

From: Jeremy Hansen [<mailto:jhansen3@norwich.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, April 10, 2018 9:31 AM
To: David Hall
Subject: RE: Definition of "Blockchain"

Hi David-

Thanks to you and Rep. Botzow for reaching out! The Section 4 definition is OK, but could be improved a bit. If I had to choose just one, I would standardize all the language to that. In particular, I like that it has the prefix bit with "technology using [...]". This way, you can distinguish between a blockchain and a blockchain technology. The former *is* the distributed ledger; the latter *uses* the distributed ledger. In that respect, it might make sense to separate the two, as I do below.

I don't know if some of these words have prior definitions in statute or appear in case law, but "application" and "software" are synonyms and possibly redundant here.

My proposed rewording might be something like the following:

"Blockchain technology" means computer software, hardware, or collections of computer software or hardware utilizing or enabling a blockchain.

"Blockchain" means a mathematically-secured, chronological, and decentralized consensus ledger or consensus database, maintained via Internet, peer-to-peer network, or other interaction.

"Mathematically-secured" could be more precisely stated as "cryptographically-secured", at a likely loss to readability by a general audience. (Cryptography is the mathematical/computing field of securing data.)

References to "[...] ledgers" could then be rewritten as

(e) A town clerk may maintain records pursuant to this section in an electronic or other medium, including with blockchain technology, as defined in XX VSA XXXX.

Regards,

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