



## PROXY VOTING POLICY

March 2026

### APPLIES TO:

- Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC, and its advisory affiliates (the “Lord Abbett Advisers”)
- Lord Abbett Family of Funds
- Lord Abbett Alternatives Funds

### RISKS ADDRESSED BY THIS POLICY:

- Proxies are not voted in the best interests of clients.
- Proxies are not identified and voted in a timely manner.
- Conflicts between an adviser’s interests and those of the client are not identified and addressed.

### RELEVANT LAW AND OTHER SOURCES

- Rule 206(4)-6 of the Investment Advisers Act
- Rule 204-2 of the Investment Advisers Act
- Rule 14Ad-1 of the Securities Exchange Act
- Form N-PX

### RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

- Conflicts of Interest Policy
- Sustainable Investing at Lord Abbett: Our Approach

## **I. POLICY SCOPE**

Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC, and its advisory affiliates (the “Lord Abbett Advisers”) view proxy voting as an important element of the portfolio management services they provide to advisory clients who have granted the Lord Abbett Advisers with the authority to vote proxies on their behalf. The Lord Abbett Advisers will vote proxies in a prudent and diligent manner and in the best interests of clients in accordance with their fiduciary obligations or in accordance with written client instructions, if applicable. In this regard, the Lord Abbett Advisers seek to ensure that all votes are free from unwarranted and inappropriate influences. Accordingly, the guiding principle of the Lord Abbett Advisers’ approach to proxy voting is the belief that effective proxy voting creates a sound corporate governance framework that best serves the long-term interests of a company’s shareholders. Proxy voting decisions are made with the objective of enhancing long-term investment performance, rather than to advance non-investment objectives.

This Proxy Voting Policy (the “Policy”) and the related proxy voting guidelines set forth in Appendix A (the “Guidelines”) were developed to implement the Lord Abbett Advisers’ proxy voting philosophy and address a broad range of issues that arise most frequently. These Guidelines are not exhaustive, and these Guidelines represent our general views. The Lord Abbett Advisers will vote in their discretion on any specific proposal consistent with a client’s long term best interest. The Lord Abbett Advisers are not obligated to vote pursuant to the Guidelines, and, when voting, will review each matter on a case-by-case basis. In limited circumstances, such as when voting options are constrained or adequate information is unavailable or in connection with certain conflicts of interest (as determined by the SPC (as defined below)), the Lord Abbett Advisers may determine that abstaining is the most appropriate course of action.



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Certain terms used in this Policy are defined in Section VII.

### II. OVERVIEW

Investment teams vote proxies on behalf of: (i) pooled investment vehicles advised by a Lord Abbett Adviser, including the Lord Abbett Family of Funds and the Lord Abbett Alternatives Funds (the “Lord Abbett Funds”); and (ii) advisory clients that have explicitly granted a Lord Abbett Adviser the authority to vote proxies on their behalf. The Lord Abbett Advisers will generally vote proxies in accordance with the Guidelines, unless the client has provided specific proxy voting instructions in writing.

- *Securities held across multiple client accounts:* When multiple investment teams manage one or more portfolios that hold the same voting security, the Proxy Governance Team may engage with the investment teams, as needed, to determine a vote recommendation. In these situations, the Lord Abbett Advisers will generally vote with the investment team that manages the largest number of shares of the security.
- *Foreign security considerations:* Voting proxies of companies located in certain jurisdictions may raise issues that will restrict or prevent the ability to vote such proxies or entail significant costs. These issues include but are not limited to: (i) ballots written in a language other than English; (ii) untimely or insufficient notice of shareholder meetings; and (iii) restrictions on the ability of holders outside the issuer’s jurisdiction of organization to exercise votes. Accordingly, a Lord Abbett Adviser will vote non-U.S. proxies on a reasonable best-efforts basis only, after weighing the costs and benefits of voting such proxies.

