

Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20549

Support for SEC Rule Making Petition File No. 4-605

Dear Ms. Murphy:

As a graduate student of business and active member of my community, I strongly urge the SEC to consider this petition. Today, small enterprises are stifled because of an inability to raise funds. Storefronts are empty and citizens are desperately looking for work. And yet, there is not shortage of people wanting to make small investments with their money or neighbors willing and able to help their communities develop. And there is no shortage of entrepreneurs ready to step up and reward these investors. This petition would give them the ability to do so.

Small businesses are the key to economic recovery—but loans are still very hard to come by and raising funds is complicated, cost-prohibitive and restrictive. Despite this, small businesses continue to grow and alternatives to traditionally sourced capital have developed instead, such as peer-to-peer lending and crowdfunding. The desire and demand is there - entrepreneurs and investors are finding ways to connect and help each other. And according to this Wall Street Journal article, the SEC is looking at adapting its rules to encourage Internet-age techniques for small companies raising capital.

I believe the time is now to reconsider these rules and allow for greater participation. We all want to take part in the rebuilding of our towns and communities that is so desperately needed.

Thank you for your consideration,

Susan Donaldson Ely

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Reference:

Eaglesham, Jean & Holzer, Jessica. (2011). *SEC Boots Up for Internet Age*.

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<http://online.wsj.com/article/SB10001424052748704843404576251160999848924.html>

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