

August 15, 2009

Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
100 F Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20549

Years ago, I started my own business, Areawide Lawn Service, after helping my dad with his commercial mowing service. My residential lawn mowing business was my sole income when I was in high school and college. After several years, I was busy enough to hire several guys to help me. You could say that my little business was a true success story, which is what everyone hopes for when they become business owners. Unfortunately, the government does not seem interested in helping business owners achieve success, as evidenced by the proposed change to the shareholder proxy access rule.

With the recent economic crisis we are facing, many small businesses are hurting and especially in the service industry. People cannot afford to pay for services these days, including lawn mowing. I have had to put my own business on hold and sell some of my equipment, but I still hope to make it a success again, once this recession improves. There is slim chance of that, if the government continues to interfere with businesses. My lawn mowing equipment and parts all come from large corporations, which are going to be hit the hardest if this rule change is approved. When those large corporations are forced to raise prices on equipment and other products, I am certain that we will see many more small businesses go under.

In this economy, I do not see how small business owners can survive. It is hard enough right now, without additional government interference. We need to see some improvement in this economy soon, but the proposal to change the shareholder proxy access rule is not going to be the solution. If the government truly wants to help our economy get back on track, they will leave the shareholder proxy access rule alone.

Sincerely,

Terry Trummel