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JONATHAN KATZ, SEC., SECURITIES & EXCHANGE COMMISSION
450 FIFTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20549-0609

S7-06-04

DEAR SEC. KATZ;

THE RECENT SCANDALS RELATED TO MUTUAL FUNDS PROMPTED ME TO WRITE THIS LETTER. ALTHOUGH I AM NOT A LARGE INVESTOR, I AM CONCERNED ABOUT THE DEPTH OF THESE FINANCIAL DECEPTIONS BECAUSE MY LIMITED INVESTMENTS ARE THE FINANCIAL SAFETY NET FOR MY "GOLDEN YEARS". THE SEC RECENTLY PROPOSED A VARIETY OF RULE CHANGES WHICH I BELIEVE SHOULD BE QUICKLY ENACTED. THESE INCLUDE CODES OF ETHICS FOR INVESTMENT ADVISERS, 75% INDEPENDENT MEMBERSHIP ON BOARDS OF MUTUAL FUNDS, CLEARLY STATED COSTS AND FEES RELATED TO THE PURCHASE AND SALE OF MUTUAL FUNDS, AND UNDERSTANDABLE INFORMATION USED BY INVESTORS TO COMPARE SIMILAR MUTUAL FUNDS COSTS/PAYMENTS.

I ALSO SUPPORT THE SEC IDEA OF FORMING INVESTOR FOCUS GROUPS TO EVALUATE PROPOSED RULES AND STANDARDIZED DISCLOSURE FORMS. TOO MANY OF OUR RULES AND FORMS ARE WRITTEN IN SUCH A WAY THAT THE AVERAGE CITIZEN CAN NOT UNDERSTAND THEM.

REFORMS ARE CERTAINLY NECESSARY, IF SMALL INVESTORS, LIKE MYSELF, ARE AGAIN TO TRUST THEIR FINANCIAL ADVISER OR BROKER. I CERTAINLY SUPPORT THE IDEAS BEHIND THE "NEW CONFIRMATION AND POINT OF SALE DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS".

YOURS TRULY,

PAUL F. RICKHOLD