COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS PENSION RESERVES INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT BOARD

Minutes of the Board Meeting
Thursday, February 17, 2022
commencing at 9:31 a.m.

(CONDUCTED REMOTELY)

PRIM Board Offices 84 State Street Boston, Massachusetts

ATTENDEES

(Via Zoom)

Board Members

- · Treasurer Deborah B. Goldberg, Chair
- · Robert L. Brousseau
- · Ruth Ellen Fitch
- · James B.G. Hearty
- Theresa F. McGoldrick, Esq.
- · Dennis J. Naughton
- · Carly Rose
- Paul E. Shanley, Esq.

Other Attendees (partial list):

- · Jennifer Appel, NEPC
- · Francesco Daniele
- · Anthony Falzone
- · Alyssa Fiore
- · Maria Garrahan
- · Minching Kao
- Emily Kowtoniuk
- · Renee LeFevre
- · Bill Li
- · Liu Liu
- · Michael McElroy
- · Michael McGirr
- · Phil Nelson, NEPC
- · Tim Schlitzer
- · Michael Trotsky
- · Liz Zelnick

1	PROCEEDINGS
2	A meeting of the Pension Reserves
3	Investment Management Board (PRIM Board) was held
4	remotely on February 17, 2022. The meeting was
5	called to order and convened at 9:31 a.m.
6	Treasurer and Receiver-General Deborah Goldberg
7	chaired the meeting.
8	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Good morning,
9	everyone, and I want to welcome you to the
10	MassPRIM board meeting Thursday, February 17,
11	2022.
12	This meeting will be held by Internet
13	and telephone in accordance with the provisions of
14	"An Act Extending Certain COVID-19 Measures,
15	Adopted During the State of Emergency," which was
16	signed into law on June 16, 2021.
17	This act includes an extension until
18	April 1, 2022 of the remote meeting provisions of
19	the March 12, 2020 Executive Order that allows
20	remote participation by all members of a public
21	body and suspends the requirement that a quorum
22	and the chair be physically present, provided that
23	the public has access to the meeting through
24	technology that enables the public to clearly

- 1 follow the proceedings while they are occurring.
- 2 Accordingly, all members of this board
- 3 will participate today remotely via telephone
- 4 and/or Internet-enabled audio and
- 5 videoconferencing, and all votes in today's
- 6 meeting will by taken by roll call.
- 7 Public access to the deliberations of
- 8 the meeting today will likewise be provided via
- 9 telephone with all documents referenced at the
- meeting available to be viewed on PRIM's website.
- 11 That is www.mapension.com.
- 12 All persons speaking at today's meeting
- are asked first to identify themselves.
- 14 Also the Open Meeting Laws requires
- anyone wishing to record a meeting to first notify
- the chair so that the chair can inform the other
- 17 attendees. So accordingly, I am informing you
- that the stenographer, Virginia Dodge from
- 19 Lexitas, is transcribing and also recording the
- 20 meeting.
- 21 If anyone else does intend to record
- today's meeting, please first notify Seth Gitell
- 23 at sgitell, which is S-G-I-T-E-L-L,
- 24 @mapension.com.

1 Additionally, the Attorney General's 2 guidance on holding remote meetings reads as 3 follows: At the start of the meeting, the chair 4 must announce the name of the member or members 5 who are participating remotely. 6 I will now announce the names of all 7 PRIM Board members who are participating remotely 8 in today's meeting. Myself, Treasurer Deborah 9 Goldberg, Chair. Robert Brousseau, Ruth Ellen 10 Fitch, Jim Hearty, Theresa McGoldrick. 11 Has Peter hopped on yet? 12 MR. FALZONE: Peter is not going to join 13 us today. 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Oh, I'm sorry. 15 MR. FALZONE: I think he's the one that 16 had a conflict. 17 MS. McGOLDRICK: All right. Dennis 18 Naughton, Carly Rose and Paul Shanley. 19 Okay. With that, we will have the first 20 vote of the day, and that is that I would seek a 21 motion that the board approve the minutes of its

December 2, 2021 meeting attached as Appendix A of

the expanded agenda, and further to authorize the

executive director to take all actions necessary

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- 1 to effectuate this vote.
- 2 Is there a motion?
- 3 MR. NAUGHTON: So moved.
- 4 MR. SHANLEY: So moved.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- 6 MR. SHANLEY: Second.
- 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions,
- 8 comments, changes, requests for alterations?
- 9 Anything?
- 10 Hearing none, I will move to a roll call
- 11 vote. Bob Brousseau?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 13 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen Fitch?
- 14 I thought I saw Ruth Ellen.
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Okay. Jim Hearty?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa McGoldrick?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis Naughton?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly Rose?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul Shanley?

- 1 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 3 motion carries.
- 4 Next item on the agenda is the executive
- 5 director/chief investment officer report.
- 6 Take it away, Michael Trotsky.
- 7 MR. TROTSKY: Thank you very much,
- 8 Treasurer. Good morning, everyone. Can everyone
- 9 hear me okay?
- 10 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 11 MR. TROTSKY: Excellent. I always like
- to check because sometimes I have gremlins on my
- 13 computer.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It's just me
- 15 sneaking in.
- MR. TROTSKY: I will not be referring to
- any slides today, you'll be happy to know. We
- 18 reviewed performance in a lot of detail at the
- 19 committee meetings two weeks ago.
- 20 Performance, I'll recap briefly, but it
- can be found in detail in Appendix B, and also
- 22 members of the staff will be reviewing their
- particular asset classes later in the agenda.
- 24 Excuse me a second. Gremlins.

1 Well, as you know, the December 2 quarterly results, which were up 5.4 percent net 3 and 1.4 percent above benchmark, really capped 4 another outstanding and record-setting year for 5 PRIM. For the calendar year ending in December, 6 the fund was up 20.6 percent gross or 20.1 percent 7 net of all fees. And that was the fourth largest 8 return in PRIM's entire history. 9 The fund ended the year at a record \$104 billion. \$104 billion. And the 2021 10 11 calendar year return outperformed the benchmark by 12 more than 8 percent. More than 8 percent 13 outperformance equates to a \$7 billion 14 outperformance. \$7 billion. 15 And that was the strongest percentage 16 and dollar outperformance in our entire history, 17 surpassing the previous record of a 4 percent 18 outperformance set in 1999 just before the dot-com 19 bubble burst. 20 Our return for the year was also -- and 21 this is new news -- in the very top decile of our 22 peer group. So we're very proud of that. 23 Private equity, real estate, global 24 equities had very strong returns. Private equity

- 1 was up 64 percent, real estate up 27 percent,
- 2 global equities up 18 percent, while fixed income
- 3 was essentially flat, which we would expect in a
- 4 rising interest rate environment. All asset
- 5 classes outperformed their respective benchmarks
- 6 for the year.
- 7 And during the year, the PRIM staff
- 8 remained very productive. It was a challenging
- 9 year due to the virus and other things, but the
- 10 staff identified and deployed more than
- 11 \$7.6 billion, \$7.6 billion, in new investments.
- 12 And that was another record.
- The longer term results also
- strengthened. The 3-, 5- and 10-year PRIT Fund
- returns of 16.1 percent, 12.4 percent and
- 16 10.5 percent, 3, 5 and 10; 16, 12 and 10, are well
- 17 above the benchmark and well above the state's
- 18 actuarial rate of return, which you know is
- 19 currently 7 percent.
- Also, each of these time periods is well
- 21 above our long-term average returns. These
- results, all time periods, are also at the very
- top of our peer group. We're proud, very proud,
- that over the last 10 years, the investment gain

- of the fund totaled \$70.6 billion, \$70.6 billion,
- over the last 10 years and was \$12 billion above a
- 3 benchmark return.
- 4 We believe this is an indication that
- 5 our staff and our managers are adding significant
- 6 value for the fund's 300,000-plus beneficiaries
- 7 and for the Massachusetts taxpayers. In fact, we
- 8 have a saying around here at PRIM that to the
- 9 extent we're successful, we are the taxpayers'
- 10 friend, not to mention the retirees' friend.
- We are proud, very proud, that we've
- added more than \$70 billion to the pension fund
- and outperformed our benchmark by more than
- 14 \$12 billion over the last decade. It's really an
- 15 extremely gratifying body of work over the last
- 16 10 years.
- 17 I want to stop short of making any
- projections about the future, but I do believe,
- 19 given the last 10 years and the last one year,
- that a word of caution is in order because I
- 21 actually think it's part of my job to set
- realistic expectations, and I do offer this with
- the appropriate amount of humility. You have to
- remember, you've heard me say this many times. We

