

February 6, 2018

Brent J. Fields Secretary Securities and Exchange Commission 100 F Street, N.E. Washington, DC 20549-1090

Re: File No. SR-CboeBZX-2017-012, Amendment No. 1

Dear Mr. Fields:

On January 31, 2018, Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission") Amendment No. 1 to SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 in order to clarify certain points and add additional details. Amendment No. 1 to SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 amends and replaces in its entirety the proposal as originally submitted on December 7, 2017. The Exchange submitted proposal SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 in order to list and trade shares of the LHA Market State® Tactical U.S. Equity ETF, a series of the ETF Series Solutions. In order to provide notice for public review of this Amendment No. 1, in addition to posting on the Exchange's public website, the Exchange is filing this comment letter with the Commission.

Sincerely,

Kyle Murray

Assistant General Counsel

## Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response......38

Page 1 of * 26		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendn			File No.* SR - 2017 - * 012 ment No. (req. for Amendments *)		
Filing by Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.  Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
Pilot	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		<ul><li>19b-4(f)</li><li>19b-4(f)</li><li>19b-4(f)</li></ul>	0(1)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant  Section 806(e)(1) *		to the Payment, Cleari Section 806(e)(2) *	at, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 (e)(2) *		Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934  Section 3C(b)(2) *		
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document  Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document  ©							
<b>Descri</b> <sub> </sub> Provide	ption a brief description of the action	on (limit 250 characters	s, required when Initial	is checked *	`).		
Contact Information  Provide the name, telephone number, and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the action.							
First Name * Kyle		Last Name * Murray					
Title *	Assistant General Co	unsel					
E-mail Telepho		Fax					
Signature  Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,							
has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.  (Title *)							
Date	01/31/2018		SVP, Associate Gene	eral Counse	I		
Ву	Anders Franzon						
(Name *)  NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.							

#### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information \* clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change \* in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Add Remove View Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies \* guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO] -xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Remove View Add Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit Add Remove View the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be considered part Add View Remove of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if Add Remove View the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

## 1. Text of the Proposed Rule Change

- (a) Pursuant to the provisions of Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), <sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder, <sup>2</sup> Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc. (the "Exchange" or "BZX") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") a proposed rule change to list and trade shares of the LHA Market State® Tactical U.S. Equity ETF (the "Fund"), a series of the ETF Series Solutions (the "Trust"), under Rule 14.11(i) ("Managed Fund Shares"). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as the "Shares."
  - (b) Not applicable.
  - (c) Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change was approved by senior management of the Exchange pursuant to authority delegated by the Board of Directors of the Exchange on February 11, 2014. Exchange staff will advise the Board of Directors of the Exchange of any action taken pursuant to delegated authority. No other action is necessary for the filing of the rule change.

The persons on the Exchange staff prepared to respond to questions and comments on the proposed rule change are:

Joanne Moffic-Silver Executive Vice President, General Counsel, and Corporate Secretary Kyle Murray Assistant General Counsel

3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u>

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

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

## for, the Proposed Rule Change.

#### (a) <u>Purpose</u>

This Amendment No. 1 to SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 amends and replaces in its entirety the proposal as originally submitted on December 7, 2017. The Exchange submits this Amendment No. 1 in order to clarify certain points and add additional details about the Fund.

The Exchange proposes to list and trade the Shares under Rule 14.11(i), which governs the listing and trading of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> The Fund will be an actively managed exchange-traded fund (an "ETF")<sup>4</sup> that seeks to provide investment results that exceed the total return performance of the broader U.S. equity market on a risk-adjusted basis. The Exchange submits this proposal in order to allow the Fund to hold listed derivatives, in particular S&P 500 futures, in a manner that does not comply with Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b).<sup>5</sup> Otherwise, the Fund will comply with all other

The Commission originally approved BZX Rule 14.11(i) in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 65225 (August 30, 2011), 76 FR 55148 (September 6, 2011) (SR-BATS-2011-018) and subsequently approved generic listing standards for Managed Fund Shares under Rule 14.11(i) in Securities Exchange Act Release No. 78396 (July 22, 2016), 81 FR 49698 (July 28, 2016) (SR-BATS-2015-100).

