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## PROXY VOTING POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Effective Date March 3, 2025

These policies and procedures apply to the voting of proxies by Northern Trust Corporation affiliates (“Northern Trust”) for accounts over which Northern Trust has been granted proxy voting discretion.

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## **NORTHERN TRUST PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES**

These policies and procedures apply to the voting of proxies by Northern Trust Corporation affiliates (“Northern Trust”) for accounts over which Northern Trust has been granted proxy voting discretion.

The fundamental precept followed by Northern Trust in voting proxies is to ensure that the manner in which shares are voted is in the best interests of clients/beneficiaries and the value of the investment. As used in these policies and procedures, the term “clients/beneficiaries” means any person or entity having the legal or beneficial ownership interest, as the case may be, in a trust, custody or investment management account over which Northern Trust has discretionary proxy voting authority.

### **SECTION 1. PROXY COMMITTEE**

Northern Trust’s Proxy Committee has responsibility for the adoption, content, interpretation and application of the Proxy Guidelines described in Section 2. Membership of the Proxy Committee consists of a group of senior Northern Trust investment and compliance officers. Meetings of the Proxy Committee may be called by the Chairperson or, in his or her absence, by any two committee members. Meetings may be conducted in person or telephonically. A majority of committee members present (in person or by proxy) will constitute a quorum for the transacting of business at any meeting. The approval of proxy votes or changes to these policies and procedures or the Proxy Guidelines may be made by majority vote of those present (in person or by proxy) at a meeting called for that purpose. Alternatively, the Committee may approve proxy votes or changes to these policies and procedures or the Proxy Guidelines described in Section 2 by a majority vote communicated telephonically (without a meeting) or electronically, provided that any action so approved is properly documented and reflected in minutes of the next meeting of the Committee.

### **SECTION 2. PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES**

Northern Trust has adopted guidelines and procedures (together and as from time to time amended, the “Proxy Guidelines”) governing proxy voting for accounts over which Northern Trust has been granted proxy voting discretion.

Absent the special circumstances described in these policies and procedures, generally Northern Trust will exercise its proxy voting discretion in accordance with the applicable proxy guidelines designated in the client agreement or as otherwise disclosed to clients.

On an annual basis, Northern Trust’s Proxy Committee shall review the Proxy Guidelines and notify clients/beneficiaries of any material revisions to the Proxy Guidelines.

### **SECTION 3. USE OF THIRD PARTY PROXY VOTING SERVICE PROVIDERS**

Northern Trust may delegate to one or more independent third party proxy voting services (“Proxy Voting Service” or “Proxy Voting Services”), the responsibility to review proxy proposals and to make voting recommendations to the Proxy Committee, and to execute proxy voting instructions in a manner consistent with the Proxy Guidelines. For proxy proposals described under the Proxy Guidelines, Northern Trust has provided supplementary instructions to the Proxy Voting Service(s) to guide it in making vote recommendations. In addition, Northern Trust has instructed the Proxy Voting Service not to exercise any discretion and to seek guidance from Northern Trust whenever it encounters situations that are either not covered by the Proxy Guidelines or where application of the Proxy Guidelines is unclear. In the event that the Proxy Voting Service does not or will not provide recommendations with respect to any specific proxy proposals for securities over which Northern Trust or its affiliates have proxy voting discretion, the relevant proxy analyst at Northern Trust responsible for the relevant issuer or its business sector shall be responsible for reviewing the proxy proposal and making a voting recommendation to the Proxy Committee consistent with the Proxy Guidelines.

The Proxy Committee will review the Proxy Voting Service(s) on an annual basis. In connection with that review, it generally will assess each of the following factors along with other additional factors, if any, the Proxy Committee deems relevant: (1) the Proxy Voting Service’s capacity and competency in analyzing proxy issues and executing proxy related services; (2) the adequacy of the Proxy Voting Service’s staffing and personnel; (3) whether the Proxy Voting Service has robust policies and procedures that enable it to make proxy voting recommendations based on current and accurate information and implement the proxy voting services offered; and (4) the Proxy Voting Service’s ability to identify and address any real or potential conflicts of interests that exist or may have existed between the firm and its employees and the execution of proxy voting services provided to Northern Trust. The Proxy Committee will also regularly monitor the Proxy Voting Service(s) by requesting information from the Proxy Service(s) to determine whether any real or potential conflicts of interest exist as a result of changes to the firm’s business or internal policies. The Proxy Voting Service(s) will also be required to proactively communicate any (i) business changes or (ii) changes and updates to the firm’s policies and procedures that could impact the adequacy and quality of the proxy voting services or the firm’s ability to effectively manage conflicts.

