OMB APPROVAL

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Page 1 of 11		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4			. SR - 2010 - 01
Proposed Rule Change by Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board					
Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934					
Initial ✓	Amendment	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2)	Section 19(b)(3)(A) ✓ Rule	Section 19(b)(3)(B)
	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action	Date Expires		✓ 19b-4(f)(1) ☐ 19b-4(f)(4 ☐ 19b-4(f)(2) ☐ 19b-4(f)(5 ☐ 19b-4(f)(3) ☐ 19b-4(f)(6)
Exhibit 2 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 Sent As Paper Document					
Description Provide a brief description of the proposed rule change (limit 250 characters). Revisions to Rule G-37 interpretive Questions and Answers					
Contact Information Provide the name, telephone number and e-mail address of the person on the staff of the self-regulatory organization prepared to respond to questions and comments on the proposed rule change.					
First Nan	- 9			у	
Title Deputy General Coun		sei			
E-mail Telephon	phenry@msrb.org (703) 797-6600	Fax (703) 797-670	10		
. 0.06.1.0.1	(100) 101 0000	(100) 101 010			
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized officer. Date 02/25/2010 By Ronald W. Smith Corporate Secretary					
	(Name)			,	
NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical			Ronald Sr	(Title) nith, rsmith@msrb.org	
signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.					

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 For complete Form 19b-4 instructions please refer to the EFFS website. The self-regulatory organization must provide all required information, presented in a Form 19b-4 Information clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove proposal is consistent with the Act and applicable rules and regulations under the Act. The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for **Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change** publication in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register Add Remove (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to the federal securities laws must include the corresponding cite to the United States Code in a footnote. All references to SEC rules must include the corresponding cite to the Code of Federal Regulations in a footnote. All references to Securities Exchange Act Releases must include the release number, release date, Federal Register cite, Federal Register date, and corresponding file number (e.g., SR-[SRO]-xx-xx). A material failure to comply with these guidelines will result in the proposed rule change being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments. documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall **Transcripts, Other Communications** be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document Exhibit 3 - Form, Report, or Questionnaire Copies of any form, report, or questionnaire that the self-regulatory organization proposes to use to help implement or operate the proposed rule change, or that is Add Remove View referred to by the proposed rule change. Exhibit Sent As Paper Document The full text shall be marked, in any convenient manner, to indicate additions to and **Exhibit 4 - Marked Copies** deletions from the immediately preceding filing. The purpose of Exhibit 4 is to permit the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which Add Remove View it has been working. The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** changes to rule text in place of providing it in Item I and which may otherwise be more easily readable if provided separately from Form 19b-4. Exhibit 5 shall be Add Remove View considered part of the proposed rule change. If the self-regulatory organization is amending only part of the text of a lengthy **Partial Amendment** proposed rule change, it may, with the Commission's permission, file only those portions of the text of the proposed rule change in which changes are being made if View the filing (i.e. partial amendment) is clearly understandable on its face. Such partial amendment shall be clearly identified and marked to show deletions and additions.

1. <u>Text of Proposed Rule Change</u>

(a) The Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB" or "Board") is hereby filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change concerning Rule G-37, on political contributions and prohibitions on municipal securities business (hereafter referred to as the "proposed rule change"). The proposed rule change revises certain of the Rule G-37 interpretive Questions & Answers ("Qs&As") to reflect the new rule language as contained in recently adopted amendments to Rule G-37¹, concerning disclosure of certain contributions to bond ballot campaigns. The proposed rule change is as follows: ²

Rule G-37 Qs&As

I.1 - IV.3 No change.

IV.4

Q: Are contributions to bond [election committees supporting ballot measures for bonds and tax levies] <u>ballot campaigns</u> subject to the requirements of Rule G-37.

A: [No.] Such political contributions are subject to the disclosure requirements of Rule G-37(e) (other than contributions made by a municipal finance professional or a non-MFP executive officer to a bond ballot campaign for a ballot initiative with respect to which such person is entitled to vote if all contributions by such person to such bond ballot campaign, in total, do not exceed \$250 per ballot initiative). Although such contributions will not result in a ban on municipal securities business under Rule G-37(b), as with all MSRB rules, failure to comply with requirements of the rule (*i.e.*, by failing to disclose such contributions) may subject dealers to fines and other disciplinary actions by the Securities and Exchange Commission, Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or other appropriate regulatory agencies.

(May 24, 1994, revised February 25, 2010)

IV.5-VI.5 No change.

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61381, File No. SR-MSRB-2009-18 (January 20, 2010).

² Underlining signifies additions; brackets signify deletions.

VI.6

Q: Which contributions [to officials of issuers and political parties of states and political subdivisions] must be disclosed to the Board on Form G-37/G-38?