For purposes of this proposal, the term ETF means Portfolio Depositary Receipts, Index Fund Shares, and Managed Fund Shares as defined in Rule 14.11(b), 14.11(c), and 14.11(i), respectively, and their equivalents on other national securities exchanges.

Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) provides that "the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures), and the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset shall not exceed 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures)." The Exchange is proposing that the Fund be exempt only from the requirement of Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) that prevents the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single

listing requirements on an initial and continued listing basis under Rule 14.11(i).<sup>6</sup>

The Shares will be offered by the Trust, which was established as a Delaware statutory trust on February 9, 2012. The Trust is registered with the Commission as an open-end investment company and is expected to file a registration statement on behalf of the Fund on Form N-1A ("Registration Statement") with the Commission. The Fund's adviser, Little Harbor Advisors, LLC (the "Adviser"), is not registered as a broker-dealer and is not affiliated with a broker-dealer. Adviser personnel who make decisions regarding the Fund's portfolio are subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's portfolio. In the event that (a) the Adviser becomes registered as a broker-dealer or newly affiliated with a broker-dealer; or (b) any new adviser or sub-adviser is a registered broker-dealer or becomes affiliated with a broker-dealer; it will implement a fire wall with respect to its

underlying reference asset from exceeding 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Fund will meet the requirement that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures).

- The Exchange notes that this proposal is very similar to a previously approved proposal to list and trade a series of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange with similar exposures to a single underlying reference asset and U.S. exchange-listed equity securities. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80529 (April 26, 2017), 82 FR 20506 (May 2, 2017) (SR-BatsBZX-2017-14).
- The Trust filed a post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement on December 18, 2017. See Registration Statement on Form N-1A for the Trust (File Nos. 333-179562 and 811-22668). The descriptions of the Fund and the Shares contained herein are based, in part, on information expected to be included in the Registration Statement. The Commission has not yet issued an order granting exemptive relief to the Trust under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1) applicable to the activities of the Fund, but the Fund will not be listed on the Exchange until such an order is issued and any conditions contained therein are satisfied.

relevant personnel or such broker-dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the portfolio, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding such portfolio.

The Fund intends to qualify each year as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

## LHA Market State Tactical U.S. Equity ETF

In order to achieve its investment objective, under Normal Market Conditions, <sup>8</sup> the Fund will invest approximately 80% of its net assets at the time of investment in U.S. exchange-listed ETFs that principally invest in U.S. equity securities ("U.S. ETFs") or the constituent stocks of a U.S. ETF. As noted above, Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) prevents the Fund from holding listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset in excess of 30% of the weight of its portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Exchange is proposing to allow the Fund to hold up to 60% of the weight of its portfolio at the time of investment (including gross notional exposures) in S&P 500 futures contracts traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange ("S&P 500 Futures"). Based primarily on proprietary statistical analyses of the distribution of U.S. equity market prices, the Adviser will determine each day whether the Fund's net exposure to the U.S. equity market should be as little as 0% or as much as 160% of the Fund's net assets. The

The term "Normal Market Conditions" includes, but is not limited to, the absence of trading halts in the applicable financial markets generally; operational issues causing dissemination of inaccurate market information or system failures; or force majeure type events such as natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labor disruption, or any similar intervening circumstance.

Fund will utilize short or long S&P 500 Futures to the extent needed to reduce or augment, respectively, the Fund's exposure relative to the exposure resulting from investments in the U.S. equities described above in order to achieve the desired net exposure. Allowing the Fund to hold a greater portion of its portfolio in S&P 500 Futures would mitigate the Fund's dependency on holding over-the-counter ("OTC") instruments, which would reduce the Fund's operational burden by allowing the Fund to primarily use listed futures contracts to achieve its investment objective and would further reduce counter-party risk associated with holding OTC instruments. The Exchange notes that the Fund may also hold certain fixed income securities and cash and cash equivalents in compliance with Rules 14.11(i)(4)(C)(ii) and (iii) in order to collateralize its S&P 500 Futures positions.

