

**501A.301 Name.**

1. A cooperative name must contain the word “cooperative”, “coop”, or the abbreviation “CP”.

2. Except as authorized by [subsections 3 and 4](#), a cooperative name must be distinguishable upon the records of the secretary from all of the following:

a. The name of a domestic cooperative, limited liability company, limited partnership, or corporation organized under the laws of this state or registered as a foreign cooperative, foreign limited liability company, foreign limited partnership, or foreign corporation in this state.

b. A name reserved in the manner provided under the laws of this state.

c. The fictitious name adopted by a foreign cooperative, foreign limited liability company, foreign limited partnership, or foreign corporation authorized to transact business in this state because its real name is unavailable.

d. The corporate name of a nonprofit corporation incorporated or authorized to transact business in this state.

3. A cooperative may apply to the secretary for authorization to use a name that is not distinguishable upon the secretary’s records from one or more of the names described in [subsection 2](#). The secretary shall authorize use of the name applied for if one of the following conditions applies:

a. The other entity consents to the use in writing and submits an undertaking in a form satisfactory to the secretary to change the entity’s name to a name that is distinguishable upon the records of the secretary from the name of the applying cooperative.

b. The applicant delivers to the secretary a certified copy of the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction establishing the applicant’s right to use the name applied for in this state.

4. A cooperative may use the name, including the fictitious name, of another business entity that is used in this state if the other business entity is formed under the laws of this state or is authorized to transact business in this state and the proposed user cooperative meets one of the following conditions:

a. Has merged with the other business entity.

b. Has been formed by reorganization of the other business entity.

c. Has acquired all or substantially all of the assets, including the name, of the other business entity.

5. [This chapter](#) does not control the use of fictitious names; however, if a cooperative uses a fictitious name in this state, the cooperative shall deliver to the secretary for filing a certified copy of the resolution of the cooperative adopting the fictitious name.

[2005 Acts, ch 135, §18](#)