#### Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks.

OMB Number: 3235-0045 Expires: August 31, 2011 Estimated average burden hours per response......38

OMB APPROVAL

WASHING		EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2010 - * 13 STON, D.C. 20549 orm 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)		
Proposed Rule Change by Mur	nicipal Securities Rulem	naking 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) *
Pilot Extension of Time Periot for Commission Action	llata Evnirae *		□ 19b-4(f)(1)       □ 19b-4(f)(2)         □ 19b-4(f)(2)       □ 19b-4(f)(3)         ☑ 19b-4(f)(3)       □ 19b-4(f)(3)	f)(5)
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, required when Initial is checked *).  Amendments to Rule A-7, on Assessments, and Rule A-8, on Rulemaking Procedures				
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 Name * Peg				
Signature  Pursuant to the requirements of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking has duly caused this filing to be signated and the second of th	g Board gned on its behalf by the igitally sign and lock ly binding as a physical	undersigned thereunto		

#### 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 (required) clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the Remove View 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 (required) as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Add Remove View 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. Text of Proposed Rule Change

(a) The Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB" or "Board") is hereby filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission" or "SEC") a proposed rule change consisting of amendments to Rule A-7, on assessments, and Rule A-8, on rulemaking procedures, to apply existing MSRB mechanisms and procedures for establishing assessments and undertaking rulemaking in connection with municipal advisors. The proposed rule change is set forth below, with underlining indicating additions and brackets indicating deletions.

# **Rule A-7: Assessments**

The Board shall, by rule, provide for the costs and expenses of its operation and administration by levying such fees and charges on brokers, dealers, [and] municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors as may be determined necessary or appropriate by the Board.

### **Rule A-8: Rulemaking Procedures**

- (a) Adoption of Proposed Rules and Submission to Commission. The Board shall adopt such proposed rules as the Board shall deem necessary or appropriate to effect the purposes of the Act with respect to transactions in municipal securities effected by brokers, dealers and municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisory activities engaged in by municipal advisors, including, as a minimum, proposed rules relating to those matters prescribed in section 15B(b)(2)(A) through ([K]L) of the Act. Upon their adoption by the Board, the Board shall submit proposed rules to the Commission in accordance with the procedures set forth in section 19(b) of the Act and shall file such proposed rules with the appropriate regulatory agencies in accordance with the provisions of section 17(c) of the Act. A proposed rule of the Board shall become a rule of the Board upon its approval by the Commission, pursuant to section 19(b)(2) of the Act, or upon filing with the Commission in accordance with the provisions of section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act, or upon the determination of the Commission in accordance with the provisions of section 19(b)(3)(B) of the Act. Documents required to be submitted to the Commission in connection with the proposed rules of the Board shall be signed on behalf of the Board by the Secretary of the Board, or by any person designated by the Board for that purpose by resolution.
- (b) No change.
- (c) *Procedures*. The Board may from time to time prescribe and amend procedures relating to the administration of Board rules. Such procedures and amendments may be approved by the Board pursuant to rule A-4(d).

Each broker, dealer, [and] municipal securities dealer, <u>and municipal advisor</u> shall be subject to such procedures and amendments thereto in the same manner as the broker, dealer, [and]

municipal securities dealer, and municipal advisor is subject to the rules of the Board.

Procedures and amendments thereto shall become effective no earlier than 10 business days after publication of such procedures and amendments.

(d) No change.

\* \* \* \*

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

### 2. Procedures of Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was adopted by the Board at its October 20-22, 2010 meeting. Questions concerning this filing may be directed to Peg Henry, Deputy General Counsel, at (703) 797-6600.

- 3. <u>Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>
- (a) The purposes of the proposed rule change are: (i) to provide that the same procedures that the MSRB uses to engage in rulemaking for brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers will also apply to rulemaking concerning the activities of municipal advisors described in Section 15B(e)(4)(A)(i) and (ii) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act") and (ii) to provide a mechanism for the assessment of reasonable fees to defray a portion of the increased costs and expenses associated with the operation and administration of the Board attributable to the Board's regulation of municipal advisors, just as such a mechanism currently exists for assessments on brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers. Although the proposed rule change establishes procedures and mechanisms relating to rulemaking and assessments, it does not itself actually prescribe any rules for, or impose fees or charges on, municipal advisors. Such rules or assessments would be adopted through separate rulemaking proposals by the Board pursuant to such procedures and mechanisms.
- (b) The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act, which provides that:

The Board shall propose and adopt rules to effect the purposes of this title with respect to transactions in municipal securities effected by brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers and advice provided to or on behalf of municipal

entities or obligated persons by brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors with respect to municipal financial products, the issuance of municipal securities, and solicitations of municipal entities or obligated persons undertaken by brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors.

Section 15B(b)(2)(J) of the Act provides that the rules of the MSRB shall:

Provide that each municipal securities broker, municipal securities dealer, and municipal advisor shall pay to the Board such reasonable fees and charges as may be necessary or appropriate to defray the costs and expenses of operating and administering the Board.

