



# **Invesco's Policy Statement on Global Corporate Governance and Proxy Voting**

Effective May 2025

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## **I. Introduction**

Invesco Ltd. and its wholly owned investment adviser subsidiaries (collectively, “Invesco,” the “Company,” “our” or “we”) have adopted and implemented this Policy Statement on Global Corporate Governance and Proxy Voting (this “Global Proxy Voting Policy” or “Policy”), which we believe describes policies and procedures reasonably designed to assure proxy voting matters are conducted in the best interests of our clients.

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### **A. Our Approach to Proxy Voting**

Invesco understands proxy voting is an integral aspect of the investment management services it provides to clients. As an investment adviser, Invesco has a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of our clients. Where Invesco has been delegated the authority to vote proxies with respect to securities held in client portfolios, we exercise such authority in the manner we believe best serves the interests of such clients and their investment objectives. We recognize that proxy voting is an important tool that enables us to drive shareholder value.

A summary of our global operational procedures and governance structure is included in Part II of this Policy. Invesco’s good governance principles, which are included in Part III of this Policy, and our internal proxy voting guidelines are both principles and rules, and cover topics that typically appear on voting ballots. Invesco’s investment teams retain ultimate authority to vote proxies. Given the complexity of proxy issues across our clients’ holdings globally, our investment teams consider many factors when determining how to cast votes. We seek to evaluate and make voting decisions that favor proxy proposals and governance practices that, in our view, promote long-term shareholder value.

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### **B. Applicability of Policy**

Invesco’s investment teams vote proxies on behalf of Invesco-sponsored funds and both fund and non-fund advisory clients that have explicitly granted Invesco authority in writing to vote proxies on their behalf. In the case of institutional or sub-advised clients, Invesco will vote the proxies in accordance with this Policy unless the client agreement specifies that the client retains the right to vote or has designated a named fiduciary to direct voting. This Policy is implemented by all entities listed in Exhibit A, except as noted below. Due to regional or asset class-specific considerations, certain entities may have local proxy voting guidelines or policies and procedures that differ from this Policy. In the event local policies and this Policy differ, the local policy will apply. These entities subject to local policies are listed in Exhibit A.

Where our passively managed strategies and certain other client accounts managed in accordance with fixed income, money market and index strategies (including exchange-traded funds) (referred to as “passively managed accounts”) hold the same investments as our actively managed equity funds, voting decisions with respect to those accounts generally follow the voting decisions made by the largest active holder of the equity shares. Invesco refers to this approach as “Majority Voting.” This process of Majority Voting seeks to ensure that our passively managed accounts benefit from the engagement and deep dialogue of our active investment teams, which can benefit shareholders in passively

managed accounts. Invesco will generally apply the majority holder's vote instruction to these passively managed accounts. Where securities are held only in passively managed accounts and not owned in our actively managed accounts, the proxy will be generally voted in line with this Policy and internal proxy voting guidelines. Notwithstanding the above, investment teams of our passively managed accounts retain full discretion over proxy voting decisions to individually evaluate a specific proxy proposal or override Majority Voting and vote the shares as they determine to be in the best interest of those accounts, absent certain types of conflicts of interest which are discussed elsewhere in this Policy. To the extent our investment teams believe a specific proxy proposal requires enhanced analysis or if it is not covered by this Policy or internal guidelines, our investment teams will evaluate such proposal and execute the voting decision.

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## **II. Global Proxy Voting Operational Procedures**

Invesco's global proxy voting operational procedures (the "Procedures") are in place to implement the provisions of this Policy. Invesco aims to vote all proxies for which it has voting authority in accordance with this Policy, as implemented by the Procedures outlined in this Section II. It is the responsibility of Invesco's Proxy Voting and Governance team to maintain and facilitate the review of the Procedures annually.

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### **A. Oversight and Governance**

Oversight of the proxy voting process is provided by the Proxy Voting and Governance team and the Global Invesco Proxy Advisory Committee ("Global IPAC"). For some clients, third parties (e.g., U.S. fund boards) and internal sub-committees also provide oversight of the proxy voting process.

Guided by its philosophy that investment teams should manage proxy voting, Invesco has created the Global IPAC. The Global IPAC is an investments-driven committee comprising representatives from various investment management teams. Representatives from Invesco's Legal, Compliance, Risk, ESG and Government Affairs departments may also participate in Global IPAC meetings. The Director of Proxy Voting and Governance chairs the committee. The Global IPAC provides a forum for investment teams, in accordance with this Policy, to:

- monitor, understand and discuss key proxy issues and voting trends within the Invesco complex;
- assist Invesco in meeting regulatory obligations;
- review votes not aligned with our good governance principles; and
- consider conflicts of interest in the proxy voting process.

In fulfilling its responsibilities, the Global IPAC meets as necessary (but no less than semi-annually) and has the following responsibilities and functions: (i) acts as a key liaison between the Proxy Voting and Governance team and investment teams to assure compliance with this Policy; (ii) provides insight on market trends as it relates to stewardship practices; (iii) monitors proxy votes that present potential conflicts of interest;

and (iv) reviews and provides input, at least annually, on this Policy and related internal procedures and recommends any changes to this Policy based on, but not limited to, Invesco's experience, evolving industry practices, or developments in applicable laws or regulations. In addition, when necessary, the Global IPAC Conflict of Interest Sub-committee makes voting decisions on proxies that require an override of this Policy due to an actual or perceived conflict of interest. The Global IPAC reviews Global IPAC Conflict of Interest Sub-committee voting decisions.

