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Sent: Thursday, March 09, 2017 1:44 PM
To: EBSA.FiduciaryRuleExamination
Subject: RIN 1210-AB79

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for providing a comment period relating to the proposed extension of the Conflict of Interest rule.

I am not opposed to providing investment services held to a fiduciary standard. However, I am already held to this higher standard based on the culture of my firm and the existing regulations that are already in place. The Conflict of Interest rule will create several unintended consequences. The rule is very complex; it will adversely affect the ability of retirement investors to gain access to retirement products, services, and advice. In addition, the rule will significantly increase cost. It is easy to assume that the added cost for compliance, increased litigation, & staff will just be absorbed by investment firms large and small, but realistically we know it will ultimately cost and hurt investors.

Many well-recognized industry experts have stated that transacting business post implementation of this onerous rule would be like trying to refinance a property during the credit crisis. The sheer complexity of compliance with these new regulations will create a freezing effect on retirement related account transactions for a significant period of time.

Investment firms and advisors will be very apprehensive about providing advice and services for retirement accounts until there is a clear legal precedent set in the marketplace. I urge Congress and the DOL to shelf indefinitely this burdensome regulation.

If the goal is to help individual retirement investors prepare for a comfortable retirement then propose legislation to level the playing field and allow individual investors to save more than \$5,500 per year pre-tax in their individual retirement accounts.

Thank you for your consideration,

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