

August 17, 2009

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

Dear Ms. Murphy,

For the past five years now, I have been the sole proprietor of my home based call center business. As a small business owner, I am deeply concerned about the proposal to change the shareholder proxy access rule. I do not agree with the federal government getting more involved in business operations, and the potential harm that this rule change could do to all businesses is unacceptable.

The recent economic downturn has hit everyone hard, including small and home based businesses. My income has greatly decreased from what it was just over one year ago. Part of the problem is that with so many companies losing money, they are forced to lay off workers. People are desperate for jobs, so the competition for even home based work is much worse than it was a year ago. In addition to the scarcity of jobs, companies are cutting back everywhere, including pay cuts. The situation is getting pretty desperate, and the last thing businesses need to deal with is a rule that will allow unqualified people on the boards of large corporations.

It seems fairly obvious that our economy is in bad shape. Everything that happens to large corporations will eventually trickle down to small businesses and then consumers. There is too much government involvement in business now as it is, and it has certainly not helped the economy so far. Clearly, I hope you will leave the shareholder proxy rule alone, because things cannot get much worse for businesses than they are now.

Sincerely,

Gavin Napolitano