

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Financial Factors in Selecting Plan Investments

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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

I am writing to oppose this proposed rule. First, I do not think there is any question that ESG investing is financially sound in the present (data proves this) and in the future. I am absolutely convinced that the best long term investment strategy takes into account ESG factors. Further, particularly in light of current court rulings, I do not understand how someone can be forced to invest in entities that are contrary to the values of someone's faith. I am contributing my own money into my 401k as is my employer. I want choices in my investments that are financial sound, and also consistent with my beliefs. If there is anything in this rule that is helpful it would be in developing simple reporting metrics that would allow investors to better understand the ESGs they are choosing. Perhaps several ESG scales that would indicate the goals of a plan (e.g., more environmental focus, more governance focus). And each plan should perhaps be required to state the areas in which they are not investing. All the plans I choose are already benchmarked against other high performing funds--most do better than the benchmarks. If this rule makes it impossible to invest in ESG funds through my 401k, I will feel pressed to place my retirement savings elsewhere and not benefit from my employer match. My understanding is that the goal of retirement funds is to incent savings. For me, this change will have the opposite effect.