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August 16, 2009

Ms. Elizabeth M. Murphy
 Secretary
 U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
 100 F Street NE
 Washington, DC 20549-1090

Re: File No. 57-10-09
 Release No. 34-60089
 Facilitating Shareholder Director Nominations

Dear Ms. Murphy:

It has come to our attention that the SEC is considering changes effecting corporate governance, particularly as it relates to proxy access.

Louisiana Agencies is a Baton Rouge based company that sells surety bonds to a variety of companies for constructions projects throughout the South. The companies may be small, privately held corporations or some of the largest construction companies in the world. I am writing today more on their behalf than on my own. Though I, too, have grave concerns if some of these changes are enacted.

I believe the Board of Directors of any corporation has a primary duty to protect the interests of the shareholders. In addition, these directors should be asked to provide sound business counsel to the management team whenever possible. Because of these important tasks, the background and experience of individual board members are key qualifications. Putting too much power in the hands of small groups of stockholders, as these proposed changes could inadvertently do, could completely overturn years, even decades, of sound business practice.

In addition, increasing the number and frequency of board elections would most certainly result in unproductive proxy battles. I anticipate the result would be that many qualified individuals would choose to not participate in such deliberations, thus depriving the business and all parties of new minds, talents and growth opportunities.

In short, I believe the business owners and their boards of directors have all the incentive necessary for productive deliberations under existing law. Certainly everyone agrees that board accountability has improved since the passage of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. Further attempts to dilute a board's authority is simply risking too much. Therefore I respectfully ask that you abandon all efforts to enact these new proxy rule changes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Hampton', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

John Hampton
President
Louisiana Agencies
jhampton@laagencies.com