In certain foreign jurisdictions the voting of proxies can result in other restrictions that have an economic impact or cost to the security, such as “share blocking.” Share blocking would prevent a Lord Abbett Adviser from selling the shares of the foreign security for a period of time if the Lord Abbett Adviser votes the proxy. In determining whether to vote proxies subject to such restrictions, the Lord Abbett Advisers, in consultation with the Proxy Governance Team, consider whether the vote itself or together with the votes of other shareholders, is expected to have an effect on the value of the investment that will outweigh the cost of voting. Accordingly, the Lord Abbett Advisers may determine not to vote such proxies.

- *Securities lending:* Certain Lord Abbett Funds may participate in a securities lending program. In circumstances where shares are on loan, the voting rights of those shares are transferred to the borrower. A Lord Abbett Adviser will generally attempt to recall all securities that are on loan prior to the meeting record date, so that the relevant Fund will be entitled to vote those shares. However, a Lord Abbett Adviser may be unable to recall shares or may choose not to recall shares for several reasons, including if timely notice of a meeting is not received or if the Lord Abbett Adviser determines that the opportunity for the Fund to generate securities lending revenue outweighs the benefits of voting.

Clients other than the Lord Abbett Funds may participate in externally managed securities lending programs. In these cases, client preference, operational processes, and other



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factors determine whether the loaned securities are recalled.

- *Funds of funds:* Certain Lord Abbett Funds are structured as funds of funds and invest their assets primarily in other Lord Abbett Funds (the “Funds of Funds”). Accordingly, a Fund of Funds is a shareholder in an underlying Lord Abbett Fund (the “Underlying Fund”) and may be requested to vote on a matter pertaining to such Underlying Fund. With respect to any such scenario, the Fund of Funds shall vote its shares of the Underlying Fund in accordance with the recommendation set forth in the proxy statement.

A Fund of Funds may also invest in funds that are not affiliated with the Fund of Funds (the “Unaffiliated Underlying Fund”). If a Fund of Fund’s ownership in an Unaffiliated Underlying Fund exceeds 25% of the voting securities of the Unaffiliated Underlying Fund (10% for a business development company or closed end fund), the Fund of Funds will vote its shares in the Unaffiliated Underlying Fund in the same proportion as the votes of all other shareholders of the Unaffiliated Underlying Fund.

### III. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There may be occasions where voting a proxy may present a perceived or actual conflict of interest between the Firm, including the Lord Abbett Advisers, and one or more clients or vendors. For example:

- **Firm-level:** A conflict of interest may exist if the Firm has a material business relationship with either the issuer soliciting the proxy or a third party that has a material interest in the outcome of a proxy vote or that is actively lobbying for a particular outcome of a proxy vote. Such relationships may include, among others, when the company soliciting the proxy is a client or serves as a vendor or service provider to the Firm, a Lord Abbett Adviser, or the Lord Abbett Funds.

When Firm-level conflicts exist, it is possible that by voting against the company management recommendations, the Firm may lose revenue or jeopardize a strategic business relationship.

- **Individual:** A conflict may exist where a Firm employee has a known personal or business relationship with participants in proxy contests, corporate directors or candidates for directorship. Firm employees must always act in the best interests of clients and must avoid any situation that gives rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

Individuals with proxy voting responsibilities must report any known personal or business conflicts of interest regarding proxy issues with which they are involved to the Proxy Governance Team. In such instances, the individual(s) with the conflict will be excluded from the decision-making process relating to such issues.

When conflicts of interest arise in connection with proxy voting, the Firm’s Standards & Practices Committee (“SPC”) serves as the primary point of escalation. (See Section IV).



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### IV. PROXY GOVERNANCE: OVERSIGHT AND ADMINISTRATION

#### ***Proxy Governance Team***

The Proxy Governance Team oversees the proxy voting process. Absent a conflict of interest, the Proxy Governance Team will review all relevant information pursuant to the voting process and communicate the decision to the Proxy Service Provider.

#### ***Proxy Service Provider***

The Lord Abbett Advisers have retained an independent third-party service provider (the “Proxy Service Provider”) to analyze proxy issues and recommend how to vote on those issues, and to support the administration of the proxy process.

When voting proxies, the Lord Abbett Advisers consider the recommendations of the Proxy Service Provider but make an independent voting decision while taking into account the best interest of clients, including the Lord Abbett Funds and their shareholders.

