

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

Dear Ms. Murphy,

As a business owner myself, I am appalled at the thought of the impending rule change regarding shareholder proxy access. All it would take to have the authority on making major decisions in a publicly traded company would be to own as little as five-percent or in some cases as little as one-percent of the shares. Giving someone the ability to have that much power for so little is a disaster in the making. That concern is not only good business sense, but it is good common sense as well.

While I am a long way from being a public company, that does not lessen the fact that my business could be affected with this new rule. Some of the distributors I deal with are publicly traded, and if their attention is on elections and not business, then they will have little time or concern for my needs. My salon has only been open for a few years, and I am still in the process of building my clientele. Good service is only good if it is given in a timely fashion. How long do you think a company will remain open if business is not attended to promptly and correctly? Small places like mine will be the first to fold.

The larger corporations provide jobs, products and services to millions of Americans, and we depend upon them for those things. They must stay the course and not have to waste their time, energy and money on fighting what will ultimately amount to a popularity contest. I would like to keep my business intact, but changes such as you propose could force people like me completely out of business. American citizens, especially those of us who are trying our best to keep a business afloat in these difficult times, do not need the SEC adding to the problems we already have. As an American, I know you want to make the best decisions you can, and I am confident you will see that changing these rules is not in our best interests. This is important to me, so I thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully yours,

*Dana Merilatt*

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