I’d like to encourage the SEC to stand firm and not let themselves be bullied by big business or cave to political interests.

Timothy J. Bartl, president of the advocacy arm of the Center On Executive Compensation said recently “Most investors believe it would not be helpful information.”

And that “The Center continues to believe that the pay ratio provision should be repealed, because the cost of developing the information would far outweigh the benefits”.

I think that by saying “most investors”, Mr. Bartl may have been referring to the largest investors, most of which are now institutional investors, not individuals or small investors. Those institutional investors probably don’t care at all about the compensation of corporate executives relative to the corporate mean compensation. After all, the investment institutions are themselves large corporations run by highly compensated executives. They probably already have a pretty good idea of corporate executive compensation and find nothing gross, shocking, unreasonable or in any way objectionable.

Mr. Bartl is probably right that “…the cost of developing the information would far outweigh the benefits”. The large, big money institutional investors already know about executive compensation and seem to be just fine with it.

The few small investors, like me, who might become displeased enough to take our money elsewhere probably don’t have enough cash between us for large businesses to even notice. So it’s reasonable that they might assume that the cost of providing this information to small investors is a waste of their time and money.

I suspect that the real cost that corporations fear is the cost of a tarnished public image. Individual’s who own not a single share of stock, might be inclined to boycott a business that they perceive as treating executive too well, or workers too poorly.

From the SEC website, “The mission of the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission is to protect investors, maintain fair, orderly, and efficient markets, and facilitate capital formation.”

I think that by requiring full and easily accessible public disclosure of executive compensation, the SEC would go some way in “maintain(ing) fair, orderly, and efficient markets”. Let the American consumer decide which companies fairly compensate all of their employees and which companies they feel comfortable doing business with. What could be more efficient fair and orderly than that?