STAGE STORES INC Form SC 13D March 02, 2017

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, DC 20549

SCHEDULE 13D

Under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

STAGE STORES, INC. (Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value (Title of Class of Securities)

85254C305 (CUSIP Number)

Joshua Schamel HMA Acquisition, Inc. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 (415) - 391-6700

(Name, Address and Telephone Number of Person Authorized to Receive Notices and Communications)

February 20, 2017 (Date of Event Which Requires Filing of This Statement)

If the filing person has previously filed a statement on Schedule 13G to report the acquisition that is the subject of this Schedule 13D, and is filing this schedule because of Rule 13d-1(e), Rule 13d-1(f) or Rule 13d-1(g), check the following box.

Note. Schedules filed in paper format shall include a signed original and five copies of the schedule, including all exhibits. See Rule 13d-7 (b) for other parties to whom copies are to be sent.

* The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required on the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed

to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section

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of the Act but shall be
subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).
      NAME OF REPORTING PERSONS/I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION
NOS. OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)
HMA ACQUISITION, INC.
I.R.S. Tax I.D. No. 81-4850038
       CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP
(SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
       (A)
(B)
      SEC USE ONLY
      SOURCE OF FUNDS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
BK, 00
       CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT
TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e)
       CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
CALIFORNIA
NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH REPORTING
              7
                      SOLE VOTING POWER
PERSON WITH
1,366,415
               SHARED VOTING POWER
               SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
1,366,415
               SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
11
       AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
1,366,415
       CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES
12
13
       PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11)
5.03%
      TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS)
14
CO
      NAME OF REPORTING PERSONS/I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NOS.
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OF ABOVE PERSONS (ENTITIES ONLY)

HM AVENUE INVESTMENT PARTNERS II L.P. 2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) (B) SEC USE ONLY SOURCE OF FUNDS (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) BK, OO CHECK IF DISCLOSURE OF LEGAL PROCEEDINGS IS REQUIRED PURSUANT TO ITEM 2(d) OR 2(e) CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION CAYMAN ISLANDS NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE VOTING POWER 8 SHARED VOTING POWER 0 9 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 10 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 11 1,366,415 12 CHECK IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (11) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW (11) 1.3 5.03% TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON (SEE INSTRUCTIONS) ΡN Item 1. Security and Issuer The class of equity securities to which this statement on

The class of equity securities to which this statement on Schedule 13D (the "Schedule 13D") relates is the common stock, \$0.01 par value, of Stage Stores, Inc., a Nevada corporation (the "Issuer"). The address of the principal executive offices of the Issuer is 2425 West Loop South, Houston, Texas, 77027.

Item 2. Identity and Background

(a) - (c) This Schedule 13D is being filed by HMA Acquisition, Inc., a

California corporation ("Parent"), and HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P., a Cayman Islands limited partnership ("Sponsor"), pursuant to Section 13 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act").

The principal address of each of Parent and Sponsor is 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94111.

Item 7. Material to be Filed as Exhibits.

Exhibit A Commitment Letter, dated as of January 18, 2017, between HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P.

and HMA Acquisition, Inc.*

Exhibit B Commitment Letter, dated as of February 14, 2017, between HMA Acquisition, Inc. and The Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.*

*To be filed by amendment. Ssi13d

SIGNATURES

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete, and correct.

Dated: March 2, 2017

HMA Acquisition, Inc.

By: /s/ Eric Choy Name: Eric Choy Title: President

HM AVENUE INVESTMENT PARTNERS II L.P.

By: HM Avenue Investment Partners II, Inc., its general partner

By: /s/ Eric Choy Name: Eric Choy Title: Vice President

SCHEDULE A

Directors and Executive Officers of HMA Acquisition, Inc. Principal Business or Occupation Business Address Eric Choy Director and President of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 Hans Christianson Director and CFO of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 Joshua Schamel Vice President and General Counsel of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 SCHEDULE A-2 Directors and Executive Officers of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. Principal Business or Occupation Business Address Eric Choy Director and President of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 Hans Christianson Director and CFO of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P. 500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200 San Francisco, CA 94111 Joshua Schamel Vice President and General Counsel of HM Avenue Investment Partners II L.P.

500 Montgomery Street, Suite 200San Francisco, CA 94111