

# PUBLIC SUBMISSION

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Financial Factors in Selecting Plan Investments

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Financial Factors in Selecting Plan Investments

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## Submitter Information

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## General Comment

Office of Regulations and Interpretations  
U.S. Department of Labor  
Washington, DC 20210

Attention: Proposed rule on Financial Factors in Selecting Plan Investments (RIN 1210-AB95)

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to provide comments in response to the Department of Labor's proposed rule, "Financial Factors in Selecting Plan Investments," which relates to ERISA-regulated retirement plans. I believe this rule should be withdrawn, as it goes against the ethos of free and fair market principles to which the American Sustainable Business Council and Social Venture Circle subscribe. A free and fair competitive marketplace is crucial to a strong economy and strong society. Failure to allow fiduciaries to consider all material risk factors, including ESG criteria, would be to the detriment of plan participants. In addition, this is an egregious example of government over-reach. If banks, investors, and other players believe these are good investments, and these funds are being invested in good faith to the consumers, the government has no right and should not be unduly influencing the market.

It appears that the Trump Administration and the current Department of Labor are not interested in supporting a free market and instead are busy finding ways to prop up the fossil fuel and other socially and ethically questionable companies rather than allowing the market and customers to determine which types of investments they would like to make.

I respectfully ask that the US Department of Labor withdraw this rule and continue to allow plan managers to operate within a free and fair marketplace.

Sincerely,