SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-64006; File No. SR-MSRB-2011-01)

March 2, 2011

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on February 18, 2011, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("Board" or "MSRB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The MSRB has filed the proposal as a "non-controversial" rule change pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii),<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(6) thereunder,<sup>4</sup> which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed</u> Rule Change

The MSRB is filing with the SEC a proposed rule change consisting of an Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's website at <a href="https://www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2011-Filings.aspx">www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2011-Filings.aspx</a>, at the MSRB's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

# II. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Board has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant aspects of such statements.

# A. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

#### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the proposed rule change is to make changes to the Articles of Incorporation as are necessary and appropriate in order to comply with Section 15B of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, 15 U.S.C. § 78o-4, as amended by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, Pub. L. No. 111-203, § 975, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010) (the "Dodd-Frank Act"), and MSRB transitional Rule A-3(i). The MSRB established transitional Rule A-3(i) in order to comply with the Dodd-Frank Act. The transitional rule sets forth a two-year transitional period, commencing on October 1, 2010 and concluding on September 30, 2012. During this transitional period, the MSRB will maintain a Board of Directors of 21 members, including 11 public members and 10 members representing MSRB-regulated entities. The proposed amendments to the Articles of Incorporation provide that the new Board of Director class that will commence service on October 1, 2011, shall consist of five members who will serve three-year terms.

# 2. <u>Statutory Basis</u>

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),<sup>5</sup> as amended by the Dodd-Frank Act, in that it conforms the Articles of Incorporation of the Board to the requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act and MSRB transitional Rule A-3(i).

### B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act, since the proposed rule change simply amends the Articles of Incorporation of the Board to comply with the requirements of the Dodd-Frank Act and MSRB transitional Rule A-3(i), and solely concerns the administration of the organization.

C. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule</u>
<u>Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others</u>

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

### III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The MSRB represented that the proposed rule change qualifies for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>6</sup> because it: (i) does not significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) does not impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) does not become operative for 30 days after filing or such shorter time as the Commission may designate consistent with the protection of investors and the public interest.<sup>7</sup> The MSRB provided the required written notice of its intention to file

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> 15 U.S.C. 780-4(b).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

In addition, Rule 19b-4(f)(6)(iii) requires a self-regulatory organization to give the Commission written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change at least five

the proposed rule change to the Commission on February 10, 2011, and the proposed rule change will become operative on April 1, 2011, which is more than 30 days after the filing of the proposed rule change.

At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.<sup>8</sup>

#### IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

## Electronic comments:

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml); or
- Send an e-mail to <u>rule-comments@sec.gov</u>. Please include File Number SR-MSRB-2011-01 on the subject line.

#### Paper comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2011-01. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all

business days prior to the date of filing of the proposed rule change, or such shorter time as designated by the Commission.

<sup>8</sup> See Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

comments on the Commission's website (<a href="http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml">http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml</a>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for website viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10:00 am and 3:00 pm. Copies of such filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the MSRB's offices.

All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2011-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the <u>Federal Register</u>].

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.  $^9$ 

Cathy H. Ahn
Deputy Secretary

6

<sup>9 17</sup> CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).