business and Information Technology Committee 3/5/20. |
| Louisiana | H701 | 3/9/20 | Adopts the Virtual Currency Businesses Act, which would provide for licensing and regulation of persons engaged in virtual currency business activity by the Office of Financial Institutions. | Assigned to House Commerce Committee. |
| Massachusetts | S200 2019 | 1/22/19 | Establishes a commission to investigate and study relative to the emerging technologies of blockchain and cryptocurrencies. Among a variety of topics, the commission will study the feasibility of using blockchain technology for government records or delivery of services, the validity and admissibility of blockchain records in court proceedings, and the advisability of allowing corporate records to be kept using blockchain technology. | Assigned to Joint Economic Development and Emerging Technologies Committee. |
| Michigan | H4103 | 1/29/19 | Adds cryptocurrency and distributed ledger definitions to state penal code. | ENACTED 12/20/19. Takes effect 90 days following enactment. |
| Michigan | H4106 | 1/29/19 | Provides that state forgery law applies to a violation performed by altering a record made utilizing distributed ledger technology. | ENACTED 12/20/19. Takes effect 90 days following enactment. |
| New Jersey | A320 | 1/14/20 | Requires the State to review and approve a viable blockchain-based, digital payment platform to provide payment services to legal and licensed businesses that do not have access to traditional financial services and are forced to operate in cash-only or cash-heavy environments. The purpose of the payment platform is to provide a safe, secure, and compliant system that does not exclude these businesses from participating in digital commerce. | Assigned to the Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee. |
| New Jersey | A1178 | 1/14/20 | Provides that corporations may utilize electronic networks, including distributed electronic networks, in order to meet recordkeeping requirements. | Assigned to the Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee. |

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| New Jersey | A2155 | 1/14/20 | Adopts the "Digital Currency Jobs Creation Act," which would establish a regulatory framework for digital currency businesses to operate in New Jersey and create certain incentives for digital currency businesses to locate in the State. | Assigned to the Assembly Science, Innovation and Technology Committee. |
| New Jersey | A2891 | 2/20/20 | Adopts Digital Assets and Blockchain Technology Act. | Assigned to Assembly Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee. |
| New Jersey | S898 | 1/27/20 | Permits corporations to use blockchain technology for some recordkeeping requirements. | Pending. |
| New Mexico | S113 | 1/21/20 | Requires the secretary of information technology to convene a blockchain technology task force that shall examine the possible social and economic benefits and risks to the residents of the state associated with the use of blockchain technology in both the public and private sectors. | Pending |
| New Mexico | SJM9 | 1/29/20 | Requests that the secretary of information technology convene a blockchain technology task force to examine the possible social and economic benefits and risks to the residents of the state associated with the use of blockchain technology in both the public and private sectors. | Passed Senate 2/13/20. Passed House Commerce and Economic Development Committee 2/18/20. |
| New York | A1351 | 1/15/19 | Directs the state board of elections, in consultation with, and using data collected by, the office of information technology services, to study and evaluate the use of blockchain technology to protect voter records and election results. | Assigned to Assembly Election Law Committee. |
| New York | A1371 | 1/15/19 | Establishes a task force to assess the feasibility, economic impacts and effectiveness of the implementation of blockchain technology in state record keeping, information storage, and service delivery. | Assigned to Assembly Governmental Operations Committee. |
| New York | A1398 | 1/15/19 | Amends the Economic Development Law to add "digital ledger technology" into the definitions of businesses engaged in "financial services data centers or financial services customer back office operations" and "software development" with in the Excelsior Jobs Program. | Passed the Assembly Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry Committee on 5/21/19. Amended and assigned to Assembly Ways and Means Committee. |

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| New York | A1502 | 1/15/19 | Establishes a task force to study special treatment of mining of cryptocurrencies in NY. | Assigned to the Assembly Economic Development, Job Creation, Commerce and Industry Committee. |
| New York | A1683 | 1/16/19 | Amends state technology law to add definitions of "blockchain technology" and "smart contracts" and provides that a signature obtained through blockchain technology is an electronic signature and that a record obtained through blockchain technology is an electronic signature and that a record obtained through blockchain technology is an electronic record. | Assigned to Assembly Government Operations Committee. |
| New York | A2213 | 1/22/19 | Creates a sandbox program that allows a person to temporarily test financial technology products or services on a limited basis without otherwise being licensed or authorized to act under the laws of NY. | Assigned to Assembly Banking Committee. |
| New York | A2239 | 1/22/19 | Establishes the Office of Financial Resilience, which among other things will build blockchain-backed solutions to support local growth and advocate on behalf of blockchain startups. | Assigned to Assembly Banks Committee. |
| New York | S4142 | 3/1/19 | Amends state technology law to add definitions of "blockchain technology" and "smart contracts" and provides that a signature obtained through blockchain technology is an electronic signature and that a record obtained through blockchain technology is an electronic record. Same as AB 1683. | Passed Senate 4/9/19 and on 2/25/20. Assigned to Assembly Governmental Operations Committee. |
| New York | S5060 | 4/5/19 | Establishes the Office of Financial Resilience, which among other things will build blockchain-backed solutions to support local growth and advocate on behalf of blockchain startups. Appears similar to AB 2239. | Assigned to the Senate Banks Committee. |
| New York | S6037 | 5/16/19 | Amends the Economic Development Law to add "digital ledger technology" into the definitions of businesses engaged in "financial services data centers or financial services customer back office operations" and "software development" with in the Excelsior Jobs Program. | Passed Senate 6/17/19 and 2/25/20. Assigned to Assembly Ways and Means Committee. |
| Ohio | H220 | 4/24/19 | Provides that a governmental entity may utilize distributed ledger technology, including blockchain technology, in the exercise of its authority | Passed House Labor and Commerce Committee 6/13/19. |