- 1 have two fundamental investment philosophies at
- 2 PRIM. You could probably repeat them, but I'm
- 3 going to repeat them.
- 4 Number 1, nobody can predict the future
- 5 so we don't try. And number 2, nobody can predict
- 6 with any consistent accuracy the direction of the
- 7 markets so we don't try.
- 8 Instead, we engineer a portfolio with
- 9 components that will perform well in a variety of
- 10 market environments.
- Now, that said, in our opinion, it would
- be unreasonable to assume that returns over the
- next 10 years can be as impressive as they have
- been over the last 10 years for two primary
- reasons. Number 1, markets have appreciated far
- more quickly than the underlying growth of the
- 17 economy, and that cannot last indefinitely.
- And number 2, we are exiting a 30-year
- investing environment with a dominant backdrop of
- falling interest rates and loose monetary policy.
- 21 And we're entering an environment where interest
- rates and inflation are now rising. Monetary
- policy, as we've told you, is tightening, and the
- labor markets and population growth are falling.

- 1 It seems like a change in environment, but only
- 2 time can really confirm that.
- And incidentally, the 10-year consensus
- 4 return expectations for the portfolio, a portfolio
- 5 like ours really, is approximately 6 percent
- 6 return. Of course, we hope to do better than
- 7 that.
- 8 More on performance later from each of
- 9 the asset classes, as I mentioned, but first, a
- 10 few words on today's other agenda items and also
- 11 an organizational update.
- 12 Customary for this board cycle, we'll
- vote on asset allocation changes and discuss
- 14 annual plans. That comes shortly.
- But importantly, in our agenda today, we
- 16 look forward to the board taking up the
- 17 Treasurer's plan to create both an ESG committee
- and to adopt a new climate change-related proxy
- 19 voting policy. As you know, the Treasurer is
- 20 passionate about each of these important and
- 21 timely topics with the goal to keep PRIM out in
- 22 front of major trends in the industry.
- And I want to voice my complete support
- for these initiatives and in particular for

- setting up the ESG committee. I believe this new
- committee will build on the important work we've
- 3 been doing over the past years internally and with
- 4 our partners in the MIT Sloan School's Aggregate
- 5 Confusion Project, which we've talked to you about
- 6 previously.
- 7 And the goal is to become more
- g impactful, to use the power of PRIM to advocate
- g for important change. Now, my job, and I know the
- Treasurer shares my view, is to ensure that we
- become more impactful while also maintaining or
- improving the fund's historically strong return,
- 13 risk and cost profile.
- As we always keep in mind, only a fully
- funded pension system can guarantee retirement
- security for our beneficiaries. Their future,
- their retirements, their golden years really
- depend on our investment success here. And also I
- believe the taxpayer of Massachusetts also relies
- on PRIM's continued investment success.
- So we'll get to that in a minute. But
- 22 next, just a word on asset allocation. The
- 23 Investment Committee supported the staff
- 24 recommendation to continue our multi-year

- 1 effort to gradually increase the allocation to our
- 2 number 1 performing asset class, private equity.
- And it's number 1 performing over all time
- 4 periods.
- 5 We continue to believe that our balanced
- 6 and well-diversified portfolio will continue to
- 7 perform well in both strong and weaker markets in
- 8 a variety of market conditions, so we are not
- 9 really recommending any major changes to our long-
- 10 term strategic asset allocation which has served
- 11 us so well. We're only recommending a 1 percent
- increase in private equity. We'll get to that
- 13 later.
- 14 Next, the organizational update. I'm
- delighted to announce -- and I believe, Renee,
- 16 you're on here. Renee LeFevre joined PRIM two
- 17 weeks ago as our new chief legal officer. Renee's
- off to a terrific start, and I know by looking at
- 19 your face you're enjoying it so far, and we're
- 20 enjoying having you.
- 21 She reports directly to me and also
- serves on the executive management team. She
- joins us from The Boston Planning and Development
- Agency, the BPDA, which is made up of the Boston

- 1 Redevelopment Authority, the Economic Development
- 2 Industrial Corporation of Boston and the Mayor's
- 3 Office of Workforce Development.
- 4 She was with that agency since the year
- 5 2000 and became general counsel in 2014. At the
- 6 BPDA, she managed a 10-person legal department and
- 7 outside counsel too and handled all legal issues,
- 8 including compliance, Open Meeting Laws, public
- 9 records requests, ethics, conflicts of interest,
- 10 disclosures.
- 11 She was also responsible for legal
- matters pertaining to development proposals,
- public hearings, disposition of property,
- 14 procurement, budget, personnel matters and more.
- We're looking forward to her expertise
- and what she can bring to the real estate group.
- 17 I know they've already been speaking. It's a
- 18 great addition.
- 19 Her professional associations include
- 20 serving as vice president of the board of
- 21 directors for the Boston Local Development
- 22 Corporation. She's a member of The Abstract Club,
- 23 CREW, the Commercial Real Estate Women Network of
- Boston, and the Boston Bar Association. She's a

- 1 recipient of the GET Konnected 50 Most Influential
- 2 Attorneys of Color and the Henry L. Shattuck
- 3 Public Service Award. Graduate of the University
- 4 of California at Berkeley and also the Boston
- 5 College Law School.
- 6 Welcome to PRIM, Renee. You're off to a
- 7 great start.
- 8 Next, this month, Jennifer Cole, PRIM's
- 9 manager of client reporting and cash management,
- 10 celebrates 20 years at PRIM. Congratulations.
- 11 Jennifer joined in 2002 as a staff
- 12 accountant and over the years has been promoted to
- financial analyst, senior financial analyst and
- then the manager of client reporting and cash
- management.
- She's responsible for managing all cash
- 17 needs, and that means contribution and redemption
- 18 activity for all PRIM clients. She also has a
- 19 critical role in processing all PRIT Fund
- 20 investment purchase and sale transactions on the
- 21 first business day of each month.
- She helps plan investor conferences and
- has represented PRIM at many client meetings and
- conferences throughout the year. I often hear

- 1 clients and colleagues commending her work ethic,
- 2 her accuracy, professionalism and dedication.
- Thank you, Jennifer, for all your hard
- 4 work. Congratulations again for 20 years.
- 5 Last, I'd like to acknowledge that Liu
- 6 Liu, an investment analyst on the portfolio
- 7 completion strategy team reporting to Bill Li, has
- 8 recently completed both her CFA and CAIA
- 9 designations, after passing each of those rigorous
- 10 multi-year exams and also after accumulating the
- 11 requisite work experience in order to get
- 12 designated.
- In her work at PRIM, she has enhanced
- our portfolio analytics. She's highly
- 15 quantitative. She is also responsible for the
- 16 hedge fund replication program, which has been a
- 17 consistent outperformer, as well as Chinese
- 18 equities.
- 19 She joined in September of 2018 on a
- 20 permanent basis as an investment analyst after
- spending 18 months as an intern working on the
- 22 strategy team. She received her master's degree
- in finance from Brandeis International Business
- School and a bachelor's degree in finance from

- 1 Shanghai Jiao Tong University in China.
- Congratulations to you, Liu. You're
- 3 doing a fantastic job.
- 4 Oh -- go ahead.
- 5 MS. LIU: Yes. Thank you very much,
- 6 Michael. Sorry. There is something wrong with my
- 7 video. I cannot turn it on.
- 8 MR. TROTSKY: Okay. Also this is late-
- 9 breaking news. I'm pleased to report the
- 10 beginning really of a new intern season. It's a
- 11 little early. It's only February, but this week,
- we welcomed Charlotte Wang to the PCS team,
- reporting to Bill Li. She's currently a senior at
- 14 Brandeis, majoring in mathematics and economics.
- And interestingly, because of her
- 16 academic excellence, she's really a very strong
- 17 student, Brandeis has slotted her into a fast-
- 18 track master's program at their International
- 19 Business School.
- 20 So welcome to PRIM, Charlotte. You will
- 21 have more intern company in the spring and summer
- as we normally do, thanks to the good work of
- 23 Christina Marcarelli and Michelle Witkes, who
- 24 oversee our intern initiatives.