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## **B. The Proxy Voting Process**

At Invesco, investment teams execute voting decisions through our proprietary voting platform and are supported by the Proxy Voting and Governance team and a dedicated technology team. Invesco's proprietary voting platform streamlines the proxy voting process by providing our global investment teams with direct access to proxy meeting materials, including ballots, Invesco's internal proxy voting guidelines and recommendations, as well as proxy research and vote recommendations issued by Proxy Service Providers (as such term is defined in Part C below). Votes executed on Invesco's proprietary voting platform are transmitted to our proxy voting agent electronically and are then delivered to the respective designee for tabulation.

Invesco's Proxy Voting and Governance team monitors whether we have received proxy ballots for shareholder meetings in which we are entitled to vote. This involves coordination among various parties in the proxy voting ecosystem, including, but not limited to, our proxy voting agent, custodians and ballot distributors. If necessary, we may choose to escalate a matter in accordance with our internal procedures to facilitate our ability to exercise our right to vote.

Our proprietary systems facilitate internal control and oversight of the voting process. To facilitate the casting of votes in an efficient manner, Invesco may choose to pre-populate and leverage the capabilities of these proprietary systems to automatically submit votes based on internal proxy voting guidelines. If necessary, votes may be cast by Invesco or via the Proxy Service Providers Web platform at our direction.

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## **C. Retention and Oversight of Proxy Service Providers**

Invesco has retained two independent third-party proxy voting service providers to provide proxy support globally: Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. ("ISS") and Glass Lewis ("GL"). In addition to ISS and GL, Invesco may retain certain local proxy service providers to access regionally specific research (such local proxy service providers, collectively with ISS and GL, "Proxy Service Providers"). The services may include one or more of the following: providing a comprehensive analysis of each voting item and interpretations of each voting item based on Invesco's internal proxy voting guidelines; and providing assistance with the administration of the proxy process and certain proxy voting-related functions, including, but not limited to, operational, reporting and recordkeeping services.

While Invesco may take into consideration the information and recommendations provided by the Proxy Service Providers, including recommendations based upon Invesco's internal proxy voting guidelines and recommendations provided to such Proxy Service Providers,

Invesco's investment teams retain full and independent discretion with respect to proxy voting decisions.

Updates to previously issued proxy research reports and recommendations may be provided to incorporate newly available information or additional disclosure provided by an issuer regarding a matter to be voted on, or to correct factual errors that may result in the issuance of revised proxy vote recommendations. Invesco's Proxy Voting and Governance team periodically monitors for these research alerts issued by Proxy Service Providers that are shared with our investment teams.

Invesco performs extensive initial and ongoing due diligence on the Proxy Service Providers it engages globally. Invesco conducts annual due diligence meetings as part of its ongoing due diligence. The topics included in these annual due diligence meetings include material changes in service levels, leadership and control, conflicts of interest, methodologies for formulating vote recommendations, operations, and research personnel, among other topics. In addition, Invesco monitors and communicates with the Proxy Service Providers throughout the year and monitors their compliance with Invesco's performance and policy standards.

As part of our annual policy development process, Invesco may engage with other external proxy and governance experts to understand market trends and developments. These meetings provide Invesco with an opportunity to assess the Proxy Service Providers' capabilities, conflicts of interest and service levels, as well as provide investment professionals with direct insight into the Proxy Service Providers' stances on key corporate governance and proxy topics and their policy framework/methodologies.

Invesco completes a review of the System and Organizational Controls ("SOC") Reports for Proxy Service Providers to confirm the related controls were in place and to provide reasonable assurance that the related controls operated effectively.

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#### **D. Disclosures and Recordkeeping**

Unless otherwise required by local or regional requirements, Invesco maintains voting records for at least seven (7) years. Invesco makes its proxy voting records publicly available in compliance with regulatory requirements and industry best practices in the regions below:

- In accordance with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") regulations, Invesco will file a record of all proxy voting activity for the prior 12 months ending June 30<sup>th</sup> for each U.S. registered fund. In addition, Invesco, as an institutional manager that is required to file Form 13F, will file a record of its votes on certain executive compensation ("say on pay") matters. The proxy voting filings will generally be made on or before August 31<sup>st</sup> of each year and are available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). In addition, each year, the Form N-PX proxy voting records for Invesco mutual funds' and closed-end funds', and Invesco ETF's are made available on Invesco's website [here](#).
- To the extent applicable, the U.S. Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended ("ERISA"), including Department of Labor regulations and guidance thereunder, provide that the named fiduciary generally should be able to

review not only the investment adviser's voting procedure with respect to plan-owned stock, but also the actions taken in individual proxy voting situations. In the case of institutional and sub-advised clients, clients may contact their client service representative to request information about how Invesco voted proxies on their behalf. Absent specific contractual guidelines, such requests may be made on a semi-annual basis.

- In the UK and Europe, Invesco publicly discloses our proxy votes monthly in compliance with the UK Stewardship Code [here](#). Additionally, in accordance with the European Shareholder Rights Directive and the UK Financial Conduct Authority's Conduct of Business Sourcebook ("UK COBS"), Invesco publishes an annual report on implementation of our engagement policies, including a general description of voting behavior, an explanation of the most significant votes and the use of proxy voting advisors.
- In Canada, Invesco publicly discloses a record of all proxy voting activity for the prior 12 months ending June 30th for each Invesco Canada registered mutual fund and ETF. In compliance with the National Instrument 81-106 Investment Fund Continuous Disclosure, the proxy voting records will generally be made available on or before August 31st of each year [here](#).
- In Japan, Invesco publicly discloses our proxy votes annually in compliance with the Japan Stewardship Code [here](#).
- In India, Invesco publicly discloses our proxy votes quarterly [here](#) in compliance with The Securities and Exchange Board of India ("SEBI") Circular on stewardship code for all Mutual Funds and all categories of Alternative Investment Funds in relation to their investment in listed equities. SEBI has implemented principles on voting for Mutual Funds through circulars dated March 15, 2010, March 24, 2014, and March 5, 2021, which prescribed detailed mandatory requirements for Mutual Funds in India to disclose their voting policies and actual voting by Mutual Funds on different resolutions of investee companies.
- In Hong Kong, Invesco Hong Kong Limited will provide proxy voting records upon request in compliance with the Securities and Futures Commission Principles of Responsible Ownership.
- In Taiwan, Invesco publicly discloses our proxy voting policy and proxy votes annually in compliance with Taiwan's Stewardship Principles for Institutional Investors [here](#).
- In Australia, Invesco publicly discloses a summary of its proxy voting record annually [here](#).
- In Singapore, Invesco Asset Management Singapore Ltd. will provide proxy voting records upon request in compliance with the Singapore Stewardship Principles for Responsible Investors.

Invesco may engage Proxy Service Providers to make available or maintain certain required proxy voting records in accordance with the above stated applicable regulations.

Separately managed account clients that have authorized Invesco to vote proxies on their behalf will receive proxy voting information with respect to those accounts upon request. Certain other clients may obtain information about how we voted proxies on their behalf by contacting their client service representative or advisor. Invesco does not publicly disclose voting intentions in advance of shareholder meetings.

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## **E. Market and Operational Limitations**

In the great majority of instances, Invesco will vote proxies. However, in certain circumstances, Invesco may refrain from voting where the economic or other opportunity costs of voting exceed any benefit to clients. Moreover, ERISA fiduciaries must not subordinate the economic interests of plan participants and beneficiaries to unrelated objectives when voting proxies or exercising other shareholder rights. These matters are left to the discretion of the relevant investment team. Such circumstances could include, for example:

- Certain countries impose temporary trading restrictions, a practice known as “share blocking.” This means that once the shares have been voted, the shareholder does not have the ability to sell the shares for a certain period of time, usually until the day after the conclusion of the shareholder meeting. Unless a client directs otherwise, Invesco generally refrains from voting proxies at companies or in markets where share blocking applies. In some instances, Invesco may determine that the benefit to the client(s) of voting a specific proxy outweighs the client’s temporary inability to sell the shares.
- Some companies require a representative to attend shareholder meetings in person to vote a proxy or issuer-specific additional documentation, certification or the disclosure of beneficial owner details to vote. Invesco may determine that the costs of sending a representative or submitting additional documentation, including power of attorney documentation, or disclosures outweigh the benefit of voting a particular proxy.
- Invesco may not receive proxy materials from the relevant fund or custodian used by our clients with sufficient time and information to make an informed independent voting decision.
- Invesco held shares on the record date but has sold them prior to the meeting date.
- Although Invesco uses reasonable efforts to vote a proxy, proxies may not be accepted or may be rejected for various reasons, including due to changes in the agenda for a shareholder meeting for which Invesco does not have sufficient notice, when certain custodians used by our clients do not offer a proxy voting in a jurisdiction, or due to operational issues experienced by third parties involved in the process or by an issuer or sub-custodian.
- Additionally, despite the best efforts of Invesco and its proxy voting agent, there may be instances where our votes may not be received or properly tabulated by an issuer or an issuer’s agent. Invesco will generally endeavor to vote and maintain



any paper ballots received provided they are delivered in a timely manner ahead of the vote deadline.

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## **F. Securities Lending**

Invesco's funds may participate in a securities lending program. In circumstances where funds' shares are on loan, the voting rights of those shares are transferred to the borrower. If the security in question is on loan as part of a securities lending program, Invesco may determine that the vote is material to the investment, and therefore, the benefit to the client of voting a particular proxy outweighs the economic benefits of securities lending. In those instances, Invesco may determine to recall securities that are on loan prior to the meeting record date, so we will be entitled to vote those shares. For example, for certain actively managed funds, the lending agent has standing instructions to systematically recall all securities on loan for Invesco to vote the proxies on those previously loaned shares. There may be instances where Invesco may be unable to recall shares or may choose not to recall shares. Such circumstances may include instances when Invesco does not receive timely notice of the meeting, or when Invesco deems the opportunity for a fund to generate securities lending revenue outweighs the benefits of voting at a specific meeting. The relevant investment team will make these determinations.

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## **G. Conflicts of Interest**

There may be occasions where voting proxies may present a perceived or actual conflict of interest between Invesco, as investment adviser, and one or more of Invesco's clients or vendors.

### **Firm-Level Conflicts of Interest**

A conflict of interest may exist if Invesco has a material business relationship with either the company soliciting a 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, a client relationship, serving as a vendor whose products/services are material or significant to Invesco, serving as a distributor of Invesco's products, or serving as a significant research provider or broker to Invesco.

Invesco identifies potential conflicts of interest based on a variety of factors, including, but not limited, to the materiality of the relationship between the issuer or its affiliates to Invesco.