### **SECTION 4. APPLICATION OF PROXY GUIDELINES**

It is intended that the Proxy Guidelines will be applied with a measure of flexibility. Accordingly, except as otherwise specifically provided in these policies and procedures, the Proxy Committee may vote proxies contrary to the recommendations of the Proxy Voting Service, or, in the circumstances described in Section 3 above, a Northern Trust proxy analyst, if it determines such action to be in the best interests of Northern Trust clients/beneficiaries. In the exercise of such discretion the Proxy Committee may take into account a wide array of factors relating to the proxy voting matter under consideration, the nature of the proposal, and the company involved. As a result, a proxy voting proposal may be voted in one manner in the case of one company and in a different manner in the case of another company where, for example, the past history of the company, the character and integrity of its management, the role of outside directors, and the company’s record of producing performance for investors justifies a high degree of confidence in

the company and the effect of the proposal on the value of the investment. Similarly, poor past performance, uncertainties about management and future directions, and other factors may lead to a conclusion that particular proposals present unacceptable investment risks and should not be supported. In addition, the proposals should be evaluated in full context. For example, a particular proxy voting proposal may be acceptable on a stand-alone basis, but objectionable when part of an existing or proposed proxy voting package, such as where the effect may be to entrench management. Special circumstances may also justify casting different votes for different clients/beneficiaries with respect to the same proxy vote after taking into account the clients/beneficiaries' circumstances, including adhering to special voting instructions from the clients/beneficiaries.

## **SECTION 5. PROXY VOTING CHOICE**

Northern Trust offers fund participants in select pooled investment vehicles the option to select from a menu of Proxy Guidelines options designated by Northern Trust ("Proxy Voting Choice"). The Proxy Guidelines eligible to be used in a Proxy Voting Choice menu are described in Exhibit A.

Portfolio management teams for Northern Trust Investments, Inc. and Northern Trust Global Investments, Inc., in consultation with the appropriate subject matter experts as needed (e.g., Stewardship, Institutional Client Group, Operations, Compliance, Legal, and outside counsel), generally have the responsibility for identifying the Proxy Guidelines most suitable to a fund's investment objectives (the "Default Proxy Guidelines" of the fund).

Participation in Proxy Voting Choice is elective. Participants in eligible funds may voluntarily select from the menu of Proxy Guidelines, and once selected, proxies for the eligible fund will be voted on a pro-rata share basis in accordance with the participant's selection. The Default Proxy Guidelines shall apply to the pro-rata shares of all participants who do not choose to elect an option from the Proxy Voting Choice menu offered. Except under special circumstances, Proxy Guidelines will be applied at the account level for fund clients, and at the transfer agent or investment level for transfer agent clients. If a client holds two funds in two separate trust accounts, or direct at the transfer agent, then separate Proxy Guideline elections can be accommodated. In the event a client wants to operationally have multiple Proxy Guidelines applied for different accounts or fund investments, this can be manually applied upon written confirmation. Furthermore, in certain markets or situations where split voting is not permitted, the Default Proxy Guidelines will apply to all voting matters on behalf of all fund participants.

As a fiduciary to its pooled funds, Northern Trust must ensure that votes exercised for the pooled funds that it manages are cast in a pooled funds interest and in accordance with policies and procedures that are prudently designed to meet legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the pooled funds. As such, the Proxy Committee reviews all third-party voting policies prior to their availability for use for Proxy Voting Choice to ensure they are consistent with applicable fiduciary standards and suitable for most pooled fund investment objectives and policies. Some factors that the Proxy Committee may consider include, whether the third-party provider follows a fiduciary process in developing proxy voting procedures and guidelines, the manner in which the third-party's procedures take into consideration material facts and circumstance specific to each

voting decision. The Proxy Committee may also consider client feedback in relation to specific guideline orientations or strategy approaches which they would like to have offered.