The Proxy Governance Team is also responsible for oversight of the Proxy Service Provider and performs periodic due diligence which includes conflicts of interest, methodologies for developing vote recommendations, changes in leadership and resources.

#### ***Standards & Practices Committee***

The SPC serves as a point of escalation for proxy voting matters that pose a conflict of interest and involve a vote in favor of company management’s recommendation. In those circumstances, the matter shall be reviewed by the SPC for resolution of the issue. SPC will consider the recommendation of the Proxy Service Provider as well as the best interest of clients, including the Lord Abbett Funds and their shareholders.

### V. OTHER MATTERS

#### ***Material Non-Public Information***

On occasion, a proxy solicitor may contact investment or other personnel in advance of the distribution of proxy solicitation materials to solicit support for certain proposals. This contact and subsequent discussion may result in the receipt of material, non-public information by the investment person or other recipient. In such a case, Global Compliance must be contacted immediately, and such information may not be shared with others at the Firm, and no trading or recommendation regarding trading may be done or made while in possession of such information, in each case without the approval of Global Compliance.

In certain circumstances, it may be appropriate to share the Lord Abbett Advisers’ general approach to voting certain issues. However, employees are prohibited from disclosing to proxy solicitors or other third parties how a Lord Abbett Adviser is expecting to vote during a pre-solicitation communication without the prior approval of Global Compliance. Employees who are contacted in advance of the distribution of proxy solicitation materials must contact the Proxy Governance Team immediately.



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### ***Shareholder Resolutions***

The Lord Abbett Advisers may consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring a shareholder resolution to address an issue of concern if engagement and proxy voting are deemed to be ineffective. In such a case, the Legal Department must be consulted.

## **VI. REGULATORY FILINGS AND REPORTING**

### ***Filings***

The Lord Abbett Advisers make their proxy voting records publicly available in compliance with applicable regulatory requirements and industry best practices:

- The Lord Abbett Funds and the applicable Lord Abbett Alternatives Funds shall annually disclose their proxy voting record for the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 on Form N-PX and shall post a link to the completed Form N-PX on the Lord Abbett Funds' public website.
- The Lord Abbett Advisers that are Form 13F filers shall annually report on Form N-PX how it voted proxies concerning certain shareholder advisory votes on executive compensation ("say on pay").
- If a Lord Abbett Adviser serves as a sub-adviser to a registered investment company with a Form N-PX filing requirement (a "Sub-Advised Fund"), the Lord Abbett Adviser shall, upon request, promptly furnish the Sub-Advised Fund's proxy voting information to the sponsor of the Sub-Advised Fund.

### ***Reporting***

At least annually (and if applicable) the Proxy Governance Team shall provide the Boards of the Lord Abbett Funds with a proxy voting report which shall include, among other things, the results of the most recently completed proxy voting season, conflicts of interest resolution, including conflicts that were escalated to the SPC and the outcome of such votes, proxies involving foreign securities, proxies involving securities on loan, enhancements or changes made to this Policy or the Guidelines and any other proxy voting information that the Boards or their counsel shall request.

## **VII. DEFINED TERMS**

***Firm*** means Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC, and its affiliates.

***Investment Advisers Act*** means the U.S. Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended.

***Investment Company Act*** means the U.S. Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended.

***Lord Abbett Advisers*** means Lord, Abbett & Co. LLC, and its advisory affiliates.

***Lord Abbett Alternatives Funds*** means the family of funds consisting of: (i) closed-end investment companies that have elected to be regulated as business development companies



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under the Investment Company Act and advised by a Lord Abbett Adviser, and (ii) the closed-end interval funds registered under the Investment Company and advised by a Lord Abbett Adviser.

**Lord Abbett Family of Funds** means the family of open-end mutual funds registered under the Investment Company Act and advised by a Lord Abbett Adviser.

**Lord Abbett Funds** means collectively, the Lord Abbett Family of Funds and the Lord Abbett Alternative Funds.

**Proxy Governance Team** means the team within the Office of the Chief Operating Officer (Investments) that is responsible for the oversight of the proxy voting process for the Lord Abbett Advisers.

