SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION (Release No. 34-90066; File No. SR-MSRB-2020-07)

October 1, 2020

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change Consisting of Amendments to the By-Laws of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board to Reflect Recent Changes to MSRB Rules A-3, A-4, and A-6

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act")<sup>1</sup> and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,<sup>2</sup> notice is hereby given that on September 25, 2020 the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("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 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 filed with the Commission a proposed rule change consisting of amendments to the By-Laws of the MSRB ("Bylaws") to reflect recent changes to MSRB Rules A-3, A-4, and A-6 (the "proposed rule change"). The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as "concerned solely with the administration of the self regulatory organization" under Section 19(b)(3)(A)(iii) of the Act<sup>3</sup> and Rule 19b-4(f)(3) <sup>4</sup> thereunder, which renders the proposal effective upon filing with the Commission.

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

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

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

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's website at <a href="https://www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2020-Filings.aspx">www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2020-Filings.aspx</a>, 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 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 Basis</u> for, the Proposed Rule Change

### 1. <u>Purpose</u>

MSRB Rules A-2 through A-10 are reproduced in the Bylaws as Articles 2 through 10. Accordingly, when amendments are made to MSRB Rules A-2 through A-10, the Bylaws must be updated to reflect the changes. On August 5, the Commission approved amendments to MSRB Rules A-3 and A-6, effective October 1, 2020.<sup>5</sup> On September 15, the Board filed additional amendments to MSRB Rule A-3 and amendments to MSRB Rule A-4 that were immediately effective and will become operative on October 1, 2020.<sup>6</sup> As a result of these amendments, changes to Articles 3, 4 and 6 of the Bylaws are necessary so that the Bylaws reflect the corresponding rules as they will read on October 1, 2020. Additionally, a cross-

See Exchange Act Release No. 89484 (Aug. 5, 2020), 85 FR 48579 (Aug. 11, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-04).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> File No. SR-MSRB-2020-05, available at <a href="http://www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings.aspx">http://www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings.aspx</a>.

reference in Article 16 of the Bylaws to MSRB Rule A-4(c) must also be updated because the relevant provision of MSRB Rule A-4(c) has been moved into a new subsection, A-4(e).

## 2. Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(I) of the Exchange Act,<sup>7</sup> which provides that the MSRB's rules shall:

provide for the operation and administration of the Board, including the selection of a Chairman from among the members of the Board, the compensation of the members of the Board, and the appointment and compensation of such employees, attorneys, and consultants as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out the Board's functions under this section.

The proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(I) of the Exchange Act<sup>8</sup> because it provides for the operation and administration of the Board in that it ensures that the Bylaws reflect, and are consistent with, the recent changes to the Board's administrative rules.

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

Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Exchange Act requires that MSRB rules not be designed to impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act. The proposed rule change relates only to the administration of the Board and would not impose requirements on brokers, dealers, municipal securities dealers, municipal advisors or others. Accordingly, the MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change would result in any burden on competition that is not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Exchange Act.

<sup>9</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(C).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(I).

<sup>8 &</sup>lt;u>Id</u>.

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

Written comments were neither solicited nor received on the proposed rule change.

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

The foregoing proposed rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act<sup>10</sup> and paragraph (f) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.<sup>11</sup> At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend 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. 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:

## **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-2020-07 on the subject line.

#### Paper Comments:

 Send paper comments in triplicate to Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f).

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2020-07. 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 website (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 website viewing and printing 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 the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the MSRB. All comments received will be posted without change. Persons submitting comments are cautioned that we do not redact or edit personal identifying information from comment submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2020-07 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, pursuant to delegated authority. 12

J. Matthew DeLesDernier Assistant Secretary

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