$\label{lem:red} \textit{Required fields are shown with yellow backgrounds and asterisks}.$

OMB Number: 3235-0045
Estimated average burden hours per response.......38

Page 1 of * 16		SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION File No.* SR - 2021 - * 01 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 Form 19b-4 Amendment No. (req. for Amendments *)					
Filing by Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board Pursuant to Rule 19b-4 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934							
Initial *	Amendment *	Withdrawal	Section 19(b)(2) *	Section	on 19(b)(3)(A) *	Section 19(b)(3)(B) *	
1 1101	Extension of Time Period for Commission Action *	Date Expires *		19b-4(f	19b-4(f)(4) (2) 19b-4(f)(5)		
Notice of proposed change pursuant Section 806(e)(1) *		o the Payment, Clearing, and Settlement Act of 2010 Section 806(e)(2) *		ct of 2010	Security-Based Swap Submission pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 Section 3C(b)(2) *		
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 action (limit 250 characters, required when Initial is checked *). Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Compliance Date of Amended Form G-32							
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 action.							
First Nar	ne * Gail		Last Name * Marsh	all			
Title *	First Name * Gail Title * Chief Regulatory Officer						
E-mail *							
Telephor		Fax					
Signature Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,							
Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board has duly caused this filing to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized. (Title *)							
-	2/17/2021 onald W. Smith		Corporate Secretary				
(Name *) NOTE: Clicking the button at right will digitally sign and lock this form. A digital signature is as legally binding as a physical signature, and once signed, this form cannot be changed.							

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 * clear and comprehensible manner, to enable the public to provide meaningful comment on the proposal and for the Commission to determine whether the proposal Remove 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 publication Exhibit 1 - Notice of Proposed Rule Change * in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal Register Document Drafting Handbook, October 1998 Revision. For example, all references to Add Remove View 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) The Notice section of this Form 19b-4 must comply with the guidelines for publication **Exhibit 1A- Notice of Proposed Rule** in the Federal Register as well as any requirements for electronic filing as published Change, Security-Based Swap Submission, by the Commission (if applicable). The Office of the Federal Register (OFR) offers or Advance Notice by Clearing Agencies * guidance on Federal Register publication requirements in the Federal 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, security-based swap submission, or advance notice being deemed not properly filed. See also Rule 0-3 under the Act (17 CFR 240.0-3) Exhibit 2 - Notices, Written Comments, Copies of notices, written comments, transcripts, other communications. If such Transcripts, Other Communications documents cannot be filed electronically in accordance with Instruction F, they shall be filed in accordance with Instruction G. Add Remove View Exhibit Sent As Paper Document П 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 Add View Remove the staff to identify immediately the changes made from the text of the rule with which it has been working. **Exhibit 5 - Proposed Rule Text** The self-regulatory organization may choose to attach as Exhibit 5 proposed 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 considered part Add Remove View 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 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 the Proposed Rule Change

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board ("MSRB") is filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC" or "Commission") a proposed rule change to extend the March 31, 2021 compliance date of previously approved amendments to Form G-32 until August 2, 2021 in order to provide brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers (collectively, "dealers") additional time to operationalize compliance with the amended form (the "proposed rule change"). The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "noncontroversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission.

- (a) There are no textual amendments to MSRB rules to be attached as Exhibit 5.
- (b) Not applicable.
- (c) Not applicable.

2. Procedures of the Self-Regulatory Organization

The proposed rule change was approved by the MSRB at its January 27-28, 2021 meeting. Questions concerning this filing may be directed to Gail Marshall, Chief Regulatory Officer, or Lisa Wilhelmy, Associate Director, Market Regulation, at 202-838-1500.

3. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

(a) Purpose

The Commission approved amendments to MSRB Rule G-32, on disclosures in connection with primary offerings, in June 2019 ("Rule G-32 amendments"). The Rule G-32 amendments included amendments to Form G-32 applicable to dealers acting as underwriters in the primary offering of municipal securities to collect and report new data elements through the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access Dataport system

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

See <u>Release No. 34-86219</u> (June 27, 2019), 84 FR 31961 (July 3, 2019) (File No. SR-MSRB-2019-07).