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act because it provides for the procedures that the MSRB shall use to engage in rulemaking provided for in Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act and a mechanism for the assessment of reasonable fees to defray a portion of the increased costs and expenses associated with the operation and administration of the Board attributable to the Board's regulation of municipal advisors.

Section 15B(b)(2)(L) of the Act requires that rules adopted by the Board

not impose a regulatory burden on small municipal advisors that is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, municipal entities, and obligated persons, provided that there is robust protection of investors against fraud.

The proposed rule change only authorizes the MSRB to engage in rulemaking concerning municipal advisors and to impose fees and charges on municipal advisors, in both cases as contemplated by the Act. As noted above, the proposed rule change does not actually prescribe rules for, or impose fees or charges on, municipal advisors. Accordingly, the proposed rule changes imposes no regulatory burden on small municipal advisors.

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

The Board 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 municipal advisors.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received.

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

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

The proposed rule change is to take effect upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) thereunder. The MSRB hereby designates the proposed rule change as concerned solely with the administration of the Board pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) thereunder.

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

Not applicable.

- 9. Exhibits
  - 1. <u>Federal Register Notice.</u>

#### **EXHIBIT 1**

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (RELEASE NO. 34- ; File No. SR-MSRB-2010-13)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of Amendments to Rule A-7, on Assessments, and Rule A-8, on Rulemaking Procedures

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("the Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on November 1, 2010, the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("Board" or "MSRB") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the MSRB. The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as concerned solely with the administration of the Board pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act, and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) thereunder, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

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

The MSRB is filing a proposed rule change consisting of amendments to Rule A-7, on assessments, and Rule A-8, on rulemaking procedures, to apply existing MSRB mechanisms and procedures for establishing assessments and undertaking rulemaking in connection with municipal advisors. The proposed rule change would apply to municipal advisors effective immediately. The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's Website at

<sup>2</sup> 18 C.F.R. 240.19b-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

<u>www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2010-Filings.aspx</u>, 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 for, the Proposed Rule Change</u>

In its filing with the Commission, the MSRB included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Board has prepared summaries, set forth in Section 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 Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. Purpose

The purposes of the proposed rule change are: (i) to provide that the same procedures that the MSRB uses to engage in rulemaking for brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers will also apply to rulemaking concerning the activities of municipal advisors described in Section 15B(e)(4)(i) and (ii) of the Act and (ii) to provide a mechanism for the assessment of reasonable fees to defray a portion of the increased costs and expenses associated with the operation and administration of the Board attributable to the Board's regulation of municipal advisors, just as such a mechanism currently exists for assessments on brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers. Although the proposed rule change establishes procedures and mechanisms relating to rulemaking and assessments, it does not itself actually prescribe any rules for, or impose fees or charges on, municipal advisors. Such rules or assessments would be adopted through separate rulemaking proposals by the Board pursuant to such procedures and mechanisms.

### 2. Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act, which provides that:

The Board shall propose and adopt rules to effect the purposes of this title with respect to transactions in municipal securities effected by brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers and advice provided to or on behalf of municipal entities or obligated persons by brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors with respect to municipal financial products, the issuance of municipal securities, and solicitations of municipal entities or obligated persons undertaken by brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, and municipal advisors.

Section 15B(b)(2)(J) of the Act provides that the rules of the MSRB shall:

Provide that each municipal securities broker, municipal securities dealer, and municipal advisor shall pay to the Board such reasonable fees and charges as may be necessary or appropriate to defray the costs and expenses of operating and administering the Board.

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act, because it provides for the procedures that the MSRB shall use to engage in rulemaking provided for in Section 15B(b)(2) of the Act and a mechanism for the assessment of reasonable fees to defray a portion of the increased costs and expenses associated with the operation and administration of the Board attributable to the Board's regulation of municipal advisors.

Section 15B(b)(2)(L) of the Act requires that rules adopted by the Board

not impose a regulatory burden on small municipal advisors that is not necessary or appropriate in the public interest and for the protection of investors, municipal entities, and obligated persons, provided that there is robust protection of investors against fraud.

As noted above, the proposed rule change only authorizes the MSRB to engage in rulemaking concerning municipal advisors and to impose fees and charges on municipal advisors, in both cases as contemplated by the Act. The proposed rule change does not actually

prescribe rules for, or impose fees or charges on, municipal advisors. Accordingly, the proposed rule change imposes no regulatory burden on small advisors.

## B. <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 Act, since it would apply equally to all municipal advisors.

C. <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.

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

The MSRB represented that the proposed rule change qualifies for immediate effectiveness pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(3)<sup>4</sup> thereunder, in that those proposed amendments are concerned solely with the administration of the Board. 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.<sup>5</sup>

### IV. Solicitation of Comments

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:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(iii).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> 17 C.F.R 240.19b-4(f)(3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See Section 19(b)(3)(C) of the Act, 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(C).

### 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-2010-13 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-2010-13. 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 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 MSRB's offices. 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-2010-13 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.  $^{\!\!\!\!^{6}}$ 

Elizabeth M. Murphy Secretary

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> 17 C.F.R 200.30-3(a)(12).