## **SECTION 6. MATERIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Northern Trust has sought to address proxy related conflicts of interest in various ways, including the establishment, composition and authority of the Proxy Committee, and the delegation of primary responsibility for proxy review and vote recommendation functions to the Proxy Voting Service. For these reasons, the potential for conflicts of interest in the voting of proxies generally arises only where the Proxy Committee is considering the possibility of voting in a manner contrary to a vote recommendation received from the Proxy Voting Service or where the Proxy Voting Service has not provided a vote recommendation. In these situations, the Proxy Committee will need to determine whether a material conflict of interest exists. For example, a material conflict of interest could arise when a proxy relates to the following non-exclusive types of issues:

- Securities issued by Northern Trust Corporation or its affiliates.
- Matters in which Northern Trust has a direct financial interest (such as shareholder approval of a change in mutual fund advisory fees where Northern Trust is the fund advisor).
- Instances where Northern Trust, its board members, executive officers, and/or others maintain relationships with the issuers of securities, proponents of shareholder proposals, participants in proxy contests, corporate directors or candidates for directorships.
- Instances where an attempt has been made to directly or indirectly influence the voting recommendation that is made.

Where the Proxy Committee determines that it is subject to a material conflict of interest, it may resolve the conflict in any of the following ways, which may vary, consistent with its duty of loyalty and care, depending on the facts and circumstances of each situation and the requirements of applicable law:

- Following the vote recommendation of an independent fiduciary appointed for that purpose;
- Voting pursuant to client direction;
- Abstaining; or
- Voting pursuant to a “mirror voting” arrangement (under which shares are voted in the same manner and proportion as some or all of the other shares not voted by the Proxy Committee).

## **SECTION 7. PROXY VOTING RECORDS; CLIENT DISCLOSURES**

Northern Trust will maintain the following records relating to proxy votes cast under these policies and procedures:

- A. A copy of these policies and procedures and accompanying exhibits
- B. A copy of each proxy statement Northern Trust receives regarding client securities.
- C. A record of each vote cast by Northern Trust on behalf of a client.

- D. A copy of any document created by the Proxy Committee that was material to making a decision how to vote proxies on behalf of a client or that memorialized the basis for that decision.
- E. A copy of each written client request for information on how Northern Trust voted proxies on behalf of the client, and a copy of any written response by Northern Trust to any (written or oral) client request for information on how Northern Trust voted proxies on behalf of the requesting client.

The foregoing records will be retained for such period of time as is required to comply with applicable laws and regulations. Northern Trust may rely on one or more third parties to make and retain the records referred to in items B. and C. above.

The Proxy Committee will cause copies of the foregoing records, as they relate to particular clients, to be provided to those clients upon request. It is generally the policy of Northern Trust not to disclose its proxy voting records to third parties, except as may be required by applicable laws and regulations.

## **SECTION 8. ERISA ACCOUNTS**

For plans governed by the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (“ERISA Plans”), it is considered a fiduciary act to manage the voting rights that are connected to ERISA Plan assets that are shares of stock. ERISA Plans are to be administered consistent with the terms of the governing plan documents and applicable provisions of ERISA. In cases where sole proxy voting discretion rests with Northern Trust, the foregoing policies and procedures will be followed, subject to the fiduciary responsibility standards of ERISA, including the fiduciary duty of prudence, the exclusive benefit rule, and the duty to act in accordance with the plan documents. These standards generally require fiduciaries to act prudently and to discharge their duties solely in the interests of participants and beneficiaries.