As noted above, the Fund's investment in U.S. ETFs or the constituent stocks of a U.S. ETF will constitute approximately 80% of the Fund's net assets at the time of investment and under Normal Market Conditions, and such holdings will meet the requirements for U.S. Component Stocks in Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(i)(a). The Fund may hold approximately 20% of its net assets at the time of investment in fixed income securities, cash, cash equivalents, and the cash value of futures positions<sup>9</sup> under Normal Market Conditions. The combination of U.S. ETFs, constituent stocks of U.S. ETFs, fixed income securities, cash, cash equivalents, and the cash value of futures positions will constitute the entirety of the Fund's holdings and the cash value of these holdings will be used to form the basis for these calculations. The Exchange notes that this is

The cash value of futures positions is based on the value of the Fund's daily margin account with the applicable futures exchange(s).

different than the calculation used to measure the Fund's holdings in S&P 500 Futures as it relates to the Fund holding up to 60% of the weight of its portfolio, which, as noted above, as calculated using gross notional exposures gained through the S&P 500 Futures in both the numerator and denominator, which is consistent with the derivatives exposure calculation under Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv). The Exchange represents that, except for the 30% limitation in Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b), the Fund's proposed investments will satisfy, on an initial and continued listing basis, all of the generic listing standards under BZX Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C) and all other applicable requirements for Managed Fund Shares under Rule 14.11(i).

The Trust is required to comply with Rule 10A-3 under the Act for the initial and continued listing of the Shares of the Fund. In addition, the Exchange represents that the Shares of the Fund will comply with all other requirements applicable to Managed Fund Shares, which includes the dissemination of key information such as the Disclosed Portfolio, <sup>10</sup> Net Asset Value, <sup>11</sup> and the Intraday Indicative Value, <sup>12</sup> suspension of trading or removal, <sup>13</sup> trading halts, <sup>14</sup> surveillance, <sup>15</sup> minimum price variation for quoting and order entry, <sup>16</sup> the information circular, <sup>17</sup> and firewalls <sup>18</sup> as set forth in Exchange rules

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{\text{See}}$  Rule 14.11(i)(4)(A)(ii) and 14.11(i)(4)(B)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> See Rule 14.11(i)(4)(A)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(iii).

<sup>14 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(iv).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(2)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> See Rule 14.11(i)(2)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(6).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> See Rule 14.11(i)(7).

applicable to Managed Fund Shares and the orders approving such rules. Moreover, all of the futures contracts and U.S. ETFs held by the Fund will trade on markets that are a member of Intermarket Surveillance Group ("ISG") or affiliated with a member of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.<sup>19</sup> All statements and representations made in this filing regarding the description of the portfolio or reference assets, limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets, dissemination and availability of reference asset and intraday indicative values (as applicable), or the applicability of Exchange listing rules specified in this filing shall constitute continued listing requirements for the securities listed on the Exchange. The issuer has represented to the Exchange that it will advise the Exchange of any failure by the Fund or Shares to comply with the continued listing requirements, and, pursuant to its obligations under Section 19(g)(1) of the Act, the Exchange will surveil for compliance with the continued listing requirements. If the Fund or Shares are not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, then, with respect to such Fund or Shares, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures under Exchange Rule 14.12. FINRA conducts certain cross-market surveillances on behalf of the Exchange pursuant to a regulatory services agreement. The Exchange is responsible for FINRA's performance under this regulatory services agreement. If the Fund is not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures with respect to such Fund under Exchange Rule 14.12.

For a list of the current members and affiliate members of ISG, <u>see</u>

<u>www.isgportal.com</u>. The Exchange notes that not all components of the Disclosed Portfolio for the Fund may trade on markets that are members of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.

## b. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>20</sup> in general and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>21</sup> in particular in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest in that the Shares will meet each of the initial and continued listing criteria in BZX Rule 14.11(i) with the exception Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b), which requires that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures), and the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset shall not exceed 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). <sup>22</sup> The Exchange believes that the liquidity in the S&P 500 Futures markets mitigates the concerns that Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) is intended to address and that such

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

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

As noted above, the Exchange is proposing that the Fund be exempt only from the requirement of Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) that prevents the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset from exceeding 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Fund will continue to meet the requirement that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures).

liquidity would prevent the Shares from being susceptible to manipulation. <sup>23</sup> Further, allowing the Fund to hold a greater portion of its portfolio in S&P 500 Futures would mitigate the Fund's dependency on holding OTC instruments, which would reduce the Fund's operational burden by allowing the Fund to primarily use listed futures contracts to achieve its investment objective and would further reduce counter-party risk associated with holding OTC instruments. The Exchange further believes that the diversity, liquidity, and market cap of the securities underlying the S&P 500 Index are sufficient to protect against market manipulation of both the Fund's holdings and the Shares as it relates to the S&P 500 Futures holdings.