- And that's the organizational update. 1 2 Now, I do want to say a few words about 3 markets and the economy. Obviously with 2021 4 results in the rear view mirror, we all know that 5 volatility has returned, and the returns so far 6 this year in 2022 have been negative. The S&P is 7 down approximately 6 percent for the year so far 8 through yesterday. Developed international 9 markets are down 3 percent. But emerging markets 10 are up slightly, up about 1 percent. Diversified 11 bonds are down more than 4 percent as interest 12 rates continue to rise. 13 Incidentally, the 10-year Treasury bond 14 yielding more than 2 percent, that's a multi-year 15 I think you have to go back to the summer 16 of 2019 where it was above 2 percent. So it's at 17 a multi-year high.
- Markets have struggled with the Omicron
 surge, labor shortages, supply chain shortages and
 associated 40-year-high inflation reading of
 7.5 percent in January. That's the CPI, up
 7.5 percent. CPI excludes the two things everyone
 always buys, which are food and energy. So maybe
 what we're experiencing is even more than

- 1 7.5 percent inflation, but nevertheless, CPI is
- 2 7.5 percent, a 40-year high, not to mention
- 3 continued geopolitical tensions that we read about
- 4 every day, as well as our own domestic tensions.
- 5 Market volatility as measured by the VIX
- 6 surged from 17 at the beginning of the year to an
- 7 intraday high of 36 in January. That's well above
- 8 its average.
- 9 And the Federal Reserve, as you know,
- 10 left the target range for its federal fund rate
- 11 unchanged for now at zero to 0.25 percent during
- 12 its January meeting. However, they did indicate a
- desire to raise the target range beginning in
- 14 March as that inflation is currently running well
- above the 2 percent target that they have, and
- 16 also because the labor market is very strong. The
- 17 unemployment rate is around 4 percent recently.
- 18 And I should mention that more
- importantly, market futures are indicating that
- 20 the Fed will raise rates four or five times during
- 21 the course of 2022. And of course the prospect of
- an increasingly hawkish Fed, one that raises
- rates, combined with some mixed economic data
- lately caused by the Omicron spike is alarming to

- 1 market participants.
- 2 At the Investment Committee, we had a
- 3 healthy discussion on the markets and the economy.
- 4 I'll highlight some comments from Connie Everson,
- 5 our economics and strategy expert on the
- 6 Investment Committee, and also from our director
- 7 of risk, Jay Leu. I thought it was a very, very
- 8 interesting Investment Committee meeting two weeks
- 9 ago.
- Number 1, in Connie's view, when the Fed
- 11 gets around to the third rate hike or so later in
- the year, she believes that conditions won't
- support it, that key prices will have backed off
- 14 by then. In other words, this inflation is
- 15 somewhat transitory. Her view is that the
- inflation readings will moderate later in the
- 17 year.
- 18 She also believes that a critical
- ingredient of a typical and prolonged bear market
- is missing. There is no slowdown in demand. We
- 21 currently are experiencing a supply problem, not a
- demand problem, and she believes that will resolve
- itself. Workers who are on the sideline, I think
- there's nearly 3 and a half or 4 million of them,

could return to the workforce. And that would be 1 2 a positive for consumption spending.

And even now, parts of the economy and

- 3
- 4 equity markets are holding up. Things like
- industrials, energy and materials are holding up. 5
- 6 And they could lead the way in any market rebound.
- 7 Connie does acknowledge that there is a
- 8 rotation of the Fed governors, and they are more
- 9 hawkish than their predecessors. And there is a
- 10 risk that the Fed could overdo the tightening
- 11 programs, no doubt about it. But in Connie's
- 12 view, the Fed is not going to be able to put this
- 13 economy into a recession.
- 14 Jay Leu, our director of risk, also had
- 15 some interesting comments through the lens of
- 16 interpreting market futures and also by examining
- 17 correlations of asset classes to inflation growth.
- 18 He also did some scenario analysis, which I think
- 19 is very interesting.
- 20 He mentioned, number 1, that the current
- 21 TIPS breakeven rate of only 2.4 percent, and that
- 22 sort of is a view into what the market believes
- 23 will be future inflation, indicates that the
- 24 markets are less concerned about inflation really

- 1 and more concerned with rising rates. The equity
- 2 markets are worried that the Fed is too aggressive
- and will choke off expansion. That's what that
- 4 indicates.
- 5 In other words, the Fed is concerned
- 6 about inflation, as I mentioned, but the stock
- 7 market is really concerned about the Fed's
- 8 actions, an interesting predicament.
- 9 Jay, and many others also, are worried
- 10 more about inflation taking hold and a possible
- 11 wage-price spiral.
- 12 As I mentioned, he also did some
- sensitivity scenario analysis of the PRIT Fund in
- 14 a rising interest rate environment. And again, to
- set expectations, a few interesting points.
- 16 First, the PRIT Fund has a beta of 2 to
- 17 GDP growth. This means that the fund generally
- 18 performs well in growth environments. This is
- 19 intuitive to most of us. Equities, private
- 20 equity, hedge funds and even real estate do well
- when the economy grows.
- And interestingly, I thought, his
- analysis does show that real estate has very
- little beta to inflation. Maybe it's because in

- 1 inflationary environments, rents and property
- 2 values rise enough to at least partially offset
- 3 the increased capital cost, the increased cost of
- 4 borrowing to buy real estate.
- 5 Commodities do best in high inflation
- 6 environments. Remember, we have one of the
- 7 world's largest timberland investment programs,
- 8 and it is really a great commodity exposure in a
- 9 high inflation environment.
- 10 Bonds do best in low inflation and low
- 11 growth environments. That's our insurance policy
- against challenging economic times.
- And his scenario predicts that our core
- 14 fixed income portfolio would be down approximately
- 15 8 percent with a one-time shock of an increase in
- inflation of 1 percent, nominal yields up
- 17 1 percent and short-term interest rates up
- 18 1 percent.
- 19 At 15 percent of the PRIT Fund, this
- 20 would equate to a hit on the PRIT Fund of
- 21 approximately 1 percent. If all those things
- 22 happened simultaneously in a shock, 1 percent
- increase in rates and inflation. But presumably,
- 24 if that happens, other asset classes with a

- 1 positive or neutral beta to growth would more than
- offset this decline. After all, growth is often
- 3 accompanied by higher inflation readings.
- 4 So this sensitivity analysis really
- 5 gives us confidence that our portfolio is well-
- 6 balanced. It is well-diversified. And it does
- 7 have components that will do well in both strong
- 8 and weaker environments. It will have components
- 9 that perform well in inflationary environments.
- 10 So I'll stop there and take any
- 11 questions you might have on anything I've
- 12 discussed so far. Otherwise, our next agenda item
- is to quickly review the annual plans.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I am not hearing
- any questions. Michael, your explanations were
- 16 ideal.
- 17 MR. TROTSKY: Excellent. Thank you.
- 18 Okay. Quickly, annual plans. Our
- 19 governance documents do require that I approve
- 20 divisional business plans. And accordingly, as we
- 21 do each year, I'll share them with you for your
- 22 input. They are in your packets and in the
- expanded agenda.
- We have incorporated feedback, where

- 1 appropriate, received from all committee members
- in preparation for this board meeting. And I'm
- 3 happy to take any additional feedback, either here
- 4 or you can call me over the coming days and weeks.
- 5 The annual plans are attached in
- 6 Appendix D. And they are essentially a
- 7 continuation of the work we've been doing for
- 8 quite some time, but I will highlight just a few
- 9 new initiatives concerning the PRIM investment
- 10 program, and then I'll turn it over to Tony, who
- 11 will highlight some new initiatives on the finance
- 12 and operations side.
- So first, of course it's new, is to
- implement the new FUTURE Initiative to comply with
- the investment equity law passed last year and
- 16 championed by the Treasurer. We'll continue to
- 17 reduce barriers for diverse investment managers
- and vendors. We'll improve sourcing and pipeline
- of diverse managers. We'll enhance diversity and
- inclusion reporting. And very importantly, we'll
- implement the new \$1 billion emerging-diverse
- 22 manager program which you approved at the last
- board cycle.
- Secondly, we're going to support the

