The Boston Company Asset Management, LLC Proxy Voting Policy



The Boston Company Asset Management, LLC ("TBCAM") through its participation on BNY Mellon's Proxy Policy Committee ("PPC"), has adopted a Proxy Voting Policy, related procedures, and voting guidelines which are applied to those client accounts over which it has been delegated the authority to vote proxies. TBCAM recognizes that stock ownership rights must be exercised for the exclusive benefit of our clients for whom the stock is held. TBCAM utilizes the services of Institutional Shareholder Services (ISS), to provide proxy-voting services for clients. ISS votes proxies according to standing guidelines as instructed. TBCAM has adopted the BNY Mellon Proxy Voting Guidelines for domestic securities and follows the Global Proxy Voting Guidelines issued by ISS for international securities (the "Guidelines").

- 1. Fiduciary Duty We recognize that an investment adviser is a fiduciary that owes its clients a duty of utmost good faith and full and fair disclosure of all material facts. We further recognize that the right to vote proxies is an asset, just as the economic investment represented by the shares is an asset. An investment adviser's duty of loyalty precludes the adviser from subrogating its clients' interests to its own. Accordingly, in voting proxies, we will seek to act solely in the best financial and economic interests of our clients, including the Funds and their shareholders, and for the exclusive benefit of pension and other employee benefit plan participants. With regard to voting proxies of foreign companies, a Subsidiary weighs the cost of voting, and potential inability to sell, the shares against the benefit of voting the shares to determine whether or not to vote.
- **2.** <u>Long-Term Perspective</u> We recognize that management of a publicly-held company may need protection from the market's frequent focus on short-term considerations, so as to be able to concentrate on such long-term goals as productivity and development of competitive products and services.
- **3.** <u>Limited Role of Shareholders</u> We believe that a shareholder's role in the governance of a publicly-held company is generally limited to monitoring the performance of the company and its managers and voting on matters which properly come to a shareholder vote. We will carefully review proposals that would limit shareholder control or could affect shareholder values.
- 4. <u>Anti-takeover Proposals</u> We generally will oppose proposals that seem designed to insulate management unnecessarily from the wishes of a majority of the shareholders and that would lead to a determination of a company's future by a minority of its shareholders. We will generally support proposals that seem to have as their primary purpose providing management with temporary or short-term insulation from outside influences so as to enable them to bargain effectively with potential suitors and otherwise achieve identified long-term goals to the extent such proposals are discrete and not bundled with other proposals.
- **5.** <u>"Social" Issues</u> On questions of social responsibility where economic performance does not appear to be an issue, we will attempt to ensure that

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management reasonably responds to the social issues. Responsiveness will be measured by management's efforts to address the particular social issue including, where appropriate, assessment of the implications of the proposal to the ongoing operations of the company. We will pay particular attention to repeat issues where management has failed in the intervening period to take actions previously committed to.

With respect to clients having investment policies that require proxies to be cast in a certain manner on particular social responsibility issues, proposals relating to such issues will be evaluated and voted separately by the client's portfolio manager in accordance with such policies, rather than pursuant to the procedures set forth in section 6.

- 6. Proxy Voting Process Every voting proposal is reviewed, categorized and analyzed in accordance with our written guidelines in effect from time to time. Our guidelines are reviewed periodically and updated as necessary to reflect new issues and any changes in our policies on specific issues. Items that can be categorized will be voted in accordance with any applicable guidelines or referred to the BNY Mellon Proxy Policy Committee (the "Committee"), if the applicable guidelines so require. Proposals, for which a guideline has not yet been established, for example, new proposals arising from emerging economic or regulatory issues, will be referred to the Committee for discussion and vote. Additionally, the Committee may elect to review any proposal where it has identified a particular issue for special scrutiny in light of new information. The Committee will also consider specific interests and issues raised by a Subsidiary to the Committee, which interests and issues may require that a vote for an account managed by a Subsidiary be cast differently from the collective vote in order to act in the best interests of such account's beneficial owners.
- 7. Material Conflicts of Interest We recognize our duty to vote proxies in the best interests of our clients. We seek to avoid material conflicts of interest through the establishment of our Committee structure, which applies detailed, pre-determined proxy voting guidelines in an objective and consistent manner across client accounts, based on internal and external research and recommendations provided by a third party vendor, and without consideration of any client relationship factors. Further, we engage a third party as an independent fiduciary to vote all proxies for BNY Mellon securities and Fund securities, and may engage an independent fiduciary to vote proxies of other issuers in our discretion.
- **8.** <u>Securities Lending</u> We seek to balance the economic benefits of engaging in lending securities against the inability to vote on proxy proposals to determine whether to recall shares, unless a plan fiduciary retains the right to direct us to recall shares.

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- **9.** Recordkeeping We will keep, or cause our agents to keep, the records for each voting proposal required by law.
- 10. Disclosure We will furnish a copy of this Proxy Voting Policy and any related procedures, or a description thereof, to investment advisory clients as required by law. In addition, we will furnish a copy of this Proxy Voting Policy, any related procedures, and our voting guidelines to investment advisory clients upon request. The Funds shall disclose their proxy voting policies and procedures and their proxy votes as required by law. We recognize that the applicable trust or account document, the applicable client agreement, the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) and certain laws may require disclosure of other information relating to proxy voting in certain circumstances. This information will only be disclosed to those who have an interest in the account for which shares are voted. and after the shareholder meeting has concluded.
- **11.** Charter We maintain a Charter which lists the Committee's responsibilities and duties, membership, voting and non-voting members, quorum, meeting schedule and oversight mapping to the BNY Mellon Fiduciary Risk Management Committee.