Material firm-level conflicts of interests are identified by individuals and groups within Invesco globally using criteria established by the Proxy Voting and Governance team. These criteria are monitored and updated periodically by the Proxy Voting and Governance team so up-to-date information is available when conducting conflicts checks. Operating procedures and associated governance are designed to seek to assure conflicts of interest are appropriately considered ahead of voting proxies. The Global IPAC Conflict of Interest Sub-committee maintains oversight of the process. Companies identified as conflicted will be voted in line with the principles below as implemented by Invesco's internal proxy voting guidelines. To the extent an investment team disagrees with the Policy, our processes and procedures seek to assure that justifications and rationales are

fully documented and presented to the Global IPAC Conflict of Interest Sub-committee for approval by a majority vote.

As an additional safeguard, persons from Invesco's marketing, distribution and other customer-facing functions may not serve on the Global IPAC. For the avoidance of doubt, Invesco may not consider Invesco Ltd.'s pecuniary interest when voting proxies on behalf of clients. To avoid any appearance of a conflict of interest, Invesco will instruct "abstain" on proxies issued by Invesco Ltd. that are held in client accounts. If an "abstain" vote is not operationally possible, Invesco will not vote the shares.

### **Personal Conflicts of Interest**

A conflict also may exist where an Invesco employee has a known personal or business relationship with other proponents of proxy proposals, participants in proxy contests, corporate directors, or candidates for directorships. Under Invesco's Global Code of Conduct, Invesco entities and individuals must act in the best interests of clients and must avoid any situation that gives rise to an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

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

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## **H. Voting Funds of Funds**

Funds of funds holdings can create various special situations for proxy voting, including operational challenges in certain markets. The scenarios below set out examples of how Invesco votes funds of funds:

- When required by law or regulation, shares of an Invesco fund held by other Invesco funds will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of external shareholders of the underlying fund. If such proportional voting is not operationally possible, Invesco will not vote the shares.
- When required by law or regulation, shares of an unaffiliated registered fund held by one or more Invesco funds will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of external shareholders of the underlying fund. If such proportional voting is not operationally possible, Invesco will not vote the shares.
- For U.S. funds of funds where proportional voting is not required by law or regulation, shares of Invesco funds held by other Invesco funds generally will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of external shareholders of the underlying fund. If such proportional voting is not operationally possible, Invesco will vote in line with internal proxy voting guidelines. Investment teams retain full discretion over proxy voting decisions for funds of funds where proportional voting is not required by law or regulation and may choose to vote differently.
- For U.S. funds of funds where proportional voting is not required by law or regulation, shares of unaffiliated registered funds held by one or more Invesco funds generally will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of external

shareholders of the underlying fund. If such proportional voting is not operationally possible, Invesco will vote in line with internal proxy voting guidelines. Investment teams retain full discretion over proxy voting decisions for funds of funds where proportional voting is not required by law or regulation and may choose to vote differently.

- Non-U.S. funds of funds will not be voted proportionally due to operational limitations. The applicable Invesco entity will vote in line with its local policies, as indicated in Exhibit A. If no local policies exist, Invesco will vote non-U.S. funds of funds in line with the firm level conflicts of interest process described above.
- Where client or proprietary accounts are invested directly in shares issued by Invesco affiliates and Invesco has proxy voting authority, shares will be voted in the same proportion as the votes of external shareholders of the underlying holding. If proportional voting is not possible, the shares will be voted in line with a Proxy Service Provider's recommendation.
- Unless it decides to solicit investor instructions, Invesco shall not vote the shares of an Invesco fund held by a fund, client or proprietary account managed by Invesco Canada Ltd.

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## **I. Review of Policy**

It is the responsibility of the Global IPAC to review this Policy and the internal proxy voting guidelines annually to consider whether any changes are warranted. This annual review seeks to assure this Policy and the internal proxy voting guidelines remain consistent with clients' best interests, regulatory requirements, local market standards and best practices. Further, this Policy and our internal proxy voting guidelines are reviewed at least annually by various departments within Invesco to seek to ensure that they remain consistent with Invesco's views on best practice in corporate governance and long-term investment stewardship.

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## **III. Our Good Governance Principles**

Invesco's good governance principles outline our views on best practice in corporate governance and long-term investment stewardship. These principles have been developed by our global investment teams in collaboration with the Proxy Voting and Governance team and various departments internally. The broad philosophy and guiding principles in this section inform our approach to long-term investment stewardship and proxy voting. The principles and positions reflected in this Policy are designed to guide Invesco's investment professionals in voting proxies; they are not intended to be exhaustive or prescriptive.

Our investment teams retain full discretion on vote execution in the context of our good governance principles and internal proxy voting guidelines, except where otherwise specified in this Policy. The final voting decisions may consider the unique facts and circumstances applicable to each company, issue, and individual ballot item. These include relevant market laws and regulations, country-specific best practices or corporate governance codes, the issuer's public disclosures, internal research, input from external research providers, and any dialogue we have had with company management. As a result, investment teams may reach

different conclusions on portfolio companies and may cast different votes at the same shareholder meeting. When investment teams choose to vote a proxy that is contrary to the principles below or internal proxy voting guidelines, they are required to document their rationales.

The following guiding principles apply to proxy voting with respect to operating companies. We apply a separate approach to open-end and closed-end investment companies and unit investment trusts. Where appropriate, these guidelines may be supplemented by additional internal guidance that considers regional variations in best practices, company disclosure and region-specific voting items. Invesco may vote on proposals not specifically addressed by these principles or guidelines based on an evaluation of a proposal's likelihood to enhance long-term shareholder value.

