

AVIS BUDGET GROUP, INC.
Form 8-K
January 23, 2017

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 8-K

Current Report

Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d)
of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported): January 23, 2017

Avis Budget Group, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction
of Incorporation)

001-10308
(Commission
File Number)
6 Sylvan Way

06-0918165
(IRS Employer
Identification No.)

Parsippany, New Jersey 07054

Edgar Filing: AVIS BUDGET GROUP, INC. - Form 8-K
(Address of Principal Executive Offices, including Zip Code)

(973) 496-4700

(Registrant's Telephone Number, including Area Code)

Not Applicable

(Former Name or Former Address, if Changed Since Last Report)

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

Item 1.01. Entry into a Material Definitive Agreement.

On January 23, 2017, the Board of Directors of Avis Budget Group, Inc. (the **Company**) declared a dividend of one preferred share purchase right (a **Right**), payable on February 2, 2017, for each share of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the **Common Shares**), of the Company outstanding on February 2, 2017 (the **Record Date**) to the stockholders of record on that date. In connection with the distribution of the Rights, the Company entered into a Rights Agreement (the **Rights Agreement**), dated as of January 23, 2017, between the Company and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent. Each Right entitles the registered holder to purchase from the Company one one-thousandth of a share of Series R Preferred Stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the **Preferred Shares**), of the Company at a price of \$90 per one one-thousandth of a Preferred Share represented by a Right (the **Purchase Price**), subject to adjustment.

The Rights are in all respects subject to and governed by the provisions of the Rights Agreement. The following description of the Rights Agreement does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Rights Agreement, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Distribution Date; Exercisability; Expiration

Initially, the Rights will be attached to all Common Share certificates and no separate certificates evidencing the Rights (**Right Certificates**) will be issued. Until the Distribution Date (as defined below), the Rights will be transferred with and only with the Common Shares. As long as the Rights are attached to the Common Shares, the Company will issue one Right with each new Common Share so that all such shares will have Rights attached.

The Rights will separate and begin trading separately from the Common Shares, and Right Certificates will be caused to evidence the Rights, on the earlier to occur of (i) the Close of Business (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) on the tenth day following a public announcement, or the public disclosure of facts indicating, that a Person (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement), group of affiliated or associated Persons or any other Person with whom such Person is Acting In Concert (as defined below) has acquired Beneficial Ownership (as defined below) of 10% or more of the outstanding Common Shares (an **Acquiring Person**) (or, in the event an exchange is effected in accordance with Section 24 of the Rights Agreement and the Board determines that a later date is advisable, then such later date) or (ii) the Close of Business on the tenth Business Day (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) (or such later date as may be determined by action of the Board of Directors prior to such time as any Person becomes an Acquiring Person) following the commencement of a tender offer or exchange offer the consummation of which would result in the Beneficial Ownership by a Person or group of 10% or more of the outstanding Common Shares (the earlier of such dates, the **Distribution Date**). As soon as practicable after the Distribution Date, unless the Rights are recorded in book-entry or other uncertificated form, the Company will prepare and cause the Right Certificates to be sent to each record holder of Common Shares as of the Close of Business on the Distribution Date.

An **Acquiring Person** will not include (i) the Company, (ii) any Subsidiary (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) of the Company, (iii) any employee benefit plan of the Company or of any Subsidiary of the Company, (iv) any entity holding Common Shares for or pursuant to the terms of any such employee benefit plan or (v) any Person who or which, at the time of the first public announcement of the Rights Agreement, is a Beneficial Owner of 10% or more of the Common Shares then outstanding (a **Grandfathered Stockholder**). However, if a Grandfathered Stockholder becomes, after such time, the Beneficial Owner of any additional Common Shares (regardless of whether, thereafter or as a result thereof, there is an increase, decrease or no change in the percentage of Common Shares then outstanding beneficially owned by such Grandfathered Stockholder) then such Grandfathered Stockholder shall be deemed to be an Acquiring Person unless, upon such acquisition of Beneficial Ownership of additional Common Shares, such person is not the Beneficial Owner of 10% or more of the Common Shares then outstanding. In addition, upon the first decrease of a Grandfathered Stockholder's Beneficial Ownership below 10%, such Grandfathered