**SEC** means the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

**Securities Act** means the U.S. Securities Act of 1933, as amended.



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### APPENDIX A

## PROXY VOTING GUIDELINES

The Lord Abbett Advisers' Proxy Voting Guidelines pertaining to specific issues are set forth below. Proposals will generally be voted consistent with these Guidelines but may deviate based on the facts and circumstances of the matter under consideration.

### Corporate Governance

Investors and businesses have benefited from positive changes in corporate governance. Shareholders have taken a more active role in businesses in which they invest, and companies are communicating more with shareholders. Companies are more conscious of the need for transparent and effective governance policies, and there has been progress in the evolution of these practices. Companies with a principled governance approach are better positioned to manage the risks inherent in business and recognize opportunities that help deliver sustainable growth and returns for shareholders. In formulating an approach, the Lord Abbett Advisers are focused on best practice standards for governance, including industry approved frameworks and guidance.

#### Directors

A company's board of directors oversees all aspects of its business. Companies and, under certain circumstances, their shareholders, may nominate directors for election by shareholders. In evaluating the candidacy of a director nominee to the board of a company, the Lord Abbett Advisers will consider the following factors, among others:

- the nominee's experience, qualifications, attributes, and skills, as disclosed in the company's proxy statement;
- the composition of the board and its committees
- whether the nominee is independent of the company's management;
- the nominee's board meeting attendance;
- the nominee's history of representing shareholder interests on the company's board or other boards;
- the total number of outside board positions held by the nominee;
- the nominee's investment in the company;
- the company's long-term performance relative to a relevant market index; and
- takeover activity.

We may withhold votes for some or all a company's director nominees on a case-by-case basis. In evaluating an audit, nominating, governance, or compensation committee nominee's candidacy, the Lord Abbett Advisers will consider additional factors related to the specific committee's oversight responsibilities.

Competent boards add value and represent shareholders' perspectives effectively during board deliberations. Companies with effective boards have a competitive advantage, as boards provide invaluable oversight and actively contribute to critical management choices that bolster long-term



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financial performance. With this in mind, the Lord Abbett Advisers believe companies that draw from a larger pool of candidates and attract and retain a diversity of talent from many backgrounds are better positioned for long-term, sustainable success. The Lord Abbett Advisers encourages boards to periodically assess director qualifications and skills to ensure relevant experience and diverse perspectives are represented.

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that diversity and inclusivity present the flow of novel perspectives and skills that lead to overall better risk management and the company's competitiveness over time. We encourage boards to pursue diversity and inclusivity. We recognize that diversity can be defined across a number of dimensions. However, if a board is to be considered meaningfully diverse, we take the view that diversity across gender, race, or ethnicity should be evident.

The Lord Abbett Advisers will consider their engagement history with a company and vote on proposals related to board diversity on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration if the company has articulated a plan for advancing diversity on the board.

### **Governance Practices**

The Lord Abbett Advisers may consider a vote against, or withhold votes for, certain director nominees at companies that have material governance shortcomings, including those implemented at the time of an initial public offering, with no articulated plan to sunset certain provisions. Governance shortcomings may include dual-class voting structures, or supermajority vote standards, among others.

### **Majority Voting**

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally favor a majority voting standard, under which director nominees are elected by an affirmative majority of the votes cast and we will generally support proposals that seek to adopt a majority voting standard.

### **Board Classification**

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally believe that directors should be elected annually and will typically support proposals that seek to remove a classified board structure though not for investment products (such as business development companies) where such structures are usual and customary. When evaluating board classification proposals, the following factors may be considered, among others:

- the company's long-term strategic plan;
- the extent to which continuity of leadership is necessary to advance that plan; and
- the need to guard against takeover attempts.



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### Board Independence

Director independence – from management, significant shareholders, or other related parties – is a key principle of sound corporate governance. The Lord Abbett Advisers encourage boards to have a sufficient number of independent directors, free from conflicts of interest or undue influence, to ensure objectivity in the board’s decision-making and oversight of the company’s management. We generally consider it a sound practice for the board to be comprised of a majority of independent members.

