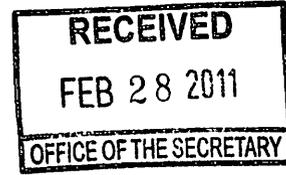


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NEW HAMPSHIRE MUNICIPAL BOND BANK

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



February 22, 2011

RE: File No. S7-45-10; SEC Proposed Rule 34-63576

Dear Ms. Murphy:

We are writing with great concern about the SEC's definition of who is a municipal financial advisor under SEC Proposed Rule 34-63576.

A municipal financial advisor provides advice to a state or municipal entity, including public pension funds, as to the issuance of municipal securities, swap transactions and/or investment strategies. **We oppose the SEC's proposal to consider appointed members of state and local government governing bodies as financial advisors. A state or local government governing board, comprised of appointed members, cannot serve as an advisor to itself.**

The SEC's proposed rule correctly exempts elected members, elected ex-officio, and employees of a municipal entity's governing board from the definition; however, under the proposed rule, non-elected (appointed) members of a governing board would have to register with the SEC and meet various regulatory requirements set forth by both the SEC and the MSRB, including registration requirements and fees, federal fiduciary standards, federal securities law liabilities, and federal financial disclosure standards.

We urge the SEC to exclude all governing body members and the employees of appointed bodies, including those who serve across jurisdictional boundaries, from the municipal advisor definition.

Appointed members of governing bodies, especially at the local level, typically are citizen volunteers who are interested in serving for the public good and often have special expertise that is critical to the effective functioning of the governing body. However, they may be deterred from serving on state and local governing boards if federal regulations are imposed upon them, which means we lose their valuable insight.

The New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank is an instrumentality of the state established to issue pooled bond issues for governmental units of the state. The Board consists of 5 directors. The state treasurer is an ex officio member, one member is a designee of the New Hampshire Municipal Association and at least 2 of the appointed directors are required to have backgrounds in public finance. The appointments are made by the governor and council. The directors serve five year terms without compensation. An executive director, bond counsel, and a financial advisor are employed by the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank to assist with the issuance of bonds.

We believe that if Congress had intended for appointed members of governing bodies to be included within the municipal financial advisor definition, it would have made this point clear in the statute. By excluding all governing body members and the employees of appointed bodies from the municipal advisor definition, we can be assured of retaining the expertise our board needs to make important decisions for our constituents.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the SEC's Proposed Rule 34-63576.

Sincerely,

Sheila M. St. Germain
Sheila M. St. Germain
Executive Director
New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank