

# **Corporate Engagement Update**

Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing | Bailard Wealth Management

Bailard's approach to corporate engagement focuses on both the shareholder process and supporting other stakeholders working to improve disclosures on important environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues. Bailard's Sustainable, Responsible and Impact Investing (SRII) group typically focuses its corporate engagement efforts on the following areas:

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL**

- · Climate change
- · Greenhouse gas emissions
- · Global water issues
- · Biodiversity & habitat protection
- · Sustainability reporting

### **SOCIAL**

- · Human rights
- Diversity & gender equality
- Social justice
- · Supply chain management
- Workplace practices

#### **GOVERNANCE**

- · Shareholder rights
- · Board structure & independence
- · Executive compensation
- · Risk management
- · Ethical standards
- Policies & procedures on corporate political giving

# **Recent Activity**

Bailard is pleased to announce its decision to sign on to the United Nations-supported Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). The PRI is recognized as the leading global network for investors who are committed to the integration of environmental (E), social (S) and governance (G) considerations into their investment practices and ownership policies. The goal of the PRI and its signatories is to achieve an economically efficient and sustainable global financial system. In 2005, United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan spearheaded the initiave by gathering many of the world's largest institutional investors and experts, representing 12 countries, to develop the Principles. The PRI was officially launched the following year and there are now over 1,800 signatories worldwide.

To find out more about UN PRI, visit www.unpri.org



## Spotlight: ICCR

Founded in 1971, the Interfaith Center for Corporate Responsibility (ICCR) is a membership organization of over 300 members of faith and values-based organizations including socially responsible asset management firms, pension funds, colleges and universities. ICCR staff and members engage hundreds of large multinational corporations per year on social and environmental issues. In the 2018 proxy season, the ICCR filed 281 resolutions. Bailard is an affiliate member of the ICCR.

ICCR recently released a report summarizing their 2018 proxy season. Ten resolutions achieved majority votes, including a gun safety resolution at Sturm Ruger and an opioid crisis resolution at Amerisource Bergen. Check out the full report on the ICCR website (address above).

Learn more about the ICCR here: www.iccr.org

#### **CPA-Zicklin Index**

Bailard is a sponsor of the CPA-Zicklin Index, which benchmarks the political disclosure and accountability policies and practices of leading U.S. public companies. Issued annually, it is produced by the Center for Political Accountability in conjunction with the Zicklin Center for Business Ethics Research at The Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania.

Learn more about the CPA-Zicklin Index here: www.politicalaccountability.net

#### Moskowitz Prize

Bailard is a sponsor of the Moskowitz Prize, the only global award recognizing outstanding quantitative research in sustainable and responsible investing. Since its launch in 1996 by Berkeley-Haas and US SIF, its winners have explored shareholder activism, socially responsible mutual funds and socially responsible investing as a catalyst to financial performance, among other topics.

Learn more about the Moskowitz Prize here:

www.responsiblebusiness.haas. berkeley.edu/research/moskowitz-research-prize.html

#### **Ceres Investor Network**

Ceres works with investors specifically to better manage carbon, water and supply chain risks, and to ramp up global investments in clean energy and sustainable food and water systems. Bailard is a member of the Ceres Investor Network (formerly the Ceres Network on Climate Change), which focuses on carbon asset risk, disclosure, human rights, water, climate change and governance policy.

Learn more about the Ceres Investor Network here: www.ceres.org/networks/ ceres-investor-network

#### As You Sow

Bailard is proud to support the corporate engagement work of As You Sow (AYS). AYS is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year working with corporations on important environmental and social issues. AYS's goal is to create large-scale systemic change by establishing sustainable and equitable corporate practices. Blaine Townsend, Bailard's SRII Director, has been collaborating with AYS since 1997.

Learn more about As You Sow here: www.asyousow.org

#### **Disclosures**

This communication is for informational purposes only and is not a recommendation of, or an offer to sell or solicitation of an offer to buy, any particular security, strategy or investment product. This communication does not take into account the particular investment objectives, financial situations or needs of individual clients. References to specific stocks are for illustrative purposes only and are not intended to represent any past, present or future investment recommendations. Certain of Bailard's clients may hold shares of specific securities referenced. All investments have the risk of loss. There is no assurance that Bailard or any of its investment strategies can achieve their investment objectives. **Past performance is no guarantee of future results.** This communication contains the current opinion of its author and such opinions are subject to change without notice. Information contained herein has been obtained from sources believed to be reliable but is not guaranteed. Bailard cannot provide investment advice in any jurisdiction where it is prohibited from doing so. The application of various environmental, social and governance screens may result in the exclusion of securities that might otherwise merit investment, potentially adversely affecting performance.