Stockholder will cease to be a Grandfathered Stockholder. In the event that after the time of the first public announcement of the Rights Agreement, any agreement, arrangement or understanding pursuant to which any Grandfathered Stockholder is deemed to be the Beneficial Owner of Common Shares expires, terminates or no longer confers any benefit to or imposes any obligation on the Grandfathered Stockholder, any direct or indirect replacement, extension or substitution of such agreement,

arrangement or understanding with respect to the same or different Common Shares that confers Beneficial Ownership of Common Shares shall be considered the acquisition of Beneficial Ownership of additional Common Shares by the Grandfathered Stockholder and render such Grandfathered Stockholder an Acquiring Person for purposes of the Rights Agreement unless, upon such acquisition of Beneficial Ownership of additional Common Shares, such person is not the Beneficial Owner of 10% or more of the Common Shares then outstanding; *provided, however*, a Grandfathered Stockholder shall not be deemed to acquire Beneficial Ownership of additional Common Shares if, upon final expiration of a Cash Settled Derivative (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement) in accordance with its terms in effect as of, and as publicly disclosed in a filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission prior to, the date hereof, a Grandfathered Stockholder replaces, extends or substitutes such Cash Settled Derivative (an Expiring Cash Settled Derivative) with a Cash Settled Derivative which does not, by virtue of such replacement, extension or substitution, increase the Beneficial Ownership of such Grandfathered Stockholder as compared to the Beneficial Ownership attributed to the Grandfathered Stockholder in respect of the Expiring Cash Settled Derivative.

Beneficial Ownership is defined in the Rights Agreement to include any securities that a Person or any of such Person's Affiliates or Associates (as such terms are defined in the Rights Agreement) (a) beneficially owns, directly or indirectly, within the meaning of Rules 13d-3 or 13d-5 promulgated under the Exchange Act, (b) has the right to acquire or vote pursuant to any agreement, arrangement or understanding (except under limited circumstances), (c) which are directly or indirectly beneficially owned by any other Person with which such Person has any agreement, arrangement or understanding for the purpose of acquiring, holding or voting such securities, or obtaining, changing or influencing control of the Company, or with whom such Person is Acting in Concert or (d) in respect of which such Person has a Derivative Position (as such term is defined in the Rights Agreement).

The Rights Agreement provides that a Person shall be deemed to be Acting in Concert with another Person if such Person knowingly acts (whether or not pursuant to an express agreement, arrangement or understanding) in concert or in parallel with such other Person, or towards a common goal with such other Person, relating to (i) acquiring, holding, voting or disposing of voting securities of the Company or (ii) changing or influencing the control of the Company or in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having that purpose or effect, where (A) each Person is conscious of the other Person's conduct or intent and this awareness is an element in their decision-making processes and (B) at least one additional factor supports a determination by the Board of Directors that such Persons intended to act in concert or in parallel. A Person who is Acting in Concert with another Person shall also be deemed to be Acting in Concert with any third Person who is also Acting in Concert with such other Person.

The Rights are not exercisable until the Distribution Date. The Rights will expire on the Close of Business on January 22, 2018 (the Final Expiration Date).

Exempt Persons

The Board may, in its sole and absolute discretion, determine that a Person is exempt from the Rights Agreement (an Exempt Person), so long as such determination is made prior to such time as such Person becomes an Acquiring Person. In addition, any Person will cease to be an Exempt Person if the Board makes a contrary determination with respect to such Person regardless of the reason therefor.

Flip-in Event

If a Person or group becomes an Acquiring Person at any time after the date of the Rights Agreement (with certain limited exceptions), the Rights will become exercisable for Common Shares (or, in certain circumstances, Preferred Shares or other similar securities of the Company) having a value equal to two times the exercise price of the Right. From and after the announcement that any Person has become an Acquiring Person, if the Rights evidenced by a Right Certificate are or were acquired or beneficially owned by an Acquiring Person or any Associate or Affiliate of an Acquiring Person or any other Person with whom such Person is Acting in Concert, such Rights shall become void,

and any holder of such Rights shall thereafter have no right to exercise such Rights. If the Board of Directors so elects, the Company shall deliver upon payment of the exercise price of a Right an amount of cash or securities equivalent in value to the Common Shares issuable upon exercise of a Right.