(EMMA® Dataport) ("amended Form G-32"). Amended Form G-32 is designed to ensure the MSRB receives information from underwriters to facilitate the MSRB's collection of market information to promote greater regulatory transparency in the municipal securities market. Underwriters are already required to input the majority of the amended Form G-32 data elements, as applicable, into the Depository Trust Company's New Issue Information Dissemination Service ("NIIDS"). Along with the data elements auto-populated from NIIDS, nine of the new data elements were identified as requiring manual completion, when applicable. Pursuant to the Commission's approval of amended Form G-32, the MSRB established a November 30, 2020 compliance date for amended Form G-32.

In March 2020, the United States declared a national emergency in response to the coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") pandemic.⁸ Shortly thereafter in April 2020, the Commission approved an MSRB proposed rule change filed for immediate effectiveness to provide regulatory relief to dealers and municipal advisors (collectively "regulated entities") in light of COVID-19 pandemic-related operational challenges and disruptions to normal business functions faced by these regulated entities.⁹ In the April 2020 filing, the MSRB, among other things, provided relief to dealers by extending the compliance date for the amended Form G-32 to March 31, 2021. The MSRB also stated in the April 2020 filing that it would continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19.¹⁰

Id.

⁵ Id.

Id. Completing Form G-32 is a requirement under Rule G-32. An underwriter must ensure that the data submitted on Form G-32 is accurate. Even if the underwriter initially enters the data into NIIDS and that data is, thereafter, autopopulated into the Form G-32, the underwriter is responsible for ensuring the submission of accurate information on Form G-32. See Release No. 34–85551 (April 2, 2019), 84 FR 14988 (April 8, 2019) (File No. SR-MSRB-2019-07) at notes 13-14.

Notice 2019-21 (December 20, 2019), announcing the November 30, 2020 effective date for amendments to Form G-32 that the Commission approved on June 27, 2019.

See "Proclamation 9994 - Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak," (March 13, 2020) at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202000156/pdf/DCPD-202000156.pdf, 85 FR 15337 (March 18, 2020).

See Release No. 34-88694 (April 20, 2020), 85 FR 23088 (April 24, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-01).

¹⁰

In October 2020, the MSRB filed a proposed rule change to clarify how dealers acting as underwriters in the primary offering of municipal securities must manually complete three of the data fields on amended Form G–32 that previously had been described as auto-populated with NIIDS data ("new Form G-32 clarifying amendment"). The Commission approved the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, with a compliance date of March 31, 2021, on December 9, 2020. As a result of the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, underwriters are on notice that there are 12, rather than nine, data fields that, when applicable, underwriters must manually complete with accurate information.

The MSRB recognizes that the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic persist, including ongoing safety concerns and continuing operational challenges for dealers. ¹³ Specifically, the MSRB understands that the pandemic continues to affect dealers' ability to wholly operationalize the changes necessary to implement the new Form G-32 amendments by the March 31, 2021 compliance date. For example, dealers need additional time to develop and test applicable compliance processes and procedures prior to the compliance date and to conduct staff training necessary to effectively implement the new Form G-32 amendments. ¹⁴

See Release No. 34-90248 (October 22, 2020) 85 FR 68395 (October 28, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-08). The three additional manually submitted data elements were originally included with the 57 NIIDS auto-populated data elements identified by the MSRB for collection in the 2019 rule filing. Accordingly, presently there are 66 new data elements included on amended Form G-32, including 54 data elements submitted to NIIDS and auto-populated to amended Form G-32, and 12 additional data elements that must be submitted manually to EMMA Dataport, as applicable. Id.

See Release No. 34-90611 (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 81248 (December 15, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-08).

In December 2020, the SEC approved an additional MSRB proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness that provided further COVID-19 pandemic-related regulatory relief to regulated entities from certain other MSRB rule requirements outside of Rule G-32. See Release No. 34-90621 (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 21854 (December 15, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-09).

For example, dealers informed the MSRB that information required to complete manual submission of certain new data elements must be obtained from their fixed income trading desks and then reported to EMMA Dataport by back-office personnel responsible for such data entry. Dealers must identify appropriate staff and create procedures to operationalize the new information gathering and amended Form G-32 reporting process.