- 1 establishment of the new ESG committee, which will
- 2 be introduced today. We'll continue to
- 3 collaborate with members of the Aggregate
- 4 Confusion Project, an ESG research consortium,
- 5 together with MIT Sloan School. And we'll
- 6 continue to enhance existing environmental data.
- 7 Next in risk, in Jay's area, we'll
- 8 continue the comprehensive benchmark review we
- 9 started. We'll continue that in 2022. In that
- 10 group, risk in particular -- and Jay's really a
- 11 great utility infielder. He gets involved in a
- 12 lot. His group will continue to collaborate on
- 13 strategic initiatives with other asset class
- 14 groups. For example, in PCS, PCS, run by Bill Li,
- will complete a comprehensive review of real
- 16 assets investments. And also they'll complete a
- 17 comprehensive review of hedge funds, including the
- 18 rationale and required risk impact from both of
- 19 those sleeves.
- In public markets, they'll continue to
- 21 source and allocate to diverse investment
- 22 managers, consistent with the FUTURE Initiative.
- They'll implement PRIM's emerging-diverse manager
- 24 program through our partners, also consistent with

- 1 the FUTURE Initiative. Research and identify
- 2 value managers, and develop international and
- domestic equity markets. And they'll continue to
- 4 identify new other credit opportunity investments,
- 5 including co-investment opportunities.
- In private equity, I mentioned that
- 7 we'll be increasing the allocation to private
- 8 equity, our number 1 performing asset class. And
- 9 this one is really incredible. They need to
- 10 execute a commitment goal of 2.7 to \$3.3 billion
- 11 and also to fund co-investments.
- Remember, we get a ton of cash back in
- 13 private equity, so it's kind of like running up a
- down escalator. We're getting all this cash back,
- 15 but we still need to increase the allocation. So
- that's a lot of work for Mike McGirr and his team.
- 17 2.7 billion to 3.3 billion is the target
- 18 commitment goal.
- We're raising the co-investment capacity
- to 40 percent of total '22 fund commitments.
- 21 Continuing to scale and improve the co-investment
- 22 program. It's very important. Comes at lower
- fees to the main bucket.
- 24 And we're further refining and

- 1 accelerating our venture capital strategy. I
- think you're going to like what you hear on that
- 3 later in the year.
- 4 In real estate, continue to source and
- 5 allocate to diverse investment managers,
- 6 collaborate with the risk team, as I said, on ESG
- 7 and climate impact research, particularly in
- 8 timberland. Form a strategic working group to
- 9 review the existing real estate portfolio and
- 10 identify strategic investment opportunities. I
- 11 think we have some unique opportunities in real
- 12 estate.
- So I'll end there, and I'll turn it over
- to Tony, but those are some of the new things
- we're doing on the investment side.
- MR. FALZONE: Thank you, Michael.
- My name is Tony Falzone. I am PRIM's
- deputy executive director/chief operating
- officer. I'm going to echo Michael a little bit on
- the 2022 annual plans. Similar to the investment
- side, our activities don't change much from year
- to year. We work in tandem with the investment
- team, supporting their initiatives, so any
- initiative that comes out of the investment

- team normally needs to be executed and implemented
- by someone in Matt Liposky's team or Deb Coulter's
- 3 team.
- 4 So I'm not going to focus on the
- 5 recurring tasks such as annual audits, reports,
- 6 GIPS reviews, IT security reviews and audits. I'm
- just going to highlight some of the additional
- g projects that we're going to be doing this year.
- 9 And some of them will sound familiar from
- 10 Michael's comments.
- 11 Obviously we have some governance work
- to do after today's vote, supporting the formation
- of the ESG committee, its charter.
- 14 We'll also be issuing an RFP for board
- governance and fiduciary educational services.
- That will be coming at the beginning part of this
- 17 year.
- Again, we want to work on continuing to
- improve access for our diverse vendors and then
- develop enhanced diverse vendor and contract
- tracking. So that way, we can get a better idea
- of how we can do reach-out to increase our diverse
- vendors.
- We've been planning for a few months now

- 1 several educational Webinars for our clients. The
- first one I think is going to cover cash
- 3 processing policies and controls, best practices.
- 4 And second, we'll be doing a
- 5 cybersecurity awareness primer and best practice
- 6 review. At a time when cybersecurity threats are
- 7 more and more prevalent and regularly in the news,
- g our IT security program I think can be a resource
- g for the local retirement systems. And it would
- be helpful for us to share some of our insights
- and thoughts we used in developing our IT security
- program. And I think they'll get a big benefit
- out of that. I'm very proud of the program we've
- 14 established.
- So speaking of technology, we're going
- to plan to take a closer look at our current
- disaster recovery and business continuity
- solution. The current plan has served us well,
- but I still want to look at it, maybe modernize
- it a little bit, increase security and perhaps
- reduce some costs in that area.
- And then I mentioned we have annual
- audits. We have separate account calendar year
- 24 audits. Those are annual exercises, but we have

- 1 few other audits taking place that I want to talk
- 2 about. The State Auditor's office is performing
- an audit. And then this week, we were notified of
- 4 PERAC performing an audit. So that's going to be
- four audits going on in one year. Qingmei is up
- 6 to the task, though, and she's fantastic.
- 7 And I guess I'll mention with all these
- 8 great initiatives, we're continuing to grow.
- 9 We've been hiring six to eight people at a clip
- over the last few years, and I don't expect that
- 11 growth to slow down. In fact, I expect it to
- 12 potentially increase with all these new
- initiatives. So we're going to need to evaluate
- our long-term office space needs as we begin
- developing the fiscal year 2023 budget, which will
- 16 be brought forward the next cycle.
- 17 So I think I'll stop there. If there
- are any questions or anything on our annual plans,
- 19 happy to answer them.
- 20 MR. TROTSKY: And we can take questions
- on anything at this point. The next agenda item
- is Maria on asset allocation.
- MS. GARRAHAN: Great. Good morning.
- 24 I'm Maria Garrahan. I'm PRIM's director of

- 1 research.
- The 2022 asset allocation recommendation
- 3 represents no major changes to our prior year
- 4 recommendation.
- 5 Our recommendation includes a 1 percent
- 6 increase in the private equity target range,
- formerly 11 to 17 percent to 12 to 18 percent, and
- 8 a 1 percent decrease in the global equities target
- 9 range, formerly 34 to 44 percent to 33 to
- 10 43 percent. The recommendation maintains
- 11 continued alignment with our strategic initiative
- to slowly grow our private market allocation.
- 13 Please refer to Appendix E for the PRIM
- 14 research team materials. NEPC, our asset
- allocation consultant, has included their capital
- market assumptions within Appendix F.
- 17 On slide 2 of the Appendix E, this shows
- our exposure as of the end of December 2021. All
- 19 asset classes are within their respective ranges.
- 20 Actual exposure of private equity is 16.6 percent,
- 21 where we are now running at the higher end of the
- target range approved in 2021.
- 23 Our 2022 recommendation puts forth only
- a minor change to these ranges, shifting out the

- private equity target range by one and shifting
 down global equity by one.
- Moving to slide 3 of Appendix E, as many
- 4 of you are aware, our asset allocation framework
- 5 uses a probabilistic-based approach to maximize
- 6 the likelihood of achieving the dual objective.
- 7 On the left-hand side, our return objective is
- 8 defined as the probability to achieve 7 percent
- 9 annualized across the next 10 years.
- 10 Additionally, we define a measure of downside
- 11 protection as no cumulative drawdown greater than
- 12 20 percent within the next three years. Our asset
- allocation process maximizes the probability of
- 14 achieving our dual objective.
- 15 Jumping to slide 10, this shows the
- 16 probability of achieving the dual objective, using
- both the asset allocation 2021 recommendation, as
- well as today's asset allocation recommendation.
- 19 The 2022 recommendation shows a very slight
- 20 increase in the probability of achieving the dual
- 21 objective. Once again, today's proposed
- recommendation is only a minor change, stemming
- from the asset allocation research findings.
- 24 Ending with slide 11 on Appendix E, this

shows the approved ranges for 2020, 2021, as well 1 as today's recommendation, which is to maintain 2 course and slowly increasing our exposure to 3 private assets. The recommendation includes a 4 1 percent shift in the private equity target range 5 upwards to 12 to 18 percent and a downward shift 6 in global equities range to 33 to 43 percent. 7 And I can open it up for any questions 8 that you may have on PRIM's research team slides, 9 as well as if you have any questions for Jen Appel 10 and Phil Nelson of NEPC regarding the capital 11 market assumptions. 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Does anyone have 13 questions? This will be a voting item. But I'11 14 hold off on the motion and the second until all 15 questions are answered. 16 17 I don't hear any. 18 Maria, do you hear any? 19 MS. GARRAHAN: It's quiet. Very quiet. 20 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Then why don't I 21 request a motion that the PRIM Board approve the 22 Investment Committee's recommendation to adopt the 23 2022 asset allocation as described in Appendices E 24 and F of the expanded agenda, and further to

- 1 authorize the executive director to take all
- 2 actions necessary to effectuate this vote.
- 3 Is there a motion?
- 4 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- 6 MS. FITCH: Second.
- 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Again, any other
- 8 questions? I mean this obviously is not the first
- time we've gone over this, but I think that given
- 10 Michael's introduction and what we have viewed of
- 11 what's going on through our board meetings and the
- world, this makes very much sense to me and
- obviously does to everyone else.
- 14 So hearing --
- 15 MS. GARRAHAN: Thank you.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Hearing nothing
- 17 else, I will move for the vote.
- 18 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- 21 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?