Circumstances that may raise questions as to independence include, but are not limited to:

- current or recent employment at the company or a related entity;
- being, or representing, a shareholder with a substantial ownership interest in the company;
- having any other interest, business or other relationship which could, or be perceived to, materially interfere with a director’s ability to act in the best interests of the company and its shareholders.

We may withhold votes or vote against non-independent board nominees if their election would cause a majority of board members to be non-independent.

### Independent Board Chair

Proponents of proposals to require independent board chair seek to enhance board accountability and mitigate a company’s risk-taking behavior by requiring that the role of the chair of the company’s board of directors be filled by an independent director. The Lord Abbett Advisers vote on a case-by-case basis on proposals that call for an independent board chair, and will consider a variety of factors, including whether we believe that a company’s governance structure promotes independent oversight through other means, such as a lead director, a board composed of a majority of independent directors, or independent board committees. In evaluating independent chair proposals, we will focus on the presence of a lead director, who is an independent director designated by a board with a non-independent chair to serve as the primary liaison between company management and the independent directors and act as the independent directors’ spokesperson.

### Overboarding

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that director nominees should be able to dedicate sufficient time to each of the companies they represent to fully execute their board oversight responsibilities. It is important that directors not be “overboarded” to avoid excessive time-commitments and provide consistent contributions to all boards on which they serve. We may vote against directors that we deem to be “overboarded” and will consider voting against director nominees if they sit on more than four public company boards, or if they are an active executive who sits on more than two outside public company boards.



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### Compensation and Benefits

The Lord Abbett Advisers pay particular attention to the nature and amount of compensation paid by a company to its executive officers and other employees. Because a company has exclusive knowledge of material information not available to shareholders regarding its business, financial condition, and prospects, the company itself usually is in the best position to make decisions about compensation and benefits. However, we believe that companies should provide detailed disclosure of their compensation practices to allow investors to properly analyze the effectiveness and appropriateness of the company's compensation structure.

The Lord Abbett Advisers review all issues related to compensation on a case-by-case basis and may oppose management if we believe:

- a company's compensation ratio to be excessive or inconsistent with that of its peers;
- a company's compensation measures do not foster a long-term focus among its executive officers and other employees; or
- a company has not met performance expectations, among other reasons.

### Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation

"Say-on-pay" proposals give shareholders a nonbinding vote on executive compensation and serve as a means of conveying to company management shareholder concerns, if any, about executive compensation. The Lord Abbett Advisers generally prefer that say-on-pay proposals occur on an annual basis and will evaluate say-on-pay proposals on a case-by-case basis. We consider a variety of factors in evaluating compensation, including whether we believe that compensation has been excessive or not properly aligned with long-term performance and whether we engaged with the company and they provided more detailed information regarding compensation.

### Equity Compensation Plans

Equity compensation plans are intended to reward an executive's performance through various stock-based incentives and should be designed to align an executive's compensation with a company's long-term performance. The Lord Abbett Advisers will vote on equity compensation plans on a case-by-case basis. In evaluating such proposals, we will consider the following factors, among others:

- whether or to what extent the plan has any potential to dilute the voting power or economic interests of other shareholders;
- the rate at which a company grants equity awards;
- the features of the plan and costs associated with it;
- whether the plan allows for repricing or replacement of underwater stock options; and
- quantitative data regarding compensation ranges by industry and company size.

We scrutinize any proposed repricing or replacement of underwater stock options, taking into consideration the stock's volatility, management's rationale for the repricing or replacement, the new exercise price, and any other factors we deem relevant.



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### Employee Stock Purchase Plans

Employee stock purchase plans permit employees to purchase company stock at discounted prices and, under certain circumstances, receive favorable tax treatment when they sell the stock. The Lord Abbett Advisers will vote on a case-by-case basis on employee stock purchase plans and will consider overall incentive structure and any dilutive effects of such plans, among other factors.

### Clawback Provisions

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that clawback provisions generally encourage executive accountability and help mitigate a company's risk-taking behavior. We will evaluate proposals to require clawback provisions on a case-by-case basis and will consider a variety of factors, including concerns about the amount of compensation paid to the executive, the executive's or the company's performance, or accounting irregularities, among other relevant factors.