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| Oklahoma | H1954 | 2/4/19 | Enacts the Uniform Regulation of Virtual Currencies Act. | Assigned to Banking, Financial Services and Pensions Committee. Carryover to 2020. |
| Oklahoma | S822 | 2/4/19 | Defines “virtual currency.” | Assigned to Senate Finance Committee. Carryover to 2020. |
| Oklahoma | S843 | 2/4/19 | Regulates the sale and exchange of open blockchain tokens and clarifies the conditions where a broker-dealer will not be deemed the issuer of a security. | Assigned to Senate Finance Committee. Carryover to 2020. |
| Oklahoma | S911 | 2/4/19 | Modifies the definition of “contribution” to political campaign to include virtual currency. | Pending. Carryover to 2020. |
| Oklahoma | S1430 | 2/3/20 | Directs the State Banking Department and the Department of Commerce to coordinate and develop a proposal to implement a new type of state-chartered financial institution and the central depository for virtual currency used by governmental agencies in this state. The purpose of this new financial institution shall be to provide valuable financial and technical services to blockchain and virtual currency innovators and developers. If implemented, this new financial institution shall be fully supported by blockchain technology and innovations. | Assigned to Senate Business, Commerce and Tourism Committee. |
| Oklahoma | S1667 | 2/3/20 | Provides that cryptocurrency may be used, offered, sold, exchanged and accepted as an instrument of monetary value within the governmental agencies of the state, the governmental agencies within the state’s political subdivisions, and by marketplace sellers; provided, such governmental agencies and marketplace sellers have entered into a written contractual agreement with a money services business to use cryptocurrency as a payment instrument. | Assigned to Senate Business, Commerce and Tourism Committee. |
| Oklahoma | S1669 | 2/3/20 | Adopts the Financial Technology Sandbox Act. This bill would allow a person to make an innovative financial product or service available to consumers during a sandbox period through a waiver of existing statutory and rule requirements. | Assigned to Senate Business, Commerce and Tourism Committee. |
| Oklahoma | S1792 | 2/3/20 | Enacts the Oklahoma Financial Technology Access and Improvement Act and creates a regulatory sandbox program within Oklahoma Department of Commerce. | Passed Senate 3/9/20. Assigned to House Business and Commerce Committee. |

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| Rhode Island | H7989 | 3/11/20 | Adopts Rhode Island Economic Growth Blockchain Act. This act would regulate the sale of hemp, regulate virtual and digital assets and establish depository banks for these purposes. | Assigned to House Corporations Committee. |
| South Carolina | H4351 | 3/28/19 | Adopts the South Carolina Blockchain Industry Empowerment Act of 2019. This bill would allow a corporation to specify in its articles that shares of the corporation be represented by share certificates in the form of certificate tokens. The bill also provides that the developer or seller of an open blockchain token is not an issue of securities. In addition, the bill would adopt the Financial Technology Sandbox Act. Finally, the bill provides for definitions and regulation of digital assets. | Assigned to House Ways and Means Committee. Carry over to 2020. |
| South Carolina | S738 | 4/3/19 | Adopts the South Carolina Blockchain Industry Empowerment Act of 2019. This bill would allow a corporation to specify in its articles that shares of the corporation be represented by share certificates in the form of certificate tokens. The bill also provides that the developer or seller of an open blockchain token is not an issue of securities. In addition, the bill would adopt the Financial Technology Sandbox Act. Finally, the bill provides for definitions and regulation of digital assets. Appears similar to HB 4351. | Assigned to Senate Banking and Insurance Committee. Carry over to 2020. |
| Tennessee | HR249 | 3/3/20 | Asks the Tennessee Department of Financial Institutions to conduct a study relative to the application of blockchain and related technology in the financial services sector and to recommend any changes to the state's laws and rules that impact application of those technologies for the purpose of sound regulation of those technologies. | Pending. |
| Tennessee | S2840 | 2/6/20 | Provides that perfection a security interest in a digital asset may be achieved by control; that a security interest perfected by control has priority of a security interest not perfected by control; specifies when a transferee takes a digital asset free of any security interest; provides that perfection by control creates a possessory security interest; specifies when a digital asset is located in the state; provides rules for custodial services; and provides that blockchain tokens are intangible personal property. | Assigned to Senate Commerce and Labor Committee. |
| United States | H41 | 1/3/19 | Directs the Comptroller General of the United States to carry out a study on blockchain technology and whether such technology could be used to increase investment by lower-income individuals in start-ups and other crowd-funded companies. | Assigned to multiple House committees. |