The Exchange believes that its surveillance procedures are adequate to properly monitor the trading of the Shares on the Exchange during all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and the applicable federal securities laws. All of the futures contracts, ETFs, and component stocks held by the Fund will trade on markets that are a member of ISG or affiliated with a member of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. The Exchange may obtain information regarding trading in the Shares and the underlying futures contracts held by the Fund via the ISG from other exchanges who are members or affiliates of the ISG or with which the Exchange has entered into a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. The Exchange further notes that the Fund will meet and be subject to all other requirements of the generic listing rules and other applicable continued listing

As of December 7, 2017, the average daily notional volume for S&P 500 Futures was more than \$180 billion over the previous thirty trading days.

See note 19, supra.

requirements for Managed Fund Shares under Rule 14.11(i), including those requirements regarding the dissemination of key information such as the Disclosed Portfolio,<sup>25</sup> Net Asset Value,<sup>26</sup> and the Intraday Indicative Value,<sup>27</sup> suspension of trading or removal,<sup>28</sup> trading halts,<sup>29</sup> surveillance,<sup>30</sup> minimum price variation for quoting and order entry,<sup>31</sup> the information circular,<sup>32</sup> and firewalls<sup>33</sup> as set forth in Exchange rules applicable to Managed Fund Shares

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

## 4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purpose of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change, rather will facilitate the listing and trading of an additional actively-managed exchange-traded product that will enhance competition among both market participants and listing venues, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

## 5. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u>

See note 10, supra.

See note 11, supra.

See note 12, supra.

See note 13, supra.

See note 14, supra.

See note 15, supra.

See note 16, supra.

See note 17, supra.

See note 18, supra.

## Change Received from Members, Participants or Others

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

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

Not applicable.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rule of Another Self-Regulatory Organization</u> or of the Commission

Not applicable.

9. <u>Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act</u>

Not applicable.

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

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1: Completed Notice of the Proposed Rule Change for publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>.

Exhibit 2-5: Not applicable.

## EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHAN	IGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34	; File No. SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 Amendment No. 1)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Cboe BZX Exchange, Inc.; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change to List and Trade Shares of the LHA Market State Tactical U.S. Equity ETF, a Series of the ETF Series Solutions, Under Rule 14.11(i), Managed Fund Shares

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change</u>

The Exchange filed a proposal to list and trade shares of the LHA Market State® Tactical U.S. Equity ETF (the "Fund"), a series of the ETF Series Solutions (the "Trust"), under Rule 14.11(i) ("Managed Fund Shares"). The shares of the Fund are referred to herein as the "Shares."

The text of the proposed rule change is available at the Exchange's website at <a href="https://www.markets.cboe.com">www.markets.cboe.com</a>, at the principal office of the Exchange, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

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

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

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

- (A) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory</u> <u>Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- 1. Purpose

This Amendment No. 1 to SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 amends and replaces in its entirety the proposal as originally submitted on December 7, 2017. The Exchange submits this Amendment No. 1 in order to clarify certain points and add additional details about the Fund.

The Exchange proposes to list and trade the Shares under Rule 14.11(i), which governs the listing and trading of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange.<sup>3</sup> The Fund will be an actively managed exchange-traded fund (an "ETF")<sup>4</sup> that seeks to provide investment results that exceed the total return performance of the broader U.S. equity

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For purposes of this proposal, the term ETF means Portfolio Depositary Receipts, Index Fund Shares, and Managed Fund Shares as defined in Rule 14.11(b), 14.11(c), and 14.11(i), respectively, and their equivalents on other national securities exchanges.

market on a risk-adjusted basis. The Exchange submits this proposal in order to allow the Fund to hold listed derivatives, in particular S&P 500 futures, in a manner that does not comply with Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b). Otherwise, the Fund will comply with all other listing requirements on an initial and continued listing basis under Rule 14.11(i).

