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*City of Athens
Treasurer's Office*

*Mary Ann McClure
Treasurer*

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

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

Dear Ms. Murphy: I am writing to you regarding the SEC's proposed rule regarding the definition of a municipal financial advisor under SEC Proposed Rule 34-63576.

I am 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.

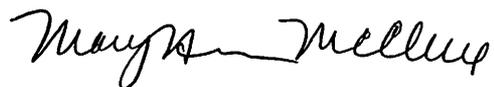
This would effectively prevent trusted banking advisors from being on these Boards, or community members that have financial expertise. For small cities this may mean a "death knell" for important opinions outside of the mainstream investment community and the insight that is different for small

community growth. Most of us would include advisors already registered with the SEC for insurance and we would not make mistakes in addition to being made aware of appropriate investment opportunities in any case. Please do not limit us further.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mary Ann McClure". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending from the end of the name.

Mary Ann McClure, Treasurer, City of Athens Ohio