ERISA fiduciaries may decide not to vote on a proxy or exercise a shareholder right. When deciding whether to vote on a proxy, fiduciaries must carry out their duties: (i) prudently, and (ii) solely in the interests of the participants and beneficiaries and for the exclusive purpose of providing benefits to participants and beneficiaries and defraying the reasonable expenses of administering the ERISA Plan. Specifically, when deciding whether to vote on a proxy, a fiduciary must:

- act solely in accordance with the economic interest of the plan and its participants and beneficiaries;
- consider any costs involved;
- not subordinate the interests of the participants and beneficiaries in their retirement income or financial benefits under the plan to any other objective;
- evaluate relevant facts that form the basis for any particular proxy vote or other exercise of shareholder rights; and
- exercise prudence and diligence in the selection and monitoring of persons, if any, selected to exercise shareholder rights or otherwise advise on or assist with exercises of shareholder rights.

This Policy is designed to ensure proxy voting decisions are made in accordance with the fiduciary obligations listed above.

ERISA fiduciaries may engage with a Proxy Voting Service to provide recommendations regarding proxies. However, the fiduciary must first determine that such proxy advisor firm or service provider's proxy voting guidelines are consistent with the fiduciary's obligations described above. Northern Trust reviews the Northern Trust Proxy Guidelines and Proxy Voting Services on an annual basis, as described in Sections 2 and 3 of this Policy.

For avoidance of doubt, this Policy provides that the authority to vote a proxy shall be exercised pursuant to specific parameters prudently designed to serve the plan's interests in providing benefits to participants and their beneficiaries and defraying reasonable expenses of administering the plan; and is periodically reviewed for compliance, as described in Section 2 of this Policy. However, this policy does not (i) preclude a fiduciary from submitting a proxy vote when the fiduciary has prudently determined that the matter being voted upon will have a significant effect on the value of the investment, or the investment performance of the plan's assets, after accounting for the costs involved; or (ii) require a fiduciary to submit a proxy vote when the fiduciary has prudently determined that the matter being voted upon will not have a significant effect on the value of the investment, or the investment performance of the plan's assets, after accounting for the costs involved.

Generally, an ERISA Plan's trustee will have the exclusive responsibility to vote the proxies unless:

- the trustee is subject to the direction of a named fiduciary who is not a trustee;
- the named fiduciary delegates to an investment manager the authority to manage, acquire, or dispose of plan assets; or
- the named fiduciary delegates to an investment manager the authority to manage, acquire, or dispose of certain assets, but retains the right to direct the trustee when voting proxies.

The documents governing ERISA individual account plans may set forth various procedures for voting “employer securities” held by the plan. Where authority over the investment of plan assets is granted to plan participants, many individual account plans provide that proxies for employer securities will be voted in accordance with directions received from plan participants as to shares allocated to their plan accounts. In some cases, the governing plan documents may further provide that unallocated shares and/or allocated shares for which no participant directions are received will be voted in accordance with a proportional voting method in which such shares are voted proportionately in the same manner as are allocated shares for which directions from participants have been received. It is the policy of Northern Trust to follow the provisions of a plan’s governing documents in the voting of employer securities unless it determines that to do so would breach its fiduciary duties under ERISA.

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In general, for pooled investment vehicles that are treated as “plan assets” for purposes of ERISA, investing plan clients that are subject to ERISA will be required to accept this Policy as a condition of investment. For pooled investment vehicles that have implemented “Proxy Voting Choice,” the fiduciary of an investing plan may choose guidelines other than the Default Proxy

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Guidelines described in Section 5, except for the Climate guidelines. If the plan fiduciary chooses guidelines other than the Default Proxy Guidelines, the plan fiduciary is responsible for determining, and has made a determination that, the selected proxy voting policy is consistent with ERISA and the plan's own proxy voting policies/guidelines. Once guidelines are selected, proxies for the eligible fund will be voted on a pro-rata share basis in accordance with the guidelines that were selected. The Default Proxy Guidelines shall apply to the pro-rata shares for those who do not choose to elect an option from the Proxy Voting Choice menu.

## **SECTION 9. MUTUAL FUNDS**

Proxies of registered management investment companies will be voted subject to any applicable investment restrictions of the fund and, to the extent applicable, in accordance with any resolutions or other instructions approved by authorized persons of the fund.