### Tax Gross-ups

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally support the adoption of anti-tax gross-up policies, which limit payments by a company to an executive intended to reimburse some or all the executive's tax liability with respect to compensation, perquisites, and other benefits.

### Severance Agreements

Severance (also referred to as "golden parachute") payments are sometimes made to departing executives after termination or upon a company's change in control. The Lord Abbett Advisers will consider severance arrangements in the overall evaluation of executive compensation and may scrutinize cases in which benefits are especially lucrative, granted despite the executive's or the company's poor performance, or materially amended shortly before a triggering event. We will vote shareholder proposals related to severance agreements on a case-by-case basis.

## Shareholder Rights

### Proxy Access

Proxy access proposals advocate permitting shareholders to have their nominees for election to a company's board of directors included in the company's proxy statement in opposition to the company's own nominees. Proxy access initiatives enable shareholders to nominate their own directors without incurring the often substantial cost of preparing and mailing a proxy statement, making it less expensive and easier for shareholders to challenge incumbent directors. The Lord Abbett Advisers vote on a case-by-case basis and will evaluate proposals that seek to allow proxy access based on the merits of each situation.

Similarly, we evaluate proposals that seek to amend the terms of an already existing proxy access by-law ("proxy fix-it" proposals) on a case-by-case basis but may vote against these proposals if the existing proxy access by-law has reasonable provisions already in place.



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### Shareholder Rights Plans

Shareholder rights plans or “poison pills” are a mechanism of defending a company against takeover efforts. Poison pills allow current shareholders to purchase stock at discounted prices or redeem shares at a premium after a takeover, effectively making the company more expensive and less attractive to potential acquirers. The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that poison pills can serve to entrench management and discourage takeover offers that may be attractive to shareholders. Accordingly, we generally vote in favor of proposals to eliminate poison pills and proposals to require that companies submit poison pills for shareholder ratification.

In evaluating a poison pill proposal, however, the Lord Abbett Advisers may consider the following factors, among others:

- the duration of the poison pill;
- whether we believe the poison pill facilitates a legitimate business strategy that is likely to enhance shareholder value;
- our level of confidence in management;
- whether we believe the poison pill will be used to force potential acquirers to negotiate with management and assure a degree of stability that will support long-term corporate goals; and
- the need to guard against takeover attempts.

### Rights to Call Special Shareholder Meetings

The Lord Abbett Advisers typically support the right to call special shareholder meetings. In evaluating such a proposal, we will consider the following factors, among others:

- the stock ownership threshold required to call a special meeting;
- the purposes for which shareholders may call a special meeting;
- whether the company’s annual meetings offer an adequate forum in which shareholders may raise their concerns; and
- the anticipated economic impact on the company of having to hold additional shareholder meetings.

Similarly, we evaluate proposals that seek to amend the terms of an existing special meeting right on a case-by-case basis. We may vote against these proposals if the existing provision has a reasonable threshold in place.

### Rights to Act by Written Consent

The Lord Abbett Advisers vote on a case-by-case basis on proposals requesting rights to act by written consent, though we may vote against these proposals if the company already grants shareholders the right to call special shareholder meetings at a reasonable threshold.



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### Virtual Shareholder Meetings

Companies should hold annual special shareholder meetings in a manner that best services the needs of its shareholders and the company. Shareholders should have the opportunity to participate in such meetings. Shareholder meetings provide shareholders with the opportunity to provide feedback or raise concerns and hear from the board and company management.

The Lord Abbett Advisers will generally support management proposals seeking to allow for the convening of hybrid shareholder meetings (allowing shareholders the option to attend and participate either in person or through a virtual platform). We will consider proposals to authorize the company to hold virtual only meetings (held entirely through a virtual platform with no in-person component) on a case-by-case basis.

### Supermajority Vote Requirements

A proposal that is subject to a supermajority vote must receive the support of more than a simple majority to pass. Supermajority vote requirements can have the effect of entrenching management by making it more difficult to effect change for a company and its corporate governance practices. The Lord Abbett Advisers typically support the ability of shareholders to approve or reject proposals based on a simple majority vote and will generally vote for proposals to remove supermajority vote requirements and against proposals to add them.

