

491.112 Rights of dissenting shareholders.

If a shareholder of a corporation which is a party to a merger or consolidation shall file with such corporation, prior to or at the meeting of shareholders at which the plan of merger or consolidation is submitted to a vote, a written objection to such plan of merger or consolidation, and shall not vote in favor thereof, and such shareholder, within twenty days after the merger or consolidation is effected, shall make written demand on the surviving or new corporation for payment of the fair value of the shareholder's shares as of the day prior to the date on which the vote was taken approving the merger or consolidation, the surviving or new corporation shall pay to such shareholder, upon surrender of the certificate or certificates representing said shares, such fair value thereof. Such demand shall state the number and class of the shares owned by such dissenting shareholder. Any shareholder failing to make demand within the twenty-day period shall be conclusively presumed to have consented to the merger or consolidation and shall be bound by the terms thereof.

If within thirty days after the date on which such merger or consolidation was effected the value of such shares is agreed upon between the dissenting shareholder and the surviving or new corporation payment therefor shall be made within ninety days after the date on which such merger or consolidation was effected, upon the surrender of the certificate or certificates representing said shares. Upon payment of the agreed value the dissenting shareholder shall cease to have any interest in such shares or in the corporation.

If within such period of thirty days the shareholder and the surviving or new corporation do not so agree, then the dissenting shareholder may, within sixty days after the expiration of the thirty-day period, file a petition in any court of competent jurisdiction within the state and judicial subdivision thereof in which the registered office or the principal place of business of the surviving or new corporation is situated, asking for a finding and determination of the fair value of such shares, and shall be entitled to judgment against the surviving or new corporation for the amount of such fair value as of the day prior to the date on which such vote was taken approving such merger or consolidation, together with interest thereon at the rate of five percent per annum to the date of such judgment. The action shall be prosecuted as an equitable action and the practice and procedure shall conform to the practice and procedure in equity cases. The judgment shall be payable only upon and simultaneously with the surrender to the surviving or new corporation of the certificate or certificates representing said shares. Upon payment of the judgment, the dissenting shareholder shall cease to have any interest in such shares, or in the surviving or new corporation. Such shares may be held and disposed of by the surviving or new corporation as it may see fit. Unless the dissenting shareholder shall file such petition within the time herein limited, such shareholder and all persons claiming under the shareholder shall be conclusively presumed to have approved and ratified the merger or consolidation and shall be bound by the terms thereof.

The right of a dissenting shareholder to be paid the fair value of the shareholder's shares as herein provided shall cease if and when the corporation shall abandon the merger or consolidation.

Shares acquired by the corporation pursuant to the payment of the agreed value thereof or to the payment of judgment entered therefor as in this section provided may be held and disposed of by the corporation as it shall see fit.

[C50, 54, 58, 62, 66, 71, 73, 75, 77, 79, 81, §491.112]