The MSRB published the updated "EMMA Dataport Manual for Primary Market Submissions" ("manual") on January 29, 2021. ¹⁵ While the MSRB previously provided dealers with access to the new amended Form G-32 in October 2020 through the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, the MSRB believes providing a further extension of time from March 31, 2021 to August 2, 2021, will afford dealers the time they deem necessary to implement policies and procedures and to conduct appropriate staff training to effectively operationalize compliance with new Form G-32.

(b) Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Exchange Act, ¹⁶ which provides that the MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities and municipal financial products, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities and municipal financial products, and, in general, to protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons, and the public interest.

The proposed rule change does not alter any rule language but provides dealers with additional time to comply with certain obligations under MSRB Rule G-32. In addition, the proposed rule change will alleviate some of the operational challenges dealers may be experiencing and allow them to more effectively allocate resources to implement new Form G-32 effectively, which would (1) promote just and equitable principles of trade, (2) foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating and processing information with respect to transactions in municipal securities, and (3) remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities. The proposed rule change would promote just and equitable principles of trade by providing additional time for dealers to establish compliance procedures to ensure that all applicable fields are complete and accurate. In turn, more accurate and complete information will enhance the MSRB's regulatory transparency initiatives and facilitate the MSRB's own usage of data, which the MSRB believes helps remove impediments to, and promotes the mechanisms of a free and open market and fosters cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating and processing information with respect to transactions in municipal securities.

See "Emma Dataport Manual for Primary Market Submissions," Version 3.0, January 2021, effective August 2021.

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 780-4(b)(2)(C).

4. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act requires that MSRB rules be designed not to impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. ¹⁷ The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the Exchange Act. The goal of the proposed rule change is to grant additional time for dealers to meet certain obligations under Rule G-32 during the exigent circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic but would not alter their underlying obligations under MSRB rules.

5. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received from Members, Participants, or Others

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

6. Extension of Time Period for Commission Action

Not applicable.

7. Basis for Summary Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(3) or for Accelerated Effectiveness Pursuant to Section 19(b)(2) or Section 19(b)(7)(D)

The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as being immediately effective upon filing pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Exchange Act¹⁸ and paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 thereunder.¹⁹ The proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate. In accordance with Rule 19b-4(f)(6), the MSRB provided the Commission with written notice of its intent to file the proposed rule change along with a brief description; there are no textual changes to Rule G-32 or Form G-32 proposed.²⁰

8. Proposed Rule Change Based on Rules of Another Self-Regulatory Organization or of the Commission

Not applicable.

²⁰ <u>Id</u>.

Id.
 18 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).
 19 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

9. Security-Based Swap Submissions Filed Pursuant to Section 3C of the Act

Not applicable.

10. Advance Notices Filed Pursuant to Section 806(e) of the Payment, Clearing and Settlement Supervisions Act

Not applicable.

11. Exhibits

Exhibit 1 Completed Notice of Proposed Rule Change for Publication in the Federal Register

SECURITIES AND EX	CHANGE COMMISSION
(Release No. 34-	; File No. SR-MSRB-2021-01)

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board; Notice of Filing and Immediate Effectiveness of a Proposed Rule Change to Extend the Compliance Date of Amended Form G-32

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act" or "Exchange Act")¹ and Rule 19b-4 thereunder,² notice is hereby given that on 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> Rule Change

The MSRB filed with the Commission a proposed rule change to extend the March 31, 2021 compliance date of previously approved amendments to Form G-32 until August 2, 2021 in order to provide brokers, dealers, and municipal securities dealers (collectively, "dealers") additional time to operationalize compliance with the amended form (the "proposed rule change"). The MSRB has designated the proposed rule change as constituting a "noncontroversial" rule change under paragraph (f)(6) of Rule 19b-4 under the Act,³ which renders the proposal effective upon receipt of this filing by the Commission.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the MSRB's website at

¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

² 17 CFR 240.19b-4.

³ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

www.msrb.org/Rules-and-Interpretations/SEC-Filings/2021-Filings.aspx, 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. Purpose

The Commission approved amendments to MSRB Rule G-32, on disclosures in connection with primary offerings, in June 2019 ("Rule G-32 amendments"). ⁴ The Rule G-32 amendments included amendments to Form G-32 applicable to dealers acting as underwriters in the primary offering of municipal securities to collect and report new data elements through the MSRB's Electronic Municipal Market Access Dataport system (EMMA® Dataport) ("amended Form G-32"). ⁵ Amended Form G-32 is designed to ensure the MSRB receives information from underwriters to facilitate the MSRB's collection of market information to promote greater regulatory transparency in the municipal securities market. Underwriters are already required to input the majority of the amended Form G-32 data elements, as applicable, into the Depository

See <u>Release No. 34-86219</u> (June 27, 2019), 84 FR 31961 (July 3, 2019) (File No. SR-MSRB-2019-07).

⁵ Id.

Trust Company's New Issue Information Dissemination Service ("NIIDS").⁶ Along with the data elements auto-populated from NIIDS, nine of the new data elements were identified as requiring manual completion, when applicable. Pursuant to the Commission's approval of amended Form G-32, the MSRB established a November 30, 2020 compliance date for amended Form G-32.⁷

In March 2020, the United States declared a national emergency in response to the coronavirus disease ("COVID-19") pandemic.⁸ Shortly thereafter in April 2020, the Commission approved an MSRB proposed rule change filed for immediate effectiveness to provide regulatory relief to dealers and municipal advisors (collectively "regulated entities") in light of COVID-19 pandemic-related operational challenges and disruptions to normal business functions faced by these regulated entities.⁹ In the April 2020 filing, the MSRB, among other things, provided relief to dealers by extending the compliance date for the amended Form G-32 to March 31, 2021. The

Id. Completing Form G-32 is a requirement under Rule G-32. An underwriter must ensure that the data submitted on Form G-32 is accurate. Even if the underwriter initially enters the data into NIIDS and that data is, thereafter, auto-populated into the Form G-32, the underwriter is responsible for ensuring the submission of accurate information on Form G-32. See Release No. 34–85551 (April 2, 2019), 84 FR 14988 (April 8, 2019) (File No. SR-MSRB-2019-07) at notes 13-14.

Notice 2019-21 (December 20, 2019), announcing the November 30, 2020 effective date for amendments to Form G-32 that the Commission approved on June 27, 2019.

See "Proclamation 9994 - Declaring a National Emergency Concerning the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Outbreak," (March 13, 2020) at https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/DCPD-202000156/pdf/DCPD-202000156.pdf, 85 FR 15337 (March 18, 2020).

See <u>Release No. 34-88694</u> (April 20, 2020), 85 FR 23088 (April 24, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-01).

MSRB also stated in the April 2020 filing that it would continue to monitor the impact of COVID-19.¹⁰

In October 2020, the MSRB filed a proposed rule change to clarify how dealers acting as underwriters in the primary offering of municipal securities must manually complete three of the data fields on amended Form G–32 that previously had been described as auto-populated with NIIDS data ("new Form G-32 clarifying amendment"). ¹¹ The Commission approved the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, with a compliance date of March 31, 2021, on December 9, 2020. ¹² As a result of the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, underwriters are on notice that there are 12, rather than nine, data fields that, when applicable, underwriters must manually complete with accurate information.

The MSRB recognizes that the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic persist, including ongoing safety concerns and continuing operational challenges for dealers. ¹³ Specifically, the MSRB understands that the pandemic continues to affect dealers' ability to wholly operationalize

^{10 &}lt;u>Id</u>.

See Release No. 34-90248 (October 22, 2020) 85 FR 68395 (October 28, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-08). The three additional manually submitted data elements were originally included with the 57 NIIDS auto-populated data elements identified by the MSRB for collection in the 2019 rule filing. Accordingly, presently there are 66 new data elements included on amended Form G-32, including 54 data elements submitted to NIIDS and auto-populated to amended Form G-32, and 12 additional data elements that must be submitted manually to EMMA Dataport, as applicable. Id.

See <u>Release No. 34-90611</u> (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 81248 (December 15, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-08).

