

February 23, 2022

SUBMITTED VIA CFTC PORTAL

Secretary of the Commission
Office of the Secretariat
U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission
Three Lafayette Centre
1155 21st Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20581

Re: KalshiEX LLC – CFTC Regulation 40.2(a) Notification Regarding the Initial Listing of the “Will federal student loan forbearance be extended?” Contract

Dear Sir or Madam,

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Commodity Exchange Act and Section 40.2(a) of the regulations of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, KalshiEX LLC (Kalshi) hereby notifies the Commission that it is self-certifying the “Will federal student loan forbearance be extended?” contract (Contract). The Exchange intends to list the contract corresponding to the expiration cycle of the existing forbearance programs. The Contract’s terms and conditions (Appendix A) includes the following strike conditions:

- **<date> (the target date)**
- **<expo_date> (the latest possible Expiration Date)**

Along with this letter, Kalshi submitted the following documents:

- A concise explanation and analysis of the Contract;
- Certification;
- Appendix A with the Contract’s Terms and Conditions;
- Confidential Appendices with further information; and
- A request for FOIA confidential treatment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Elie Mishory
Chief Regulatory Officer
KalshiEX LLC
emishory@kalshi.com

KalshiEX LLC

Official Product Name: Will federal student loan forbearance be extended?

Rulebook: FORB

Kalshi Contract Category: Political Decision

Student Loan Forbearance

February 23, 2022

CONCISE EXPLANATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE PRODUCT AND ITS COMPLIANCE WITH APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF THE ACT, INCLUDING CORE PRINCIPLES AND THE COMMISSION'S REGULATIONS THEREUNDER

Pursuant to Commission Rule 40.2(a)(3)(v), the following is a concise explanation and analysis of the product and its compliance with the Act, including the relevant Core Principles, and the Commission's regulations thereunder.

I. Introduction

The “Will federal student loan forbearance be extended?” Contract is a contract relating to whether President Biden will continue to extend a pause on student loan payments. After careful analysis, Kalshi (hereafter referred to as “Exchange”) has determined that the Contract complies with its vetting framework, which has been reviewed by the CFTC and formed part of the Exchange’s application for designation as a Contract Market (“DCM”) that was approved by the Commission.

Upon entering office, President Biden extended President Trump’s pause on student loan repayments until August 2021; that August, he again extended the pause until January 2022. In January, he did so yet again, until May 1, 2022. There is still considerable uncertainty about whether he will again, and that uncertainty brings substantial commercial risk to borrowers and lenders.

Further information about the Contract, including an analysis of its risk mitigation and price basing utility, as well as additional considerations related to the Contract, is included in Confidential Appendices B, C, and D.

Pursuant to Section 5c(c) of the Act and CFTC Regulations 40.2(a), the Exchange hereby certifies that the listing of the Contract complies with the Act and Commission regulations under the Act.

General Contract Terms and Conditions: The Contract operates similar to other binary contracts that the Exchange lists for trading. The minimum price fluctuation is \$0.01 (one

cent). Price bands will apply so that Contracts may only be listed at values of at least \$0.01 and at most \$0.99. Further, the Contract is sized with a one-dollar notional value and has a minimum price fluctuation of \$0.01 to enable Members to match the size of the contracts purchased to their economic risks. The Exchange has further imposed position limits (defined as maximum loss exposure) of \$25,000 USD on the Contract. As outlined in Rule 5.12 of the Rulebook, trading shall be available at all times outside of any maintenance windows, which will be announced in advance by the Exchange. Members will be charged fees in accordance with Rule 3.6 of the Rulebook. Fees are charged in such amounts as may be revised from time to time to be reflected on the Exchange's Website. Additionally, as outlined in Rule 7.2 of the Rulebook, if any event or any circumstance which may have a material impact on the reliability or transparency of a Contract's Source Agency or the Underlying related to the Contract arises, Kalshi retains the authority to designate a new Source Agency and Underlying for that Contract and to change any associated Contract specifications after the first day of trading. That new Source Agency and Underlying would be objective and verifiable. Kalshi would announce any such decision on its website. All instructions on how to access the Underlying are non-binding and are provided for convenience only and are not part of the binding Terms and Conditions of the Contract. They may be clarified at any time. Furthermore, the Contract's payout structure is characterized by the payment of an absolute amount to the holder of one side of the option and no payment to the counterparty. During the time that trading on the Contract is open, Members are able to adjust their positions and trade freely. After trading on the Contract has closed, the Expiration Value and Market Outcome are determined. The market is then settled by the Exchange, and the long position holders and short position holders are paid according to the Market Outcome. In this case, "long position holders" refers to Members who purchased the "Yes" side of the Contract and "short position holders" refers to Members who purchased the "No" side of the Contract. If the Market Outcome is "Yes," meaning that student loan forbearance has been extended, then the long position holders are paid an absolute amount proportional to the size of their position and the short position holders receive no payment. If the Market Outcome is "No," then the short position holders are paid an absolute amount proportional to the size of their position and the long position holders receive no payment. Specification of the circumstances that would trigger a Market Outcome of "Yes" are included below in the section titled "Payout Criterion" in Appendix A.

