

5714-08 1888

BENJAMIN L. CARDIN
UNITED STATES SENATOR
MARYLAND

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-2004

September 10, 2008

The Honorable Christopher Cox
Chairman
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street, NE
Washington, D.C. 20549

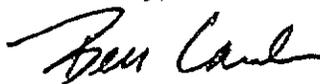
Dear Chairman Cox:

I have been contacted by the Maryland Insurance Administration, the League of Life and Health Insurers of Maryland, Old Mutual Insurance Company and other constituents who will be affected by the Securities and Exchange Commission's proposed rule "Indexed Annuities" (Release Nos. 33-8933 and 34-58022). These groups are seeking a 90-day extension beyond the September 10, 2008 deadline to file comments. They maintain that the 70-day comment period is inadequate to address the far-reaching nature and ramifications of the changes proposed and that further time is required to thoroughly review the proposed rules and properly reply to nearly 100 questions that are posed in the rulemaking.

For these reasons, I ask that you consider their request. The 90-day extension will provide ample time for stakeholders and the public to examine and discuss the proposal and provide meaningful input to the rulemaking process. This is especially true, as here, where the proposed rules affect the retirement security of thousands of Americans. The extension of time will assist the SEC in developing a fuller record by ensuring that all interested parties are heard and their viewpoints are considered.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Gilberto de Jesus on my staff at (202) 224-4524.

Sincerely,



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator

BLC:gd

ES/25670
RECEIVED
2008 SEP 11 AM 10:19
CHAIRMAN'S
CORRESPONDENCE UNIT

Reply To:

509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510-2004
(202) 224-4524
www.cardin.senate.gov

Printed on
Recycled Paper

Reply To:

Tower 1 Suite 1710
100 S. Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21201
(410) 962-4436