A: Those contributions which are required to be recorded pursuant to rule G-8(a)(xvi). These include (i) the contributions, direct or indirect, to officials of an issuer and to political parties of states and political subdivisions made by the dealer and each PAC controlled by the dealer (or controlled by any municipal finance professional of such dealer); (ii) the contributions, direct or indirect, to officials of an issuer made by each municipal finance professional and non-MFP executive officer, however, such records need not reflect any contribution made by a municipal finance professional or non-MFP executive officer to officials of an issuer for whom such person is entitled to vote if the contributions by each such person, in total, are not in excess of \$250 to any official of an issuer, per election; [and] (iii) the contributions, direct or indirect, to political parties of states and political subdivisions made by all municipal finance professionals and non-MFP executive officers, however, such records need not reflect those contributions made by any municipal finance professional or non-MFP executive officer to a political party of a state or political subdivision in which such persons are entitled to vote if the contributions by each such person, in total, are not in excess of \$250 per political party, per year; (iv) the contributions, direct or indirect, to bond ballot campaigns made by the dealer and each PAC controlled by the dealer (or controlled by any municipal finance professional of such dealer); and (v) the contributions, direct or indirect, to bond ballot campaigns made by each municipal finance professional and non-MFP executive officer, however, such records need not reflect any contributions made by a municipal finance professional or non-MFP executive officer to a bond ballot campaign for a ballot initiative with respect to which such person is entitled to vote if the contributions by such person, in total, are not in excess of \$250 to any bond ballot campaign, per ballot initiative.

(May 24, 1994, revised February 25, 2010)

VI.7-VI.12 No change

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- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was adopted by the MSRB at its January 28-29, 2010 meeting. Questions concerning this filing may be directed to Peg Henry, Deputy General Counsel, at (703) 797-6600.

3. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the

Proposed Rule Changes

(a) Since the adoption of Rule G-37, on political contributions and prohibitions on municipal securities business, the MSRB has received numerous inquiries concerning the application of the rule. In order to assist the municipal securities industry in understanding and complying with the provisions of the rule, the MSRB has published a series of interpretive notices that set forth, in Q & A format, general guidance on Rule G-37.

On February 1, 2010, amendments to Rule G-37 became effective concerning disclosure of certain contributions to bond ballot campaigns. The proposed rule change revises certain of the Rule G-37 Qs&As to reflect the new rule language as contained in the amendments.

(b) The MSRB has adopted the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), which provides that MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act in that it provides guidance to brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers in complying with existing MSRB rules.

4. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition</u>

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 Exchange Act since it would apply equally to all brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

The MSRB declines to consent to an extension of the time period specified in Section 19(b)(2) of the Exchange Act.

7. <u>Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2)</u>

The Board has designated this proposed rule change as constituting a stated policy, practice, or interpretation with respect to the meaning, administration, or enforcement of an existing Board rule under Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act, which renders the proposed rule change effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission.

8. <u>Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission</u>

Not applicable.

9. Exhibits

Federal Register Notice

EXHIBIT 1

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34- ; File No. SR-MSRB-2010-01)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing of Proposed Rule Change by the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Consisting of Revised Interpretive Questions & Answers on the Application of Rule G-37

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on February 25, 2010, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (the "MSRB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Commission" or "SEC") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB.

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

The MSRB has filed with the Commission a proposed rule change consisting of revisions to certain of the existing Rule G-37 interpretive Questions & Answers ("Qs&As") to reflect the new rule language as contained in recently adopted amendments to Rule G-37³, concerning disclosure of certain contributions to bond ballot campaigns. The MSRB requested that the proposed rule change become effective immediately upon its filing with the SEC.

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

Securities Exchange Act Release No. 61381, File No. SR-MSRB-2009-18 (January 20, 2010).

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's web site at http://www.msrb.org/msrb1/sec.asp, at the MSRB's principal office, and at the Commission's Public Reference Room.

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

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The MSRB 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</u> Basis for, the Proposed Rule Changes

1. Purpose

Since the adoption of Rule G-37, on political contributions and prohibitions on municipal securities business, the MSRB has received numerous inquiries concerning the application of the rule. In order to assist the municipal securities industry in understanding and complying with the provisions of the rule, the MSRB has published a series of interpretive notices that set forth, in Q & A format, general guidance on Rule G-37.

On February 1, 2010, amendments to Rule G-37 became effective concerning disclosure of certain contributions to bond ballot campaigns. The proposed rule change revises certain of the Rule G-37 Qs&As to reflect the new rule language as contained in the amendments.

2. Statutory Basis

The MSRB has adopted the proposed rule change pursuant to Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Exchange Act, which provides that MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities, and, in general, to protect investors and the public interest.

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with the Exchange Act in that it provides guidance to brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers in complying with existing MSRB rules.

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 it would apply equally to all dealers.

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.

III. <u>Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission</u> Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder. At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission may summarily abrogate 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.

IV. <u>Solicitation of Comments</u>

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-2010-01 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-2010-01. 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 comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml). 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

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inspection and copying 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 principal office of the MSRB. 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-2010-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.⁴

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary

⁴ 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

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