**CERTIFICATIONS PURSUANT TO SECTION 5c OF THE COMMODITY
EXCHANGE ACT, 7 U.S.C. § 7A-2 AND COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING
COMMISSION RULE 40.2, 17 C.F.R. § 40.2**

Based on the above analysis, the Exchange certifies that:

- The Contract complies with the Act and Commission regulations thereunder.
- This submission (other than those appendices for which confidential treatment has been requested) has been concurrently posted on the Exchange's website at <https://kalshi.com/regulatory/filings>.

Should you have any questions concerning the above, please contact the exchange at ProductFilings@kalshi.com.



By: Eliezer Mishory
Title: Chief Regulatory Officer
Date: February 23, 2022

Attachments:

Appendix A - Contract Terms and Conditions

Appendix B (Confidential) - Further Considerations

Appendix C (Confidential) - Source Agency

Appendix D (Confidential) - Compliance with Core Principles

APPENDIX A – CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS

TERMS OF CONTRACTS TRADED ON KALSHI

Official Product Name: Will federal student loan forbearance be extended?

Rulebook: FORB

FORB

Scope: These rules shall apply to this contract.

Underlying: The Underlying for this Contract is press releases published either on the Department of Education’s Press Releases portal or statements on the White House’s White House Briefing Room’s website issued between Issuance and <date>.

Instructions: The Department of Education’s Press Releases portal is available here: <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases>. The White House’s “Statements and Releases Archive” section of the White House Brief Room’s website is available here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/>.

For an example of a previous forbearance extension announcement made by the Department of Education, see here: <https://www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/request-president-biden-acting-secretary-education-will-extend-pause-federal-student-loan-payments>. For an example of a previous forbearance extension announcement made by the White House, see here: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/01/20/pausing-federal-student-loan-payments/>. These instructions are provided for convenience only and may be modified at any time.

Source Agency: The Source Agencies are the United States Department of Education and The White House.

Type: The type of Contract is a Binary Contract.

Issuance: The initial Contract will be issued corresponding to the expiration of the existing forbearance program. Future potential contracts will correspond to the expiration of future forbearance programs.

<date>: <date> refers to a calendar date specified by Kalshi. Kalshi may list iterations of the Contract corresponding to different statistical periods of <date>.

<expo_date>: <date> refers to a calendar date specified by Kalshi. Kalshi may list iterations of the Contract corresponding to different statistical periods of <expo_date>.

Payout Criterion: The Payout Criterion encompasses all Expiration Values that contain documentation that a pause or suspension of payment of federal student loan payments that has the effect of allowing borrowers to temporarily not repay their federal student loans will be in

place for any time period that extends past <date>. Whether other forms of emergency COVID-19 relief for holders of student loans, including stopped collections on defaulted loans and 0% interest rates on all loans, are extended is not relevant to the Payout Criterion.

Minimum Tick: The Minimum Tick size for the referred Contract shall be \$0.01.

Position Limit: The Position Limit for the \$1 referred Contract shall be \$25,000 per Member.

Last Trading Date: The Last Trading Date for the Contract is the sooner of the date of the first 10:00 AM following the occurrence of an event that is encompassed in the Payout Criterion (whereupon the Last Trading Time will be 10:00 AM), or <date> (whereupon the Last Trading Time will be 11:59 PM).

Settlement Date: The Settlement Date of the Contract shall be no later than the day after the Expiration Date unless the Market Outcome is under review pursuant to Rule 7.1.

Expiration Date: The Expiration Date of the Contract shall be the sooner of the date of the first 10:00 AM following the occurrence of an event that is encompassed in the Payout Criterion, the date of the first 10:00 AM following both Source Agencies updating for <date>, or <expo_date>.

Expiration time: The Expiration time of the Contract shall be 10:00 AM ET.

Settlement Value: The Settlement Value for this Contract is \$1.00.

Expiration Value: The Expiration Value is the value of the Underlying (i.e., the statements and press releases released by the Source Agencies) as documented by the Source Agencies from the date and time of Issuance to the Expiration Date at the Expiration time.

Contingencies: Before Settlement, Kalshi may, at its sole discretion, initiate the Market Outcome Review Process pursuant to Rule 6.3(c) of the Rulebook. Additionally, as outlined in Rule 7.2 of the Rulebook, if any event or any circumstance which may have a material impact on the reliability or transparency of a Contract's Source Agency or the Underlying related to the Contract arises, Kalshi retains the authority to designate a new Source Agency and Underlying for that Contract and to change any associated Contract specifications after the first day of trading.