In December 2020, the SEC approved an additional MSRB proposed rule change for immediate effectiveness that provided further COVID-19 pandemic-related regulatory relief to regulated entities from certain other MSRB rule requirements outside of Rule G-32. See Release No. 34-90621 (December 9, 2020), 85 FR 21854 (December 15, 2020) (File No. SR-MSRB-2020-09).

the changes necessary to implement the new Form G-32 amendments by the March 31, 2021 compliance date. For example, dealers need additional time to develop and test applicable compliance processes and procedures prior to the compliance date and to conduct staff training necessary to effectively implement the new Form G-32 amendments.¹⁴

The MSRB published the updated "EMMA Dataport Manual for Primary Market Submissions" ("manual") on January 29, 2021. ¹⁵ While the MSRB previously provided dealers with access to the new amended Form G-32 in October 2020 through the new Form G-32 clarifying amendment, the MSRB believes providing a further extension of time from March 31, 2021 to August 2, 2021, will afford dealers the time they deem necessary to implement policies and procedures and to conduct appropriate staff training to effectively operationalize compliance with new Form G-32.

2. Statutory Basis

The MSRB believes that the proposed rule change is consistent with Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Exchange Act, ¹⁶ which provides that the MSRB's rules shall:

be designed to prevent fraudulent and manipulative acts and practices, to promote just and equitable principles of trade, to foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating, clearing, settling, processing information with respect to, and facilitating transactions in municipal securities and municipal financial products, to remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities and municipal financial products, and, in

For example, dealers informed the MSRB that information required to complete manual submission of certain new data elements must be obtained from their fixed income trading desks and then reported to EMMA Dataport by back-office personnel responsible for such data entry. Dealers must identify appropriate staff and create procedures to operationalize the new information gathering and amended Form G-32 reporting process.

See "Emma Dataport Manual for Primary Market Submissions," Version 3.0, January 2021, effective August 2021.

¹⁶ 15 U.S.C. 78<u>o</u>-4(b)(2)(C).

general, to protect investors, municipal entities, obligated persons, and the public interest.

The proposed rule change does not alter any rule language but provides dealers with additional time to comply with certain obligations under MSRB Rule G-32. In addition, the proposed rule change will alleviate some of the operational challenges dealers may be experiencing and allow them to more effectively allocate resources to implement new Form G-32 effectively, which would (1) promote just and equitable principles of trade, (2) foster cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating and processing information with respect to transactions in municipal securities, and (3) remove impediments to and perfect the mechanism of a free and open market in municipal securities. The proposed rule change would promote just and equitable principles of trade by providing additional time for dealers to establish compliance procedures to ensure that all applicable fields are complete and accurate. In turn, more accurate and complete information will enhance the MSRB's regulatory transparency initiatives and facilitate the MSRB's own usage of data, which the MSRB believes helps remove impediments to, and promotes the mechanisms of a free and open market and fosters cooperation and coordination with persons engaged in regulating and processing information with respect to transactions in municipal securities.

B. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Burden on Competition

Section 15B(b)(2)(C) of the Act requires that MSRB rules be designed not to impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the purposes of the Act.¹⁷ The MSRB does not believe that the proposed rule change will impose any burden on competition not necessary or appropriate in furtherance of the Exchange Act. The goal of the proposed rule change is to grant additional time for dealers to meet certain obligations under

¹⁷ Id.

Rule G-32 during the exigent circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic but would not alter their underlying obligations under MSRB rules.

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

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

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

Because the foregoing proposed rule change does not: (i) significantly affect the protection of investors or the public interest; (ii) impose any significant burden on competition; and (iii) become operative for 30 days from the date on which it was filed, or such shorter time as the Commission may designate, it has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A) of the Act¹⁸ and Rule 19b-4(f)(6)¹⁹ thereunder. 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-2021-01 on the subject line.

¹⁸ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A).

¹⁹ 17 CFR 240.19b-4(f)(6).

Paper Comments:

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

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-MSRB-2021-01. 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-2021-01 and should be submitted on or before [insert date 21 days from publication in the Federal Register].

For the Commission, pursuant to delegated authority.²⁰

Secretary

²⁰