

S7-06-04

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January 25, 2004

Jonathan Katz, Secretary
Securities and Exchange Commission
450 Fifth St., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549-0609



Re: "New Confirmation and Point of Sale Disclosure Requirements"

Dear Mr. Katz:

We applaud the proposed rule changes and hope that the SEC forms investor focus groups for continued intense scrutiny of current practices. Investors need the information that would help them see how a fund's costs and returns compare with similar funds.

A few years ago our Merrill Lynch broker attempted to sell us a mutual fund. A few days later, we read in the Wall Street Journal that brokers were being offered vacations in Hawaii for selling that particular fund.

One reason we have ceased buying municipal funds is because the sales commission is kept secret - or at least our brokers would not tell us what the commission is.

One time we bought a new Nuveen bond fund, which dropped in value as soon as we bought it. Our broker assured us that the drop was due to the sales commission, and that the value would go up again quickly, which it did not.

The issuance of "guidelines" is a first step, but laws with enforced penalties are badly needed, as shown by the current problems.

Sincerely,

James R. Ellison
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