

United States House of Representatives
Committee on Financial Services
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 23, 2011

The Honorable Mary L. Schapiro
Chairman
U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission
100 F Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20549

Dear Chairman Schapiro:

As you know, the President has nominated Daniel M. Gallagher to fill the seat vacated by Commissioner Kathleen L. Casey, who recently left the Commission after completing five years of distinguished service. The Senate has not yet confirmed Mr. Gallagher, so the Commission is presently operating with four commissioners.

One of the great strengths of the SEC is its congressionally-mandated bipartisan composition. We believe that a full complement of five commissioners is important to ensure that the rulemaking and other decisions of the Commission reflect a diverse set of perspectives and are the product of a robust deliberative process.

As Chairman, you control the agenda of the SEC. We are writing to make clear our expectation that the Commission will refrain from undertaking any important or controversial initiatives, including significant rulemakings, until there are once again five commissioners.

Thank you for your consideration of our views on this important matter.

Sincerely,



RANDY NEUGEBAUER
Chairman
Subcommittee on
Oversight & Investigations



SCOTT GARRETT
Chairman
Subcommittee on Capital Markets
and Government Sponsored
Enterprises