- 1 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- 5 MS. ROSE: Yes.
- 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- 7 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 9 motion carries. Thank you.
- 10 MR. BROUSSEAU: Madam Treasurer, just a
- 11 comment.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Sure.
- 13 MR. BROUSSEAU: Sometimes we do these
- 14 motions -- I know I've said it before when we
- 15 vote. For the participants who are watching the
- screen, and I know usually there are many of them,
- 17 you have to realize that all of these issues have
- been thoroughly vetted by board members through
- our materials, but also most of us attended the
- 20 Investment Committee meeting. And our questions
- 21 of course and our concerns were raised then when
- we did an in-depth study of this and all of these
- issues coming before us.
- 24 So probably the lack of questions is not

- 1 that we don't know what we're doing, as much as
- we've been through this two or three times, and
- 3 we're ready to vote on it.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes, Bob. That is
- 5 why I mentioned that we have been through the
- 6 materials.
- 7 Like myself, I attend all the committee
- 8 meetings. So that's why we always joke that if
- 9 Michael ever needs me to jump in and do the
- 10 executive director's report, I am very capable of
- 11 doing so.
- 12 Right, Michael?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Whoa.
- 14 MR. TROTSKY: Definitely. I almost put
- 15 you on the spot to tell everyone about the core
- 16 philosophies. I almost did. I was tempted.
- 17 TREASURER GOLDBERG: You don't want to
- 18 abuse me right now, right?
- 19 Anyway, so we have now finished that
- 20 report. We've had the asset allocation
- 21 recommendation. Shall we move on to public
- 22 markets?
- MR. McELROY: Great. Thank you.
- Good morning, everyone. This is Michael

- 1 McElroy.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes. For those who
- don't know, we have yet another Michael.
- 4 MR. McELROY: Yes. Several Michaels.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: So, Michael, when
- 6 we tease Michael, please know it's not you we're
- 7 teasing.
- 8 MR. McELROY: Noted. Yes.
- g So good morning. Just let me make a few
- observations on the public market returns, as well
- as the PRIT results. We've talked a little bit
- about this this morning. As you know, public
- markets exposure represents about two thirds of
- the PRIT Fund. I'll make comments first on
- equities and then shift over to the fixed income
- 16 environment.
- 17 As noted, it was a strong fourth quarter
- for U.S. equities, and developed markets returns
- 19 ranged between 2 and 11 percent. Emerging
- 20 markets, a bit weak in the fourth quarter, just
- 21 down over 1 percent. And this was really China, a
- continuation of what we saw in the third quarter.
- 23 China was down 6 percent in the fourth quarter and
- down about 18 percent last quarter.

1 For the full year, developed and 2 emerging returns were positive. U.S. the 3 strongest, emerging markets the weakest, but we 4 did see positive returns across the equity suite. 5 Aggregate global equity was up over 6 19 percent for the year. We saw in many markets 7 that value style outperformed growth in the fourth 8 quarter and for the full year. And we expect this 9 shift may continue into 2022 and beyond. 10 On a benchmark relative basis, our 11 global equity portfolio outperformed in the fourth 12 quarter, really driven by strong results from our 13 U.S. active equity managers in the small cap and 14 microcap areas. 15 International developed equities lagged 16 slightly, and emerging markets performed in line. 17 And for the full calendar year, we saw a similar 18 profile. U.S. and emerging markets managers 19 ahead; international managers lagged slightly. 20 And the overall global equity performance exceeded 21 our benchmark returns. 22 Not much change in the fixed income and 23 credit markets in the fourth quarter. Long rates

slightly lower and credit spreads slightly tighter

- 1 than in the third quarter, but over the full year,
- we did see an increase in the long rates, but a
- decrease in the credit spreads relative to the
- 4 beginning of the year.
- 5 And on a performance basis, the fixed
- 6 income holdings performed in line in the fourth
- 7 quarter, but outperformed for the full calendar
- 8 year, mostly driven by our value added fixed
- 9 income so the high yield, the emerging debt and
- 10 our other credit opportunities.
- 11 Inflation, we've talked a bit about
- that. And the Fed's response to it certainly
- continues to be a major theme that we're thinking
- 14 about. Long-term inflation expectations are up,
- but as Michael Trotsky noted, still remain fairly
- modest, kind of a 2.5 percent range, compared to
- 17 this current reading that we're seeing at about
- 18 7.5 percent.
- The inflation link and the TIPS
- 20 exposures that we have in our fixed income
- 21 portfolio have benefited actually from these
- recent inflation expectations and increases.
- 23 Credit conditions improve.
- 24 But the higher rates have certainly been

- 1 a drag on the U.S. equity market performance early
- this year. The rest of the world impacted less
- 3 than in the U.S.
- 4 So we continue to analyze the
- 5 portfolio's sensitivity to this value versus
- 6 growth theme that I mentioned. We have good
- factor balance in the aggregate equity portfolio,
- 8 but we've been asking our managers and hearing
- 9 from them as to how they're positioning for this
- regime change that we're witnessing between these
- 11 two styles.
- We were certainly satisfied with the
- resilience of the global equity portfolio in
- 14 January as these factor currents were swirling
- 15 around.
- And then just finally to reiterate,
- we're monitoring the portfolio's sensitivity to
- these geopolitical and economic risks that are out
- 19 there. Volatility is rising in both equities and
- fixed income, but this actually should create a
- 21 good environment for active managers in the equity
- and fixed income space to operate in and to add
- value in because when there's dispersion, there's
- 24 opportunity.

1 With the selloff we've seen in China, 2 we're hearing from some of our managers that 3 they're starting to actually see some good 4 opportunities arise there with the lower prices. 5 Because of the diversified nature of 6 this public markets portfolio, the aggregate risk 7 for the overall equity and fixed income exposures 8 remains low on a benchmark relative basis. 9 So with that, I'd be happy to take any 10 questions from any of the board. 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Questions for 12 Michael? 13 Again, very thorough. And again, as Bob 14 said, we have heard this before, and so I think 15 everyone is on board and understands what we are 16 hearing today. 17 If there are no other questions, we can 18 move on to PCS, portfolio completion strategies. 19 Is Eric joining us? 20 MR. TROTSKY: It's Bill. Bill will be 21 handling that. 22 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Bill will. 23 Thank you, Bill.