Exchange

At any time after any Person becomes an Acquiring Person and prior to the acquisition by any Person or group of a majority of the outstanding Common Shares, the Board of Directors may exchange the Rights (other than Rights owned by such Person or group which have become void), in whole or in part, at an exchange ratio of one Common Share per Right (subject to adjustment). The Company may issue, transfer or deposit such Common Shares (or other property as permitted under the Rights Agreement) to or into a trust or other entity created upon such terms as the Board of Directors may determine and may direct that all holders of Rights receive such Common Shares or other property only from the trust. In the event the Board of Directors determines, before the Distribution Date, to effect an exchange, the Board of Directors may delay the occurrence of the Distribution Date to such time as it deems advisable.

Flip-over Event

If, at any time after a Person becomes an Acquiring Person, (i) the Company consolidates with, or merges with and into, any other Person; (ii) any Person consolidates with the Company, or merges with and into the Company, and the Company is the continuing or surviving corporation of such merger and, in connection with such merger, all or part of the Common Shares are or will be changed into or exchanged for stock or other securities of any other Person (or the Company) or cash or any other property; or (iii) 50% or more of the Company's consolidated assets or Earning Power (as defined in the Rights Agreement) are sold, then proper provision will be made so that each holder of a Right will thereafter have the right to receive, upon the exercise thereof at the then current exercise price of the Right, that number of shares of common stock of the acquiring company which at the time of such transaction will have a market value of two times the exercise price of the Right.

Redemption

At any time prior to the time any Person becomes an Acquiring Person, the Board of Directors may redeem the Rights in whole, but not in part, at a price of \$0.001 per Right (the Redemption Price). The redemption of the Rights may be made effective at such time, on such basis and with such conditions as the Board of Directors in its sole discretion may establish. Immediately upon any redemption of the Rights, the right to exercise the Rights will terminate and the only right of the holders of Rights will be to receive the Redemption Price.

Amendment

The terms of the Rights may be amended by the Board of Directors without the consent of the holders of the Rights, except that from and after such time as any Person becomes an Acquiring Person no such amendment may adversely affect the interests of the holders of the Rights (other than the Acquiring Person and its Affiliates and Associates and any other Person with whom such Person is Acting in Concert).

Preferred Stock Rights

Each Preferred Share will entitle the holder thereof to the same dividends and liquidation rights as if the holder held one Common Share and will be treated the same as a Common Share in the event of a merger, consolidation or other share exchange.

Rights of Holders

Until a Right is exercised, the holder thereof, as such, will have no rights as a stockholder of the Company, including, without limitation, the right to vote or to receive dividends.

Item 3.03. Material Modifications to Rights of Security Holders.

The information set forth in Items 1.01 and 5.03 of this Current Report on Form 8-K is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 5.03. Amendments to Articles of Incorporation or Bylaws; Change in Fiscal Year.

In connection with the adoption of the Rights Agreement, on January 23, 2017, the Company filed a Certificate of Designations of Series R Preferred Stock with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware. A copy of the Certificate of Designations of Series R Preferred Stock is attached hereto as Exhibit 3.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 8.01. Other Events.

On January 23, 2017, the Company issued a press release, which is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01. Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
3.1	Certificate of Designations of Series R Preferred Stock of Avis Budget Group, Inc., as filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware on January 23, 2017.
4.1	Rights Agreement, dated as of January 23, 2017, between Avis Budget Group, Inc. and Computershare Trust Company, N.A., as Rights Agent.
99.1	Press Release dated January 23, 2017.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

AVIS BUDGET GROUP, INC.

Date: January 23, 2017

By: /s/ Bryon L. Koepke
Name: Bryon L. Koepke
Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Securities
Counsel

EXHIBIT INDEX

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