Our good governance principles are organized around six broad pillars:

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## **A. Transparency**

We expect companies to provide accurate, timely and complete information that enables investors to make informed investment decisions and effectively carry out their stewardship activities. Invesco supports the highest standards in corporate transparency and believes that these disclosures should be made available ahead of the voting deadlines for an annual general meeting or special meeting to allow for timely review and decision-making.

***Financial reporting:*** Company accounts and reporting must accurately reflect the underlying economic position of a company. Arrangements that may constitute an actual or perceived conflict with this objective should be avoided.

- We will generally support proposals to accept the annual financial statements, statutory accounts and similar proposals. However, if these reports are not presented in a timely manner or significant issues are identified regarding their integrity (e.g., the external auditor's opinion is absent or qualified), we will generally review the matter on a case-by-case basis.

### ***External auditor ratification and audit fees:***

- We will generally not support the ratification of the independent auditor and/or ratification of their fees payable if non-audit fees exceed audit and audit related fees or if there are significant auditing controversies or questions regarding the independence of the external auditor. We will consider an auditor's length of service as a company's independent auditor in applying this policy.
- We will generally vote against the incumbent audit committee chair, or nearest equivalent, where the non-audit fees paid to the independent auditor exceed audit fees for two consecutive years or other problematic accounting practices are identified such as fraud, misapplication of audit standards or persistent material weaknesses/deficiencies in internal controls over financial reporting.

**Other business:** Generally, we vote against proposals to transact other business matters where disclosure is insufficient and we are not given the opportunity to review and understand what issues may be raised.

**Related-party transactions:** Invesco will vote all related party transactions on a case-by-case basis. The vote analysis will consider the following factors, among others:

- disclosure of the transaction details must be full and transparent (such as details of the related parties and of the transaction subject, timeframe, pricing, potential conflicts of interest, and other terms and conditions);
- the transaction must be fair and appropriate, with a sound strategic rationale;
- the company should provide an independent opinion either from the supervisory board or an external financial adviser;
- minority shareholders' interests should be protected; and
- the transactions should be on an arm's length basis.

**Routine business items and formalities:** Invesco generally votes non-contentious routine business items and formalities as recommended by the issuer's management and board of directors. Routine business items and formalities generally include proposals to:

- accept or approve a variety of routine reports; and
- approve provisional financial budgets and strategy for the current year.

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## **B. Accountability**

Robust shareholder rights and strong board oversight help ensure that management adhere to the highest standards of ethical conduct, are held to account for poor performance and responsibly deliver value creation for stakeholders over the long term. We encourage companies to adopt governance features that ensure board and management accountability. In particular, we consider the following as key mechanisms for enhancing accountability to investors:

**One share one vote:** Voting rights are an important tool for investors to hold boards and management teams accountable.

- We generally do not support proposals that establish or perpetuate dual classes of voting shares, double voting rights or other means of differentiated voting or disproportionate board nomination rights.
- We generally support proposals to decommission differentiated voting rights.
- Where unequal voting rights are established, we expect these to be accompanied by reasonable safeguards to protect minority shareholders' interests.

**Anti-takeover devices:** Mechanisms designed to prevent or delay takeover attempts may unduly limit the accountability of boards and management teams to shareholders.

- We generally will not support proposals to adopt antitakeover devices such as poison pills. Exceptions may be warranted at entities without significant operations and to preserve the value of net operating losses carried forward or where the applicability of the pill is limited in scope and duration.
- In addition, we will generally not support capital authorizations or amendments to corporate articles or bylaws at operating companies that may be utilized for antitakeover purposes, for example, the authorization of classes of shares of preferred stock with unspecified voting, dividend, conversion or other rights (“blank check” authorizations).
- We generally support proposals for the removal of anti-takeover provisions.

**Shareholder rights:** We support the rights of shareholders to hold boards and management teams accountable for company performance. We generally support best-practice-aligned proposals to enhance shareholder rights.

- **Proxy access:** Within the US market, we generally vote for management and shareholder proposals for proxy access that employ guidelines reflecting the SEC framework for proxy access with the following provisions:
  - Ownership threshold: at least three percent (3%) of the voting power;
  - Ownership duration: at least three (3) years of continuous ownership for each member of the nominating group;
  - Aggregation: minimal or no limits on the number of shareholders permitted to form a nominating group; and
  - Cap: cap on nominees of one (1) director or twenty-five percent (25%) of the board, whichever is higher.
- **Shareholder ability to call special meetings:** Generally, we vote for management and shareholder proposals that provide shareholders with the ability to call special meetings with a minimum threshold of 10% but not greater than 25%. We generally will not support proposals to prohibit shareholders’ right to call special meetings.
- **Shareholder ability to act by written consent:** Generally, we assess shareholder proposals that provide shareholders with the ability to act by written consent case-by-case taking into account the following factors, among other things:
  - Shareholders’ current right to call special meetings; and
  - Investor ownership structure.