MR. LI: Thank you, Treasurer. Thank

- 1 you, Michael. And good morning, everyone.
- 2 My name is Bill Li. I am director of
- 3 portfolio completion strategies, or PCS, which is
- 4 now a team of four.
- 5 Firstly, I want to welcome again
- 6 Charlotte Wang. Welcome to the team. I hope you
- 7 will enjoy the internship at PRIM, and we look
- 8 forward to working with you more.
- 9 Also want to congratulate Liu here.
- 10 Again, congratulations on your new CAIA and CFA
- 11 designations.
- 12 Liu is our investment analyst on the
- team. She joined in 2017, first as an intern,
- 14 before transitioning to a full-time position one
- 15 half a year later. Liu regularly conducts
- 16 portfolio analytics, and her investment coverage
- 17 includes the replication program, which has been a
- 18 consistent outperformer, as well as China
- 19 equities.
- We also have Joy Seth, who joined from
- 21 Texas ERS as an investment officer. I still
- vividly remember his first day, partly because
- that was the first day of 2020 lockdown, a tricky
- time, but Joy managed to integrate himself

- 1 perfectly to the team.
- 2 Joy has accomplished tremendously within
- 3 two years. He built PRIM's proprietary, web-based
- 4 platform for liquid fund selection. He oversees
- 5 the 1 billion enhanced equity put spread collar
- 6 strategy. Joy also covers all hedge fund
- 7 relationships pertaining to macro relative value.
- 8 Last, but not the least, Eleni Klempner
- 9 handles real assets. Eleni joined two years ago
- 10 as well. She brings rich experience in real asset
- 11 as well as in mortgage credit. Since then, she
- has demonstrated strong business acumen. And also
- since this year, she just starts helping cover
- some of the credit hedge funds. This year, we are
- together making it a major focus to thoroughly
- 16 review PRIM's real assets program.
- 17 I am honored to work with this
- intelligent, passionate and collaborative squad.
- 19 The plan is to increase the team's bandwidth,
- 20 possibly with another full-time hire this year.
- 21 This year and forward, you will directly hear more
- from each of the portfolio completion team members
- on their projects.
- And speaking of plans and projects in

- 1 2022, we're working with the risk and operation
- 2 teams in reviewing hedge fund benchmark. And
- along with that, we're interviewing peer
- 4 allocators, including pensions and endowments and
- 5 foundations on the evolving practice of hedge fund
- 6 investing. We hope to continue informing our work
- 7 here at PRIM with those intelligence. And also
- 8 the findings will be shared with the board.
- 9 In parallel, touching on the
- intersection of multi-asset classes here, the
- 11 portfolio completion team will continue
- 12 collaboration with our dear colleagues on various
- topics, ranging from crossover to healthcare
- investments, as well as to India funds and such.
- Now, back to 2021 performance, last
- 16 year's performance. Portfolio completion finished
- the year with an 8.8 percent return, slightly
- outperforming its benchmark. The portfolio is
- 19 largely comprised of hedge fund partnerships, and
- 20 PRIT hedge funds all together returned
- 21 9.6 percent, outpacing benchmark by 56 bps.
- In terms of the risk-adjusted return, we
- 23 realized a Sharpe ratio of 2.8. That is
- 24 noticeably higher than general equity market and

- higher than core bond indices, meaning we managed
- to deliver larger return for each unit of risk
- 3 taken.
- 4 And looking into the hedge fund
- 5 universe, not surprisingly, last year was
- 6 characterized with riskierstrategies performing
- 7 better. Whoever took more risk, they tended to
- g deliver the higher return.
- 9 Accordingly, within our program, the
- directional funds, which are focused on security
- 11 selection and thus exhibited moderate beta
- exposure, had a greater performance of
- 13 15.3 percent. Whereas stable value funds are
- inherently of lower beta, either because those
- managers make more budget for hedging or because
- the relative value strategies and the like don't
- own as much equity to start with, this category of
- stabler funds still delivered a decent 8.3 percent
- 19 return.
- 20 And to switch gears from PCS to enhanced
- domestic equity or put spread collar program,
- which is now under public equity, reported under
- public equity, the program returned 29 percent
- trailing one year, and that well exceeded

- 1 expectation, outperforming benchmark by over
- 2 600 bps.
- 3 Joy Seth, which is one of our investment
- 4 officers on the team, closely monitors positions,
- 5 and he aggregates the risks on a daily basis. And
- from a risk angle, the enhanced equity program's
- 7 9 percent volatility was significantly lower than
- 8 general equity market, meaning again that is a
- 9 greater return for each unit of risk taken.
- 10 So with that, happy to take any
- 11 questions you may have.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there questions
- 13 for Bill?
- 14 Hearing none, Bill, thank you very much.
- MR. LI: Thank you, Treasurer.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: And we can move on
- 17 to Mike McGirr and private equity.
- 18 MR. McGIRR: Thank you, Madam Treasurer.
- 19 I'm going to jump into some comments on
- 20 performance before we move into our investment
- 21 recommendations and voting items today.
- 22 Private equity had another strong
- quarter. We're up 10 percent gross, or 9.7
- percent net, as Michael had mentioned. And

- 1 that brought our one-year number up to 66 percent
- or 64 percent gross, outperforming public and
- 3 private benchmarks.
- 4 The very strong one-year number helped
- 5 drag up our three-, our five- and our 10-year
- 6 numbers to 33, 30 and 23 percent, respectively.
- 7 And for the quarter, we saw some similar
- 8 themes by strategy that we saw last quarter, with
- 9 venture, growth and buyouts all doing well.
- 10 Buyouts for the quarter performed
- 11 between 7 and 8 percent and for the trailing one
- 12 year, about 50 percent. Growth-oriented assets
- also appreciated with the growth equity portfolio
- 14 up 9 percent for the quarter and up 65 percent for
- 15 the year.
- Venture capital had another tremendous
- 17 quarter, up 19 percent, which was the same as we
- 18 reported last quarter. That brought the trailing
- one-year return for venture capital up over
- 20 120 percent, which is actually higher than the
- 21 trailing one year that we reported last quarter,
- which I thought we would never beat.
- The entire PE program's assets has
- increased to \$17.1 billion or 16.6 percent of the

- 1 PRIT Fund. And as a reminder, that portfolio is
- 2 built up of 345 active partnerships across funds
- 3 and co-investments.
- 4 For the one-year period, we had a
- 5 \$6.8 billion net value gain. A lot of that was
- 6 paper. But as Michael mentioned, we received a
- 7 lot of that back in distributions with over
- 8 \$4.1 billion in distributions for the calendar
- 9 year '21 and over \$1.3 billion in the fourth
- 10 quarter alone, which are records for PRIM.
- 11 For the year ahead, we're going to work
- hard to increase private equity as a percent of
- total with your recent vote to increase the
- 14 allocation to 12 to 18 percent. As Michael
- mentioned, that translates to roughly 2.7 to
- 16 \$3.3 billion in the commitment target.
- 17 I'm excited about our venture capital
- 18 research. I want to thank Phil Rotner, a member
- of our Investment Committee, for all of his
- 20 guidance and direction so far on this internal
- effort that's being led by Helen, with a lot of
- 22 contribution from the rest of the private equity
- team as well as across PRIM. So, excited to share
- 24 more of that exciting work in future meetings.

And finally, we look to add to the team 1 2 in 2022. We're happy to report that we will have 3 a new team member join us next week. We'll look 4 forward to introducing you all to him at our next 5 IC and board cycle. 6 With that, I will pause and take any 7 questions on performance, the portfolio or the 8 market before moving to our voting items today. 9 MR. SHANLEY: I have just a general 10 question, Michael. With how well private equity 11 has done in the last few years, obviously more and 12 more are getting into the program, so to speak. 13 Is the opportunity market shrinking at 14 all? 15 Thanks, Paul. That's a MR. McGIRR: 16 great question. 17 We talk about that a lot around our 18 table. The markets have grown considerably. 19 There's more private equity firms than ever 20 raising more funds than ever so I think there's 21 definitely new entrants into the marketplace. 22 One thing that I'm encouraged by with 23 our portfolio is we have a very large, high-

performing, existing portfolio where many of our

1	runds are very difficult to access. And if you
2	are able to access them, it's hard to access them
3	in scale. So I think that gives us a big
4	benefit.
5	Our proposed recommendations today, are
6	all with existing managers so although we're growing
7	the portfolio, we're doing it with a combination
8	of growing with our existing managers and finding
9	one, maybe two managers over any
10	12-month period. So I think that really helps
11	with taking the pressure off.
12	And then the other thing it makes me
13	think of is in the private markets, venture
14	capital growth and buyouts in particular, you see
15	very large degrees of dispersion between the best
16	and worst managers. So manager selection is
17	still absolutely critical. And I think what we
18	have seen is a continued ability for the most
19	talented managers to really outperform. So hopefully
20	that gives you a little color on how we operate around our table.
21	MR. SHANLEY: That's great. Thank you, Michael.
22	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any other
23	questions for Michael? We do have voting items.