The Shares will be offered by the Trust, which was established as a Delaware statutory trust on February 9, 2012. The Trust is registered with the Commission as an open-end investment company and is expected to file a registration statement on behalf of the Fund on Form N-1A ("Registration Statement") with the Commission.<sup>7</sup> The Fund's

Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) provides that "the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures), and the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset shall not exceed 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures)." The Exchange is proposing that the Fund be exempt only from the requirement of Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) that prevents the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset from exceeding 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Fund will meet the requirement that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures).

The Exchange notes that this proposal is very similar to a previously approved proposal to list and trade a series of Managed Fund Shares on the Exchange with similar exposures to a single underlying reference asset and U.S. exchange-listed equity securities. <u>See</u> Securities Exchange Act Release No. 80529 (April 26, 2017), 82 FR 20506 (May 2, 2017) (SR-BatsBZX-2017-14).

The Trust filed a post-effective amendment to the Registration Statement on December 18, 2017. See Registration Statement on Form N-1A for the Trust (File Nos. 333-179562 and 811-22668). The descriptions of the Fund and the Shares contained herein are based, in part, on information expected to be included in the Registration Statement. The Commission has not yet issued an order granting exemptive relief to the Trust under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (15 U.S.C. 80a-1) applicable to the activities of the Fund, but the Fund will not be

adviser, Little Harbor Advisors, LLC (the "Adviser"), is not registered as a broker-dealer and is not affiliated with a broker-dealer. Adviser personnel who make decisions regarding the Fund's portfolio are subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material nonpublic information regarding the Fund's portfolio. In the event that (a) the Adviser becomes registered as a broker-dealer or newly affiliated with a broker-dealer; or (b) any new adviser or sub-adviser is a registered broker-dealer or becomes affiliated with a broker-dealer; it will implement a fire wall with respect to its relevant personnel or such broker-dealer affiliate, as applicable, regarding access to information concerning the composition and/or changes to the portfolio, and will be subject to procedures designed to prevent the use and dissemination of material non-public information regarding such portfolio.

The Fund intends to qualify each year as a regulated investment company under Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

#### LHA Market State Tactical U.S. Equity ETF

In order to achieve its investment objective, under Normal Market Conditions,<sup>8</sup> the Fund will invest approximately 80% of its net assets at the time of investment in U.S. exchange-listed ETFs that principally invest in U.S. equity securities ("U.S. ETFs") or

listed on the Exchange until such an order is issued and any conditions contained therein are satisfied.

The term "Normal Market Conditions" includes, but is not limited to, the absence of trading halts in the applicable financial markets generally; operational issues causing dissemination of inaccurate market information or system failures; or force majeure type events such as natural or man-made disaster, act of God, armed conflict, act of terrorism, riot or labor disruption, or any similar intervening circumstance.

the constituent stocks of a U.S. ETF. As noted above, Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) prevents the Fund from holding listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset in excess of 30% of the weight of its portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Exchange is proposing to allow the Fund to hold up to 60% of the weight of its portfolio at the time of investment (including gross notional exposures) in S&P 500 futures contracts traded on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange ("S&P 500 Futures"). Based primarily on proprietary statistical analyses of the distribution of U.S. equity market prices, the Adviser will determine each day whether the Fund's net exposure to the U.S. equity market should be as little as 0% or as much as 160% of the Fund's net assets. The Fund will utilize short or long S&P 500 Futures to the extent needed to reduce or augment, respectively, the Fund's exposure relative to the exposure resulting from investments in the U.S. equities described above in order to achieve the desired net exposure. Allowing the Fund to hold a greater portion of its portfolio in S&P 500 Futures would mitigate the Fund's dependency on holding over-the-counter ("OTC") instruments, which would reduce the Fund's operational burden by allowing the Fund to primarily use listed futures contracts to achieve its investment objective and would further reduce counter-party risk associated with holding OTC instruments. The Exchange notes that the Fund may also hold certain fixed income securities and cash and cash equivalents in compliance with Rules 14.11(i)(4)(C)(ii) and (iii) in order to collateralize its S&P 500 Futures positions.