- ***Supermajority vote requirements:*** Generally, we vote against proposals to require a supermajority shareholder vote. We will vote for management and shareholder proposals to reduce supermajority vote requirements, in favor of a simple majority threshold. Lowering this requirement can democratize corporate governance and facilitate a more fair and dynamic decision-making that empowers and represents a wider shareholder base, especially for key corporate actions such as mergers, changes in control, or proposals to amend or repeal a portion of a company's articles of incorporation.
- ***Bundling of proposals:*** It is our view that the bundling of multiple proposals or articles amendments in one single voting item restricts shareholders' ability to express their views, with an all-or-nothing vote. We generally oppose such proposals unless all bundled resolutions are deemed acceptable and conducive of long-term shareholder value.

***Virtual shareholder meetings:*** Companies should hold their annual or special shareholder meetings in a manner that best serves the needs of its shareholders and the company. Shareholders should have an opportunity to participate in such meetings. Shareholder meetings provide an important mechanism by which shareholders provide feedback or raise concerns and hear from the board and management.

- We 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).
- Management or shareholder proposals that seek to authorize the company to hold virtual-only meetings (held entirely through virtual platform with no corresponding in-person physical meeting) will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Companies have a responsibility to provide strong justification and establish safeguards to preserve comparable rights and opportunities for shareholders to participate virtually as they would have during an in-person meeting. Invesco will consider, among other things, a company's practices, jurisdiction and disclosure, including the items set forth below:
  - i. meeting procedures and requirements are disclosed in advance of a meeting detailing the rationale for eliminating the in-person meeting;
  - ii. clear and comprehensive description of which shareholders are qualified to participate, how shareholders can join the virtual-only meeting, how and when shareholders submit and ask questions either in advance of or during the meeting;
  - iii. disclosure regarding procedures for questions received during the meeting, but not answered due to time or other restrictions; and
  - iv. description of how shareholder rights will be protected in a virtual-only meeting format including the ability to vote shares during the time the polls are open.



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## C. Board Composition and Effectiveness

### *Voting on director nominees in uncontested elections*

**Definition of independence:** Invesco considers local market definitions of director independence, but applies a proprietary standard for assessing director independence considering a director's status as a current or former employee of the business, any commercial or consulting relationships with the company, the level of shares beneficially owned or represented and familial relationships, among others.

**Board and committee independence:** The board of directors, board committees and regional equivalents should be sufficiently independent from management, substantial shareholders and should be free from conflicts of interest. We consider local market practices in this regard and in general we look for a balance across the board of directors. Above all, we like to see signs of robust challenge and discussion in the boardroom.

- We will generally vote against one or more non-independent directors when a board is less than majority independent, but we will take into account local market practice with regards to board independence in limited circumstances where this standard is not appropriate.
- We will generally vote against non-independent directors serving on the audit committee.
- We will generally vote against non-independent directors serving on the compensation committee.
- We will generally vote against non-independent directors serving on the nominating committee.
- In relation to the board, compensation committee and nominating committee we will consider the appropriateness of significant shareholder representation in applying this policy. This exception will generally not apply to the audit committee.

**Independent Board Chair:** It is our view that independent board leadership generally enhances management accountability to investors. Companies deviating from this best practice should provide a strong justification and establish safeguards to ensure that there is independent oversight of a board's activities (e.g., by appointing a lead or senior independent director with clearly defined powers and responsibilities).

- We will generally vote against the incumbent nominating committee chair, or nearest equivalent, where the board chair is not independent unless a lead independent or senior director is appointed.
- We will review shareholder proposals requesting that the board chair be an independent director on a case-by-case basis, taking into account several factors, including, but not limited to, the presence of a lead independent director and a sufficiently independent board, a sound governance structure with no record of recent material governance failures or controversies, and sound financial



performance. Invesco will also positively consider less disruptive proposals that will enter into force at the subsequent leadership transition.

- We will generally not vote against a CEO or executive serving as board chair solely on the basis of this issue, however, we may do so in instances where we have significant concerns regarding a company's corporate governance, capital allocation decisions and/or compensation practices.

**Attendance and over boarding:** Director attendance at board and committee meetings is a fundamental part of their responsibilities and provides efficient oversight for the company and its investors. In addition, directors should not have excessive external board or managerial commitments that may interfere with their ability to execute the duties of a director.

- We will generally vote against or withhold votes from directors who attend less than 75% of board and committee meetings for two consecutive years. We expect companies to disclose any extenuating circumstances, such as health matters or family emergencies, that would justify a director's low attendance, in line with good practices.
- We will generally vote against directors who have more than four total mandates at public operating companies, if their attendance is below 75% of all board and committee meetings in the year under review, or if material governance failures have been identified. We apply a lower threshold for directors with significant commitments such as executive positions and chairmanships.

**Other Board Qualifications:** In our view, an effective board should be comprised of qualified and engaged directors with a mix of skills, experience, perspectives and characteristics. We recognize that the presence of a variety of these factors in the boardroom may contribute to robust challenge, debate, and innovation, and allows the board to make informed judgements. We expect companies to comply with their local market legal requirements or listing standards for board diversity and to the extent that a company fails to comply with such requirements, Invesco will generally vote against the nominating committee chair, or nearest equivalent. Invesco will also consider the professional experience of the individuals on the board and how they underpin the company's performance and long-term shareholder value, among other factors.

**Director term limits and retirement age:** It is important for a board of directors to examine its membership regularly with a view to ensuring that the board is effective, and the company continues to benefit from a variety of director viewpoints and experience. It is our view, an individual board's nominating committee is best positioned to determine whether director term limits or establishing a mandatory retirement age would be an appropriate measure to help achieve these goals and, if so, the nature of such limits. Therefore, Invesco generally opposes shareholder proposals to limit the tenure of board directors or to impose a mandatory retirement age.