- 1 Okay then. I think what we'll -- now,
- we are doing the follow-on investment
- 3 recommendations that Michael is referring to. And
- 4 they are all on one vote, correct?
- 5 MR. McGIRR: That's right. So we have
- 6 nine fund recommendations totaling \$1.2 billion --
- 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: So, Michael, I'll
- 8 seek the motion and the second, and then you can
- 9 do a quick explanation. How does that sound?
- 10 MR. McGIRR: That sounds perfect.
- 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: So I would seek a
- motion for our private equity follow-on investment
- recommendations that the PRIM Board approve the
- 14 Investment Committee's recommendations for the
- following follow-on commitments as described in
- the expanded agenda. Get ready. It's a long
- 17 list.
- 18 Up to \$275 million to Thoma Bravo
- 19 Fund XV, L.P. Up to \$150 million to Thoma Bravo
- 20 Discover Fund IV, L.P. Up to \$150 million to
- 21 Thoma Bravo Explore Fund II, L.P. Up to
- 22 80 million euros to Chequers Capital XVIII, SLP.
- 23 Up to \$40 million to Polaris Growth Fund II, L.P.
- 24 Up to \$100 million to JMI Equity Fund XI, L.P. Up

- 1 to \$350 million to Advent International GPE X,
- 2 L.P. And up to \$22 million to USV 2022 L.P. and
- 3 up to \$32 million to USV Opportunity 2022, L.P.
- 4 And further to authorize the executive
- 5 director to take all actions necessary to
- 6 effectuate this vote.
- 7 Is there a motion?
- 8 MR. NAUGHTON: So moved, Dennis
- 9 Naughton.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- 11 MR. SHANLEY: Second.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. I challenge
- anyone to repeat that whole thing without looking
- 14 at the paper.
- MR. McGIRR: It's a big list, and the
- list is going to continue to be large as we try to
- grow this private equity allocation. But as a
- reminder, all of these nine funds are with high
- 19 conviction existing managers. These re-ups will
- allow us to continue to invest with these high-
- 21 performing incumbents.
- So I'm going to rattle through each of
- the opportunities quickly, and then the team and I
- 24 will take any questions or

- 1 comments.
- 2 So starting with Thoma Bravo, we're
- 3 recommending three funds. They're a leading
- 4 software buyout firm. Their performance has been
- 5 absolutely fantastic, compounding capital for PRIM
- 6 at nearly 37 percent.
- 7 Thoma Bravo is going to execute the same
- 8 strategy of control, investing in software,
- 9 primarily in North America, across applications,
- 10 cybersecurity and infrastructure.
- 11 We're recommending three fund series:
- the flagship, which will target large companies;
- 13 Discover, their mid-cap fund series; and Explore,
- 14 their small cap fund series.
- 15 Chequers. Chequers is a Paris, France-
- 16 based middle market buyout firm. We have invested
- in three prior funds with Chequers, going back to
- 18 2006. They'll target buyouts in France, Italy and
- 19 Germany within the B2B services and asset light
- 20 industrial service sectors. They're going to
- 21 target small companies.
- The firm has a tremendous reputation,
- one of the oldest private equity firms in France.
- We're recommending 80 million euros to Chequers

- 1 XVIII.
- 2 Polaris Growth. We're recommending
- 3 \$40 million to Fund II. PRIM was a cornerstone
- 4 investor in their first fund in 2018, which so far
- is meaningfully exceeding our expectations.
- 6 The manager has a dedicated strategy of
- buying software in tech leaders in very
- 8 specialized subsectors that have fairly small
- g markets.
- JMI. JMI, we're recommending our third
- investment with this group. They invest in
- bootstrapped B2B software and technology service
- companies in North America and seek to be the
- first institutional capital in a company.
- JMI fits in our growth equity portfolio.
- We have invested in two funds and one co-
- investment. We're recommending \$100 million to
- 18 JMI XI.
- And Advent. PRIM's been investing with
- 20 Advent going back to the 1980s across eight funds
- and one co-investment with this diversified global
- 22 private equity manager.
- Their performance has been tremendous,
- and they've generated a tremendous amount of

- 1 profits for us over many decades. We're
- 2 recommending \$350 million into their newest
- 3 flagship fund, which fits in our mega-large
- 4 portion of our portfolio, Advent GPE X.
- 5 And finally, USV. USV is raising two
- funds. They're one of our best-performing venture
- 7 capital managers. They'll target early-stage
- g investments in web services, information
- g technology, software and mobile communications.
- They'll also invest in blockchain technology
- infrastructure and cryptocurrency assets.
- USV is raising their 2022 core flagship
- fund and their opportunity fund, which will invest
- in slightly later stage opportunities.
- Their performance has been world-class.
- We're recommending a \$22 million investment to the
- core fund and \$32 million to the opportunity fund.
- 18 I'll stop with my comments there, and as
- I mentioned, the team and I are happy to take any
- 20 questions.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there
- 22 questions?
- 23 MR. BROUSSEAU: Madam Treasurer, I just
- 24 have two very -- not questions, but probably for

- 1 my own education.
- 2 Michael, on the Chequers, what are B2B
- 3 services and distribution?
- 4 MS. FIORE: Hi, Bob. I'm happy to take
- 5 that one on Chequers.
- 6 So B2B is business-to-business services
- 7 and distributions. So I think a great example for
- 8 that with Chequers is they typically are finding
- 9 companies where they're selling into broader
- organizations. So one example I can give that's
- 11 easy to understand is they have a business that
- makes zippers. So they're selling into all the
- 13 Italian and European luxury goods market. So that
- would be an example of selling to other businesses
- and distributing their products throughout the
- 16 European luxury good value chain.
- 17 MR. BROUSSEAU: Okay. Thank you. That
- 18 explains it.
- And one more, Madam Treasurer. On the
- top of page 19, in USV, Michael mentioned in his
- 21 presentation the investment in USV with blockchain
- technology infrastructure and cryptocurrency
- 23 assets.
- 24 Is this sort of a first for us in this

- 1 area, or do we have other investments in private
- equity that mirror the same thing? I don't know.
- 3 It seems to me I haven't seen this before.
- 4 MR. McGIRR: Yes. That's a great
- 5 question, Bob.
- 6 Some of our prior investments with USV
- 7 have also targeted this opportunity set, but
- 8 certainly as you're reading about blockchain and
- 9 crypto, it is a very, very quickly evolving space.
- 10 One of the notable investments they've
- 11 made, I'll describe it as more of the blockchain
- infrastructure, was the recent IPO of Coinbase.
- 13 Union Square was an early-stage investor in that
- company.
- 15 And you can think about that being kind
- of supporting and building the infrastructure to
- support the cryptocurrency and blockchain
- 18 ecosystem as Coinbase is really like a brokerage.
- 19 They allow the trading of cryptocurrency assets.
- So that's an example of one notable
- investment that they've made so far.
- 22 MR. TROTSKY: Bob and the rest of the
- group, I should mention that we are spending more
- time on blockchain and crypto environment and

- 1 opportunity set. Maria and her group have really
- 2 spearheaded the initiative there, along with
- 3 Investment Committee member Phil Perelmuter, who
- 4 has a great deal of interest in it.
- 5 I want to thank Maria, Bill, Mini Kouame
- 6 and Joy Seth, who previewed with me a crypto and
- 7 blockchain primer, if you will, to get us launched
- 8 towards understanding that marketplace better.
- 9 It's something we're going to do in a series of
- 10 internal PRIM University educational seminars, and
- 11 we'll think about --
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I'm signing up.
- MR. TROTSKY: I was going to say we'll
- think about if there's enough interest to open it
- up to board and committee members as well.
- 16 It's great. I went through it last
- 17 week. I learned a ton. Just as it's a very large
- and complex emerging marketplace, and just to
- throw out a little praise to Phil Perelmuter, he
- 20 tells me that in his retirement, he spends between
- 21 two and three hours every single day reading and
- learning about crypto and blockchain. So it's
- very deep, and there's a lot to learn. And we're
- really thankful we have the staff internally who

- 1 have expressed an interest in helping us learn.
- 2 Really what Phil and I did was we cast a
- 3 net to every single -- and I should mention Mike
- 4 McGirr through USV is also very interested, but I
- 5 cast a very wide net across the entire PRIM staff
- 6 to see who was really kind of interested in this
- 7 because I believe that interest leads to success,
- 8 and if you're interested in something, then you're
- 9 going to learn about it. And we have a number of
- 10 employees who are really quietly interested in
- 11 this topic.
- 12 MR. BROUSSEAU: Thank you, Michael. I
- raise it because I think that's an excellent idea
- 14 you just threw out.
- 15 Myself, I know I'm reading everything
- that I can find, especially what comes through
- 17 *Pensions and Investments*, the periodical that we
- subscribe to that I get. And in many instances,
- as far as I'm concerned, not being into this, it
- 20 raises more issues and concerns than the material
- 21 actually satisfies.
- So I think if you're going to do this, I
- think board members who would be interested in it
- 24 probably should join these workshops.