### Cumulative Voting

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally vote against cumulative voting proposals. Cumulative voting provides that shareholders may concentrate their votes for one or more candidates, a system that can enable a minority block to place representation on a board.

### Confidential Voting

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that confidential voting allows shareholders to vote without fear of retribution or coercion based on their views. Thus, we generally support proposals that seek to preserve shareholders' anonymity.

### Reimbursing Proxy Solicitation Expenses

The Lord Abbett Advisers vote on a case-by-case basis on shareholder proposals to require a company to reimburse reasonable expenses incurred by one or more shareholders in a successful proxy contest.

### Transacting Other Business

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that proposals to allow shareholders to transact other business at a meeting may deprive other shareholders of sufficient time and information needed to carefully evaluate the relevant business issues and determine how to vote with respect to them. Therefore, we typically vote against such proposals.



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### Corporate Matters

#### Charter Amendments

A company's charter documents, which may consist of articles of incorporation or a declaration of trust and bylaws, govern the company's organizational matters and affairs. The Lord Abbett Advisers consider proposals related to charter amendments on a case-by-case basis to the extent they are not explicitly covered by these Guidelines.

#### Capital Structure

A company may propose amendments to its charter documents to change the number of authorized shares or create new classes of stock. The Lord Abbett Advisers will generally support proposals to increase a company's number of authorized shares if the company has articulated a clear and reasonable purpose for the increase (*e.g.*, to facilitate a stock split, merger, acquisition, or restructuring). However, we generally oppose share capital increases that would have a substantial dilutive effect.

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally believe that all shares should have equal voting rights at publicly traded companies and will:

- generally oppose proposals to create a new class of stock with superior voting rights; and
- typically vote for proposals to eliminate a dual or multi-class voting structure.

#### Reincorporation

The Lord Abbett Advisers generally follow management's recommendation regarding proposals to change a company's state of incorporation, although we consider the rationale for the reincorporation and the financial, legal, and corporate governance implications of the reincorporation. We will vote against reincorporation proposals that we believe contravene shareholders' interests.

#### Mergers, Acquisitions, and Restructurings

The Lord Abbett Advisers view the decision to approve or reject a potential merger, acquisition, or restructuring as being equivalent to an investment decision and evaluate such proposals on a case-by-case basis. In evaluating such proposals, we may consider the following factors, among others:

- the anticipated financial and operating benefits;
- the offer price;
- the prospects of the resulting company; and
- any expected changes in corporate governance and their impact on shareholder rights.



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### Political Contributions and Lobbying

The Lord Abbett Advisers recognize that companies may participate in the political process within legal limits to help shape public policy consistent with a company's strategy. While we understand the rationale for involvement in certain political activities, we generally encourage transparency in the process to help stakeholders evaluate potential risks that may impact returns. The Lord Abbett Advisers generally encourage the disclosure of oversight mechanisms related to political contributions and lobbying processes, including board oversight.

We will vote proposals related to political contributions and lobbying on a case-by-case basis. In evaluating these proposals, we will consider the current level of disclosure, peer disclosure, previous litigation or controversies, the consistency between a company's public statements on issues and the nature of its lobbying activity, engagement, and reputational or legal risks, among other factors.

### Climate Proposals

The Lord Abbett Advisers will vote proposals relating to environmental matters on a case-by-case basis. In evaluating these proposals, we consider materiality and risk and return potential as well as a company's governance framework, current disclosures, peer disclosures, engagement, related controversies, and environmental commitments, among other factors.

### Human Rights

The Lord Abbett Advisers support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights and companies that are not complicit in human rights abuses. In evaluating proposals related to human rights, the Lord Abbett Advisers will consider current company disclosures, peer disclosures, engagement, and related controversies, among other factors and vote such matters on a case-by-case basis.

### Auditors

The Lord Abbett Advisers believe that companies normally are in the best position to select their auditors. However, we will evaluate such proposals on a case-by-case basis and may consider any concerns about impaired independence, accounting irregularities, controversies, or failure of the auditors to act in shareholders' best economic interests, among other relevant factors.