## **SECTION 10. OTHER SPECIAL SITUATIONS**

Northern Trust may choose not to vote proxies in certain situations or for certain accounts either where it deems the cost of doing so to be prohibitive or where the exercise of voting rights could restrict the ability of an account's portfolio manager to freely trade the security in question. For example, in accordance with local law or business practices, many foreign companies prevent the sales of shares that have been voted for a certain period beginning prior to the shareholder meeting and ending on the day following the meeting ("share blocking"). Due to these restrictions, Northern Trust must balance the benefits to its clients of voting proxies against the potentially serious portfolio management consequences of a reduced flexibility to sell the underlying shares at the most advantageous time. For companies in countries with share blocking periods, the disadvantage of being unable to sell the stock regardless of changing conditions generally outweighs the advantages of voting at the shareholder meeting for routine items. Accordingly, Northern Trust will not vote those proxies in the absence of an unusual, significant vote. Various accounts over which Northern Trust has proxy voting discretion participate in securities lending programs administered by Northern Trust or a third party. Because title to loaned securities passes to the borrower, Northern Trust will be unable to vote any security that is out on loan to a borrower on a proxy record date. If Northern Trust has investment discretion, however, it reserves the right of the portfolio manager to instruct the lending agent to terminate a loan in situations where Northern Trust believes the benefits of voting the security outweigh the costs of terminating the loan, consistent with the terms and conditions of Northern Trust's procedures for recall of securities out on loan. In such instances, Northern Trust shall recall the shares on loan on a best efforts basis.

## EXHIBIT A. PROXY GUIDELINES

Northern Trust's Proxy Committee has responsibility for the adoption, content, interpretation and application of the Proxy Guidelines described in Section 2.

As of the effective date of these policies and procedures<sup>1</sup> each of the Proxy Guidelines listed below have been either internally developed or reviewed, and adopted by the Proxy Committee.

Guideline Name	Strategy Approach	Guideline Description Link(s) <sup>2</sup>
<b>Northern Trust Proxy Guidelines</b>	Guidelines developed by Northern Trust's Proxy Voting Committee under a fundamental precept of ensuring the manner in which shares are voted is in the best interest of clients/beneficiaries and the value of the investment. The guidelines take into consideration common and best market practice standards in governance to promote total shareholder value and risk mitigation while applying a thoughtful and considered approach to environmental and social issues.	<a href="#">US and Non-US Securities</a>
<b>Socially Responsible Investor (SRI)</b>	The SRI guidelines were developed by a third party to be consistent with the dual objectives of socially responsible shareholders - economic returns and good corporate governance, as well as ethical behavior of corporations and the social and environmental impact of the actions or companies in which they invest.	<a href="#">US Securities</a> <a href="#">Non-US Securities</a>
<b>Taft-Hartley</b>	Developed specifically for Taft-Hartley pension funds & investment managers, as well as AFL-CIO aligned accounts, the Taft-Hartley guidelines were developed by a third party based on the AFL-CIO. The guidelines are fully compliant with the fiduciary voting responsibilities of the Taft Hartley Labor Act.	<a href="#">US Securities</a> <a href="#">Non-US Securities</a>
<b>Board Aligned</b>	The Board-Aligned guidelines were developed by a third party for investors who generally prefer to vote in a manner that upholds foundational corporate governance principles, while generally following the board's recommendation around environmental and social matters.	<a href="#">US Securities</a> <a href="#">Non-US Securities</a>
<b>Climate</b>	The Climate guidelines were developed by a third party to be consistent with widely recognized climate frameworks including the TCFD, GRI, and SASB standards. They are intended to balance the need for good disclosure on climate-related risks along with evaluation of a company's preparedness to face and mitigate climate risks in a low carbon economy as well as alignment with global climate norms expectations (e.g. SFDR). On matters of corporate governance and executive compensation the Climate guidelines approach is based on principles of best practice and a focus on creating and preserving long-term economic value.	<a href="#">US Securities</a> <a href="#">Non-US Securities</a>

<sup>1</sup> This is the effective date from which the Proxy Committee has last developed or reviewed, and adopted or re-affirmed the Proxy Guideline. Each Proxy Guideline has its own effective or last amended date.

<sup>2</sup> These links are current as of the Effective Date of these policies and procedures and may be superseded by more current versions.