**Governance failures:** A board of directors is ultimately responsible for overseeing management and ensuring that proper governance, oversight and control mechanisms are in place at the company it oversees. Invesco considers the adequacy of a company's response to material oversight failures when determining whether any voting action is warranted. Invesco may take voting action against director nominees in response to

material failures of governance, risk oversight or fiduciary responsibilities at the company that adversely affect shareholder value. This may include for example, bribery, fines or sanctions from regulatory bodies, demonstrably poor risk oversight, or adverse legal judgments, among other things. In addition, Invesco will consider the responsibilities delegated to board sub-committees when determining if it is appropriate to hold the incumbent chair of the relevant committee, or nearest equivalent, accountable for these material failures.

**Director indemnification:** Invesco recognizes that individuals may be reluctant to serve as corporate directors if they are personally liable for all related lawsuits and legal costs. As a result, reasonable limitations on directors' liability can benefit a company and its shareholders by helping to attract and retain qualified directors while preserving recourse for shareholders in the event of misconduct by directors. Invesco will evaluate shareholder proposals to amend directors' indemnification and exculpation provisions on a case-by-case basis.

**Discharge of directors:** We will generally support proposals to ratify the actions of the board of directors, supervisory board and/or executive decision-making bodies, provided there are no material oversight failures and legal controversies, or other wrongdoings in the relevant fiscal year – committed or yet to be confirmed. When such oversight concerns are identified, we will consider a company's response to any issues raised and may vote against ratification proposals instead of, or in addition to, director nominees.

**Director election process:** Board members should generally stand for election annually and individually.

- We will generally support proposals requesting that directors stand for election annually.
- We will generally vote against the incumbent governance committee chair or nearest equivalent, if a company has a classified board structure that is not being phased out. We may make exceptions to this guideline in regions where market practice is for directors to stand for election on a staggered basis.
- We will generally support shareholder proposals to repeal a classified board and elect all directors annually.
- When a board is presented for election as a slate (e.g., shareholders are unable to vote against individual nominees and must vote for or against the entire nominated slate of directors) and this approach is not aligned with local market practice, we will generally vote against the slate in cases where we otherwise would vote against an individual nominee.
- Where market practice is to elect directors as a slate, we will generally support the nominated slate unless there are governance concerns with several of the individuals included on the slate or we have broad concerns with the composition of the board such as a lack of independence.

**Majority vote standard:** Invesco generally votes in favor of proposals to elect directors by a majority vote, except in cases where a company has adopted formal governance principles that present a meaningful alternative to the majority voting standard.

**Board size:** We will generally defer to the board with respect to determining the optimal number of board members given the size of the company and complexity of the business, provided that the proposed board size is sufficiently large to represent shareholder interests and sufficiently limited to remain effective.

**Board assessment and succession planning:** Invesco will consider and vote case-by-case on shareholder proposals to adopt a policy on succession planning. When evaluating board effectiveness, Invesco considers whether periodic performance reviews and skills assessments are conducted to ensure the board represents the interests of shareholders. In addition, boards should have a robust succession plan in place for key management and board personnel.

#### ***Voting on director nominees in contested elections***

**Proxy contests:** We will review case-by-case dissident shareholder proposals based on their individual merits. We consider the following factors, among others, when evaluating the merits of each list of nominees: the long-term performance of the company relative to its industry, management's track record, any relevant background information related to the contest, the qualifications of the respective lists of director nominees, the strategic merits of the approaches proposed by both sides, including the likelihood that the proposed goals can be met, and positions of stock ownership in the company.

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#### **D. Capitalization**

**Capital allocation:** Invesco expects companies to responsibly raise and deploy capital toward the long-term, sustainable success of the business. In addition, we expect capital allocation authorizations and decisions to be made with due regard to shareholder dilution, rights of shareholders to ratify significant corporate actions and pre-emptive rights, where applicable.

**Share issuance:** We generally support authorizations to issue shares without preemptive rights up to 20% of a company's issued share capital for general corporate purposes. However, for issuance requests with preemptive rights, we support authorizations up to a threshold of 50%. Shares should not be issued at a substantial discount to the market price. The same requirements are expected for convertible and non-convertible debt instruments.

**Share repurchase programs:** We generally support share repurchase plans in which all shareholders may participate on equal terms. However, it is our view that such plans should be executed transparently and in alignment with long-term shareholder interests. Therefore, we will not support such plans when there is clear evidence of abuse or no safeguards against selective buybacks, or the terms do not align with market best practices.

**Stock splits:** We will evaluate proposals for forward and reverse stock splits on a case-by-case basis. Each proposal will be evaluated based on its potential impact on

shareholder value, local market best practices, and alignment with the company's long-term strategic goals.

***Increases in authorized share capital:*** We will generally support proposals to increase a company's number of authorized common and/or preferred shares, provided we have not identified concerns regarding a company's historical share issuance activity or the potential to use these authorizations for antitakeover purposes. We will consider the amount of the request in relation to the company's current authorized share capital, any proposed corporate transactions contingent on approval of these requests and the cumulative impact on a company's authorized share capital, for example, if a reverse stock split is concurrently submitted for shareholder consideration.