As noted above, the Fund's investment in U.S. ETFs or the constituent stocks of a U.S. ETF will constitute approximately 80% of the Fund's net assets at the time of investment and under Normal Market Conditions, and such holdings will meet the

requirements for U.S. Component Stocks in Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(i)(a). The Fund may hold approximately 20% of its net assets at the time of investment in fixed income securities, cash, cash equivalents, and the cash value of futures positions<sup>9</sup> under Normal Market Conditions. The combination of U.S. ETFs, constituent stocks of U.S. ETFs, fixed income securities, cash, cash equivalents, and the cash value of futures positions will constitute the entirety of the Fund's holdings and the cash value of these holdings will be used to form the basis for these calculations. The Exchange notes that this is different than the calculation used to measure the Fund's holdings in S&P 500 Futures as it relates to the Fund holding up to 60% of the weight of its portfolio, which, as noted above, as calculated using gross notional exposures gained through the S&P 500 Futures in both the numerator and denominator, which is consistent with the derivatives exposure calculation under Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv). The Exchange represents that, except for the 30% limitation in Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b), the Fund's proposed investments will satisfy, on an initial and continued listing basis, all of the generic listing standards under BZX Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C) and all other applicable requirements for Managed Fund Shares under Rule 14.11(i).

The Trust is required to comply with Rule 10A-3 under the Act for the initial and continued listing of the Shares of the Fund. In addition, the Exchange represents that the Shares of the Fund will comply with all other requirements applicable to Managed Fund Shares, which includes the dissemination of key information such as the Disclosed

The cash value of futures positions is based on the value of the Fund's daily margin account with the applicable futures exchange(s).

Portfolio, <sup>10</sup> Net Asset Value, <sup>11</sup> and the Intraday Indicative Value, <sup>12</sup> suspension of trading or removal, <sup>13</sup> trading halts, <sup>14</sup> surveillance, <sup>15</sup> minimum price variation for quoting and order entry, <sup>16</sup> the information circular, <sup>17</sup> and firewalls <sup>18</sup> as set forth in Exchange rules applicable to Managed Fund Shares and the orders approving such rules. Moreover, all of the futures contracts and U.S. ETFs held by the Fund will trade on markets that are a member of Intermarket Surveillance Group ("ISG") or affiliated with a member of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. <sup>19</sup> All statements and representations made in this filing regarding the description of the portfolio or reference assets, limitations on portfolio holdings or reference assets, dissemination and availability of reference asset and intraday indicative values (as applicable), or the applicability of Exchange listing rules specified in this filing shall constitute continued listing requirements for the securities listed on the Exchange . The issuer has represented to the Exchange that it will advise the Exchange of any failure by

 $<sup>\</sup>underline{\text{See}}$  Rule 14.11(i)(4)(A)(ii) and 14.11(i)(4)(B)(ii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(A)(ii).

<sup>12 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(i).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> See Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(4)(B)(iv).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(2)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> <u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(2)(B).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> See Rule 14.11(i)(6).

<sup>18 &</sup>lt;u>See</u> Rule 14.11(i)(7).

For a list of the current members and affiliate members of ISG, <u>see</u>

<u>www.isgportal.com</u>. The Exchange notes that not all components of the Disclosed Portfolio for the Fund may trade on markets that are members of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.

the Fund or Shares to comply with the continued listing requirements, and, pursuant to its obligations under Section 19(g)(1) of the Act, the Exchange will surveil for compliance with the continued listing requirements. If the Fund or Shares are not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, then, with respect to such Fund or Shares, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures under Exchange Rule 14.12. FINRA conducts certain cross-market surveillances on behalf of the Exchange pursuant to a regulatory services agreement. The Exchange is responsible for FINRA's performance under this regulatory services agreement. If the Fund is not in compliance with the applicable listing requirements, the Exchange will commence delisting procedures with respect to such Fund under Exchange Rule 14.12.

