

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
BEFORE THE
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940
Release No. 32425 / January 18, 2017

In the Matter of :
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 VIRTUS ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS TRUST :
 VIRTUS EQUITY TRUST :
 VIRTUS OPPORTUNITIES TRUST :
 VIRTUS RETIREMENT TRUST :
 VIRTUS VARIABLE INSURANCE TRUST :
 VIRTUS ALTERNATIVE INVESTMENT ADVISERS, INC. :
 VIRTUS INVESTMENT ADVISERS, INC. :
 VIRTUS RETIREMENT INVESTMENT ADVISERS, LLC :
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 100 Pearl Street :
 Hartford, CT 06103 :
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 (812-14603) :
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ORDER UNDER SECTION 6(c) OF THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940 GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTIONS 18(f) AND 21(b) OF THE ACT; UNDER SECTION 12(d)(1)(J) OF THE ACT GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTION 12(d)(1) OF THE ACT; UNDER SECTIONS 6(c) AND 17(b) OF THE ACT GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM SECTIONS 17(a)(1), 17(a)(2), AND 17(a)(3) OF THE ACT; AND UNDER SECTION 17(d) OF THE ACT AND RULE 17d-1 UNDER THE ACT TO PERMIT CERTAIN JOINT ARRANGEMENTS

Virtus Alternative Solutions Trust, Virtus Equity Trust, Virtus Opportunities Trust, Virtus Retirement Trust, Virtus Variable Insurance Trust, Virtus Alternative Investment Advisers, Inc., Virtus Investment Advisers, Inc., and Virtus Retirement Investment Advisers, LLC filed an application on January 15, 2016 and amendments to the application on June 23, 2016 and October 3, 2016. Applicants requested an order under section 6(c) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the “Act”) for an exemption from sections 18(f) and 21(b) of the Act, under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Act for an exemption from section 12(d)(1) of the Act, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act for an exemption from sections 17(a)(1), 17(a)(2), and 17(a)(3) of the Act, and under section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act to permit certain joint arrangements. The order permits certain registered open-end management investment companies to participate in a joint lending and borrowing facility.

On December 21, 2016, a notice of the filing of the application was issued (Investment Company Act Release No. 32398). The notice gave interested persons an opportunity to request a hearing and stated that an order disposing of the application would be issued unless a hearing was ordered. No request for a hearing has been filed, and the Commission has not ordered a hearing.

The matter has been considered and it is found, on the basis of the information set forth in the application, as amended, that granting the requested exemption is consistent with and appropriate in the public interest, and consistent with the protection of investors and the purposes fairly intended by the policy and provisions of the Act.

It is also found that the terms of the proposed transactions, including the consideration to be paid or received, are reasonable and fair and do not involve overreaching on the part of any person concerned, and that the proposed transactions are consistent with the policy of each registered investment company concerned and the general purposes of the Act.

It is further found that the participation of each registered investment company in the proposed credit facility is consistent with the provisions, policies, and purposes of the Act, and not on a basis different from or less advantageous than that of other participants.

Accordingly, in the matter of Virtus Alternative Solutions Trust, *et al.*, (File No. 812-14603),

IT IS ORDERED, under section 6(c) of the Act, that the requested exemptions from sections 18(f) and 21(b) of the Act are granted, effective immediately, subject to the conditions in the application, as amended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, under section 12(d)(1)(J) of the Act, that the requested exemption from section 12(d)(1) of the Act is granted, effective immediately, subject to the conditions in the application, as amended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, under sections 6(c) and 17(b) of the Act, that the requested exemptions from sections 17(a)(1), 17(a)(2), and 17(a)(3) of the Act are granted, effective immediately, subject to the conditions in the application, as amended.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED, under section 17(d) of the Act and rule 17d-1 under the Act, that the proposed transactions are approved, effective immediately, subject to the conditions in the application, as amended.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Eduardo A. Aleman
Assistant Secretary