***Mergers, acquisitions, disposals and other corporate transactions:*** Invesco's investment teams will review proposed corporate transactions including mergers, acquisitions, reorganizations, proxy contests, private placements, dissolutions and divestitures based on a proposal's individual investment merits. In addition, we broadly approach voting on other corporate transactions as follows:

- We will generally support proposals to approve different types of restructurings that provide the necessary financing to save the company from involuntary bankruptcy.
- We will generally support proposals to enact corporate name changes and other proposals related to corporate transactions that we believe are in shareholders' best interests.
- We will generally support reincorporation proposals, provided that management has provided a compelling rationale for the change in legal jurisdiction and provided further that the proposal will not significantly adversely impact shareholders' rights.

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## **E. Environmental and Social Issues**

***Shareholder proposals addressing environmental and social issues:*** We recognize environmental and social shareholder proposals are nuanced and require company specific analysis, and therefore, Invesco will analyze such proposals on a case-by-case basis. When analyzing such proposals, we will consider the following factors, among others:

- whether we consider the adoption of such proposal would promote long-term shareholder value;
- the board's written response to the proposal in the proxy and whether the company has already responded or taken action to appropriately address the issue(s) raised in the proposal;
- the materiality of the issue(s) being raised;

- whether there are fines or litigation, significant controversies including reputational risks associated with the company's practices or policies related to the issue(s) raised in the proposal;
- the company's existing level of disclosure and track record on environmental and social issues or if the company already complies with relevant local laws and regulations as it relates to the issue(s) raised in the proposal;
- the intentions of the proponent(s) and how they impact the company's long-term economic success;
- if the proposal requests greater transparency or disclosure to make an informed assessment; and
- whether the proposal's requested action is unduly burdensome (scope or timeframe) or overly prescriptive.

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## **F. Executive Compensation and Performance Alignment**

Invesco supports compensation policies and equity incentive plans that promote alignment between management incentives and shareholders' long-term interests. We pay close attention to local market practice and may apply stricter or modified criteria where appropriate.

***Advisory votes on executive compensation, remuneration policy and remuneration reports:*** We will generally not support compensation-related proposals where more than one of the following is present:

- i. there is an unmitigated misalignment between executive pay and company performance for at least two consecutive years;
- ii. there are problematic compensation practices which may include, among others, incentivizing excessive risk taking or circumventing alignment between management and shareholders' interests via repricing of underwater options;
- iii. vesting periods for long-term incentive awards are less than three years;
- iv. the company "front loads" equity awards;
- v. there are inadequate risk mitigating features in the program such as clawback provisions;
- vi. excessive, discretionary one-time equity grants are awarded to executives; and/or
- vii. less than half of variable pay is linked to performance targets, except where prohibited by law.

Invesco will consider company reporting on pay ratios as part of our evaluation of compensation proposals, where relevant.

**Equity plans:** Invesco generally supports equity compensation plans that promote the proper alignment of incentives with shareholders' long-term interests, and generally votes against plans that are overly dilutive to existing shareholders, plans that contain objectionable structural features which may include provisions to reprice options without shareholder approval, plans that include evergreen provisions or plans that provide for automatic accelerated vesting upon a change in control.

**Employee stock purchase plans:** We generally support employee stock purchase plans that are reasonably designed to provide proper incentives to a broad base of employees, provided that the price at which employees may acquire stock represents a reasonable discount from the market price and that the total shareholder dilution resulting from the plan is not excessive (e.g., more than 10% of outstanding shares).

**Severance Arrangements:** Invesco considers proposed severance arrangements (sometimes known as "golden parachute" arrangements) on a case-by-case basis due to the wide variety among their terms. Invesco acknowledges that in some cases such arrangements, if reasonable, and aligned with local market best practices, may be in shareholders' best interests as a method of attracting and retaining high-quality executive talent. We generally evaluate case-by-case proposals requiring shareholder ratification of senior executives' severance agreements depending on whether the proposed terms and disclosure align with good market practice.

**Frequency of Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation (Say-on-Pay, MSOP) Management Proposals:** It is our view that shareholders should be given the opportunity to vote on executive compensation and adequately express their potential concerns. Invesco will generally vote in favor of a one-year frequency, in order to foster greater accountability, as well as to grant shareholders a timely intervention on pay practices.

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## Exhibit A

Harbourview Asset Management Corporation  
Invesco Advisers, Inc.  
Invesco Asset Management (India) Pvt. Ltd.\*<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco Asset Management (Japan) Limited\*<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco Asset Management (Schweiz) AG  
Invesco Asset Management Deutschland, GmbH  
Invesco Asset Management Limited<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco Asset Management Singapore Ltd  
Invesco Australia Ltd  
Invesco Canada Ltd.<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco Capital Management LLC  
Invesco Capital Markets, Inc.\*<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco European RR L.P.  
Invesco Fund Managers Limited  
Invesco Hong Kong Limited  
Invesco Investment Advisers LLC  
Invesco Investment Management (Shanghai) Limited  
Invesco Investment Management Limited  
Invesco Loan Manager, LLC  
Invesco Managed Accounts, LLC  
Invesco Management S.A.  
Invesco Overseas Investment Fund Management (Shanghai) Limited  
Invesco Pensions Limited  
Invesco Private Capital, Inc.  
Invesco Real Estate Management S.à r.l.<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco RR Fund L.P.  
Invesco Senior Secured Management, Inc.  
Invesco Taiwan Limited\*<sup>1</sup>  
Invesco Trust Company  
OppenheimerFunds, Inc.  
WL Ross & Co. LLC

\* Invesco entities with specific proxy voting guidelines

<sup>1</sup> Invesco entities with specific conflicts of interest policies