

Jeff Young  
Victorian Lady

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

Dear Murphy:

The Securities and Exchange Commission has proposed changes to the shareholder proxy access rules which could bring a lot of harm to American businesses. These rule changes would give the federal government some control over just about every aspect of my business. The federal government should not be allowed to supersede state laws. Changing the rules could have a negative impact on every large and small company in the United States.

My wife and I started our business, Victorian Lady, four years ago. It is a gift shop in which we sell china, Victorian items, loose tea, scones, sandwiches and pastries. We also have tea parties during the day, which our customers really enjoy. As business owners, my wife and I are the only ones who know how to best run our business. We know what our customers want, and would not trust someone else to make decisions on our behalf when it concerns the livelihood of our business and family.

The dire condition of our economy has left many citizens without spendable income, and this has created less activity for businesses in our local area. The cost of everything has increased, and changing the shareholder proxy access rules could increase our costs even more. I have a handful of part-time employees, but if my expenses continue to rise, they could be left without a job. This proposal to change these rules could affect my retirement plan, and could even cause my entire business to go belly up. In my opinion, this is just another step in taking away our freedoms. This is our business, and as the owners we should have the final say regarding operations. This is also true for our large publicly traded corporations.

Thanks,

Jeff Young