## 2. Statutory Basis

The Exchange believes that the proposal is consistent with Section 6(b) of the Act<sup>20</sup> in general and Section 6(b)(5) of the Act<sup>21</sup> in particular in that it is designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in facilitating transactions in securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market and a national market system and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest in that the Shares will meet each of the initial and continued listing criteria in BZX Rule 14.11(i) with the exception Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b), which requires that the aggregate gross notional value of listed

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

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

derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures), and the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset shall not exceed 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). 22 The Exchange believes that the liquidity in the S&P 500 Futures markets mitigates the concerns that Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) is intended to address and that such liquidity would prevent the Shares from being susceptible to manipulation.<sup>23</sup> Further, allowing the Fund to hold a greater portion of its portfolio in S&P 500 Futures would mitigate the Fund's dependency on holding OTC instruments, which would reduce the Fund's operational burden by allowing the Fund to primarily use listed futures contracts to achieve its investment objective and would further reduce counter-party risk associated with holding OTC instruments. The Exchange further believes that the diversity, liquidity, and market cap of the securities underlying the S&P 500 Index are sufficient to protect against market manipulation of both the Fund's holdings and the Shares as it relates to the S&P 500 Futures holdings.

The Exchange believes that its surveillance procedures are adequate to properly

As noted above, the Exchange is proposing that the Fund be exempt only from the requirement of Rule 14.11(i)(4)(C)(iv)(b) that prevents the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any single underlying reference asset from exceeding 30% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures). The Fund will continue to meet the requirement that the aggregate gross notional value of listed derivatives based on any five or fewer underlying reference assets shall not exceed 65% of the weight of the portfolio (including gross notional exposures).

As of December 7, 2017, the average daily notional volume for S&P 500 Futures was more than \$180 billion over the previous thirty trading days.

monitor the trading of the Shares on the Exchange during all trading sessions and to deter and detect violations of Exchange rules and the applicable federal securities laws. All of the futures contracts, ETFs, and component stocks held by the Fund will trade on markets that are a member of ISG or affiliated with a member of ISG or with which the Exchange has in place a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement. The Exchange may obtain information regarding trading in the Shares and the underlying futures contracts held by the Fund via the ISG from other exchanges who are members or affiliates of the ISG or with which the Exchange has entered into a comprehensive surveillance sharing agreement.<sup>24</sup> The Exchange further notes that the Fund will meet and be subject to all other requirements of the generic listing rules and other applicable continued listing requirements for Managed Fund Shares under Rule 14.11(i), including those requirements regarding the dissemination of key information such as the Disclosed Portfolio, 25 Net Asset Value, 26 and the Intraday Indicative Value, 27 suspension of trading or removal, <sup>28</sup> trading halts, <sup>29</sup> surveillance, <sup>30</sup> minimum price variation for quoting and order entry, 31 the information circular, 32 and firewalls 33 as set forth in Exchange rules

See note 19, supra.

See note 10, supra.

See note 11, supra.

See note 12, supra.

See note 13, supra.

See note 14, supra.

See note 15, supra.

See note 16, supra.

See note 17, supra.

applicable to Managed Fund Shares

For the above reasons, the Exchange believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the requirements of Section 6(b)(5) of the Act.

(B) <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

The Exchange does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purpose of the Act. The Exchange notes that the proposed rule change, rather will facilitate the listing and trading of an additional actively-managed exchange-traded product that will enhance competition among both market participants and listing venues, to the benefit of investors and the marketplace.

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

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

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

Within 45 days of the date of publication of this notice in the Federal Register or within such longer period (i) as the Commission may designate up to 90 days of such date if it finds such longer period to be appropriate and publishes its reasons for so finding or (ii) as to which the Exchange consents, the Commission will: (a) by order approve or disapprove such proposed rule change, or (b) institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule change should be disapproved.

See note 18, supra.

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposal is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

## **Electronic Comments:**

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File No. SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 Amendment No. 1 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments:

Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange
 Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 Amendment No. 1. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet website (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing will also be available for inspection and copying at the

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principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File No. SR-CboeBZX-2017-012 Amendment No. 1 and should be submitted on or before 

[\_\_\_\_\_\_21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority. 34

Robert W. Errett Deputy Secretary

<sup>34</sup>