

August 16, 2009

Elizabeth Murphy
Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street NE
Washington, DC 20549-1090

Dear Ms Murphy,

The SEC's proposal to change shareholder proxy access is a huge step over the line between federal rights and states' rights. The federal government has no business getting involved in corporate rules like this. These local issues need to be regulated on a local level. The needs of businesses in Utah may be different from the needs of businesses in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts or Texas.

It seems to me that the federal government has enough on its plate in figuring out new legislation and doing what it can to fix the economy. It should really avoid getting involved in business, particularly since business in general works better without any government interference. The free market is a wonderful model for leaving well enough alone. Changing corporate organization rules is a situation that does not help anyone, and could ultimately hurt everyone. Applying pressure to smaller businesses could cripple an already ailing economy. This is not necessary.

I got into writing and editing as my own business to increase my freedom and ensure that the amount I made was directly correlated to how hard I worked. I do not want to work for someone else, because I believe that the only real security is in taking that control for yourself. I have been laid off in the past. It is not fun. I do not appreciate having my job security jeopardized. If the SEC's shareholder proxy access changes are passed, it is likely that many people's jobs will be in trouble. This rule will make it too easy for unqualified board members to introduce their personal agendas in the boardroom. It would rather tempt me to incorporate in another country, or to list my business on another publicly traded stock exchange, rather than an American one if this happens. This sort of step loses American business that our country badly needs.

People need to be protected, but so do businesses.