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| United States | H528 | 1/14/19 | Provides a safe harbor from licensing and registration as a money transmitter for certain blockchain developers or provider of blockchain service. | Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. |
| United States | H923 | 1/30/19 | Directs the Chairman of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission to study and report on the state of virtual [currency] markets and ways to promote American competitiveness. | Assigned to House Agriculture Committee. |
| United States | H1361 | 2/26/19 | Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a working group to recommend to Congress a definition of "blockchain technology." | Assigned to multiple House committees. |
| United States | H4813 | 10/23/19 | Prohibits "large platform utilities," defined to mean large online marketplaces and social media platforms, from issuing or maintaining cryptocurrencies or other digital assets to be used as a medium of exchange, or from being affiliated with a financial institution. | Assigned to House Financial Services and Agriculture committees. |
| United States | H5197 | 11/20/19 | Provides that "managed stablecoins," a type of digital asset, are securities subject to regulation by the SEC. | Assigned to House Financial Services Committee. |
| United States | H6154 | 3/9/20 | Clarifies the areas for which each federal agency has primary regulatory oversight responsibility for digital assets and requires those agencies to notify the public of any federal licenses, certifications, or registrations required to create or trade in such assets, and for other purposes. | Assigned to House Financial Services and Agriculture committees. |
| United States | S553 | 2/26/19 | Directs the Secretary of Commerce to establish a working group to recommend to Congress a definition of "blockchain technology." | Assigned to multiple Senate committees. |
| Utah | H292 | 2/7/20 | Directs lieutenant governor to study and make recommendations regarding use of blockchain technology for internet voting. | Passed House 2/18/20. |
| Virginia | HJR23 | 1/8/20 | Requests that the Department of Elections study the use of blockchain technology to protect voter records and election results. | Died in committee. |
| Virginia | HJR63 | 1/8/20 | Establishes a joint subcommittee to study the emergence and integration of blockchain technology in the economy of the Commonwealth. The joint subcommittee shall identify research and economic development opportunities with the goal of creating a statewide, comprehensive, and coordinated strategy relating to blockchain technology. | Died in committee. |

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| Virginia | HJR82 | 1/8/20 | Directs the Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority to study the emergence and integration of blockchain technology in the economy of the Commonwealth. The Virginia Economic Development Partnership Authority shall identify blockchain technology research and economic development opportunities with the goal of creating a statewide, comprehensive, and coordinated strategy relating to blockchain technology. | Died in committee. |
| Virginia | HJR105 | 1/8/20 | Establishes a joint subcommittee to study the emergence and integration of blockchain technology in the economy of the Commonwealth. The joint subcommittee shall identify research and economic development opportunities with the goal of creating a statewide, comprehensive, and coordinated strategy relating to blockchain technology. | Died in committee. |
| Washington | H2604 | 1/16/20 | Establishes the Washington blockchain work group, the purpose of which is to promote economic development, and the development of a stronger information technology sector workforce, through developing policy recommendations to improve state and local regulatory certainty for blockchain and distributed ledger technology solutions in both the private and public sector in Washington. | Assigned to Senate Innovation, Technology and Economic Development Committee. |
| Washington | S6065 | 1/13/20 | Establishes a blockchain working group to examine various potential applications for blockchain technology including, but not limited to, applications in computing, banking and other financial services, the real estate transaction process, health care, and public recordkeeping. | Passed Senate 2/18/20. Passed House as amended 3/5/20. |
| West Virginia | H4621 | 1/31/20 | Establishes the WV FinTech Regulatory Sandbox Program, which enables a participant to obtain limited access to WV's financial services market to test innovative financial products or services prior to obtaining full state licensure or other authorization that otherwise may be required. Appears the same as SB 514. | Passed House 2/18/20. Passed Senate as amended on 3/4/20. House concurred 3/5/20. |
| West Virginia | S514 | 1/16/20 | Establishes the WV FinTech Regulatory Sandbox Program, which enables a participant to obtain limited access to WV's financial services market to test innovative financial products or services prior to obtaining full state licensure or other authorization that otherwise may be required. | Passed Senate 2/25/20. Assigned to House Judiciary Committee. |

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| Wyoming | H27 | 2/10/19 | Creates Select Committee on Blockchain, Financial Technology and Digital Innovation. The committee will be composed of both senate and house members who will develop expertise and introduce legislation related to blockchain, financial technology and digital innovation. | ENACTED 3/13/20. Took effect immediately. |
| Wyoming | H43 | 2/10/20 | Defines "Digital Representation Token" as a digital representation by which a person's claim to an interest or right in real or personal property is evidenced and provides that such tokens shall not constitute real or personal property separate from the rights or interests in real or personal property that they represent. | Pending. |
| Wyoming | S47 | 2/10/20 | Clarifies the jurisdiction of Wyoming courts to hear claims related to digital assets, including those arising under the WY UCC, and clarifies the duty of a digital asset custodian to pay supervision fees to the state. | ENACTED 3/13/20. Took effect immediately. |