- TREASURER GOLDBERG: And I've also asked
 them at NAST, at the national association level,
 at the educational meetings that we have, to begin
 to have more and more information on and experts
- 5 presenting in this space because it's going on,
- and we have to pay attention to it and really
- 7 understand it. I mean this intangible thing is
- 8 really strange.
- 9 So if anyone doesn't know what I'm

 10 referring to, like you could have an intangible

 11 little thing that represents a work of art. And
- then all of a sudden, there's a market in that.
- Maria's laughing as I'm describing. Am
- 14 I close, Maria? Like these intangible invest --
- MS. GARRAHAN: I'm not laughing. I'm
- just smiling because I love being here.
- 17 MR. TROTSKY: I'm laughing. Just as
- 18 part --
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: This is going on.
- There are people trading in these intangibles
- 21 right now.
- MR. TROTSKY: I have to -- I think
- you're referring to NFTs, non-fungible tokens.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes.

- 1 MR. TROTSKY: And I have to say that as
- 2 part of my indoctrination, Phil Perelmuter brought
- 3 me to an NFT art exhibit, and it was eye-opening.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: It's really
- 5 something.
- 6 Okay. So we need to have the roll call
- 7 vote.
- 8 MR. TROTSKY: That's right. I think
- 9 that's where we are.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I'm like wait a
- 11 minute. We got off on -- see what happens when
- 12 you think about all these esoteric things?
- 13 Let's get back to the real good stuff.
- 14 Private equity.
- 15 So with that, I'm going to go through
- 16 the -- we have a motion. We have a second. Get
- 17 ready to rock and roll.
- 18 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- 21 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?

- 1 MS. McGOLDRICK: Sorry. Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Dennis?
- 3 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- 4 MS. McGOLDRICK: Carly?
- 5 MS. ROSE: Yes.
- 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- 7 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 9 motion carries. Thank you.
- 10 Okay. Next on the agenda. Hang on.
- 11 Give me one second.
- 12 MR. TROTSKY: Real estate. Tim.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes. I'm there.
- Hi, Tim.
- MR. SCHLITZER: Good morning. We
- haven't bought any properties in the
- metaverse quite yet, but we're working on it
- (humor noted). I'll talk about real properties today.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Not with cryptocurrency,
- I hope.
- 21 MR. SCHLITZER: That's right, Bob.
- 22 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Those are our new
- partners are the metaverse. Non-fungible, non-
- tangibles are our new investment partners in real

1 estate. 2 That's right. MR. SCHLITZER: Just for the record, I'm Tim 3 Schlitzer, Director of Real Estate and 4 Timberland. I'm not going to refer specifically to 5 any written materials today, but let me just make 6 a few comments on the portfolio, and then Minching 7 will present a voting item. 8 So first, I just want to thank the team 9 for a great year in 2021. John, Christina, 10 Minching and many of our other colleagues. 11 really think the team had a great year, and I 12 thank them for all of their efforts. 13 They worked on \$2 billion in transaction 14 activity. That's 20 investments. That equates to 15 \$560 million in net invested capital. 16 also refinanced a \$500 million real estate debt 17 position within our capital structure, saving 18 approximately \$5 million a year in interest costs. 19 The team traveled a lot. 14 trips to 20 visit acquisition opportunities and existing 21 properties and industry conferences. I know for a 22

fact that many of our peers outside of PRIM, who I

love dearly, haven't been on a plane in two years

23

- so I'm very proud of our team for getting back out
- on the road.
- All of this was against a much more
- 4 active capital market and fundamental backdrop
- than we saw in 2020. The commercial real estate
- 6 capital markets had a record year, \$800 billion in
- transactions, which led to a strong upward
- g revaluation of assets.
- 9 We saw much further institutionalization
- of nontraditional property types. So things like
- self-storage, life science some of which we're now
- invested in. Single-family rental, datacenters.
- So the market is changing a bit there interms of
- the sector makeup.
- Housing starts ended the year pacing at
- 1.7 million units, surpassing pre-COVID levels and
- well above the 940,000-unit trough in April of
- 18 2020. And this was a big part of timber prices
- increasing by 10 to 20 percent across a variety of
- 20 product types.
- Total real estate returned 28.1 percent
- for the year versus the benchmark at 15.2 percent.
- 23 So really strong absolute and relative
- 24 performance. And I know this is a bit

- unintuitive, coming out of 2020. I thought that I
- would mention that 67 percent of PRIM's real
- g estate portfolio is invested in property types
- 4 other than office and retail, which as you know
- 5 have struggled more through the pandemic.
- The overweights that we have to
- 7 industrial, multi-family, medical office and life
- g science all served the fund very well because
- g there has been very strong capital and tenant
- demand in these areas.
- Portfolio debt, our capital structure,
- which continues to be very low leverage at about
- 25 percent, added over 500 basis points of
- additional core performance. And the REIT market
- had a good year as well, up 27 percent.
- 16 Timber returns were also strong for the
- year at 11.6 percent against the benchmark at
- 18 5 percent.
- We saw fairly steep discount rate drops,
- somewhat being dragged down by lower market
- interest rates overall, but also driven by strong
- 22 housing market demand and the starts number that I
- just mentioned. And also ESG considerations,
- 24 which we believe are now being priced in by

- 1 investors.
- 2 Returns in the Pacific Northwest and
- 3 Australia/New Zealand did outperform our southern
- 4 assets, which are an underweight in the portfolio
- 5 and have been for a while.
- But we saw some improvement in the
- 7 southern portfolio, which was up 6.7 percent for
- 8 the year versus flat performance in 2020. So
- 9 we're beginning to see some timber price
- 10 appreciation in that region, again, based on
- 11 strong housing demand, particularly in the south
- and really in the southeast and strong
- 13 construction in that area. So a great sign there.
- 14 Overall, I think the report in both real
- estate and timberland, very positive, but I'm
- 16 happy to answer any questions. That's all I had
- in terms of prepared remarks.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions at
- 19 all for Tim?
- I think here, the only voting item we
- 21 have, Tim, is the real estate appraisal services.
- 22 MR. SCHLITZER: That's right, Treasurer.
- And I was going to let Minching handle that, if we
- 24 can promote her or --

1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. So what 2 we'll do is why don't you promote her. I'll seek 3 the motion and the second while you're promoting 4 And then she can then do the explanation for 5 us. How does that sound? 6 MR. SCHLITZER: That's perfect. Thank 7 you. 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: All right. So I 9 would seek a motion that the PRIM Board approve 10 the Real Estate and Timberland Committee's 11 recommendation to issue an RFP for real estate 12 appraisal services as described in the expanded 13 agenda, and further to authorize the executive 14 director to take all actions necessary to 15 effectuate this vote. 16 Is there a motion? 17 MS. FITCH: So moved. 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second? 19 MR. HEARTY: Second. Jim Hearty. 20 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you, Jim. 21 All right then. Minching. 22 MS. KAO: Thank you, Madam Treasurer. 23 My name is Minching Kao. 24

PRIM engages an independent appraisal

- 1 firm to provide valuation services for PRIM's
- 2 properties. As a reminder, each property is
- appraised annually with approximately 25 percent
- 4 of the portfolio appraised each quarter.
- 5 Altus is the incumbent appraisal firm,
- 6 and the current engagement expires at the end of
- 7 the 2022 calendar year.
- 8 This request is procedural in nature.
- 9 With your approval today, we would expect to issue
- 10 the RFP around second quarter of this year.
- 11 Please let me know if you have any
- 12 questions.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Are there any
- 14 questions at all?
- Hearing none, let's proceed to a roll
- 16 call vote. Bob?
- 17 MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?

1 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes. 2 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly? 3 MS. ROSE: Yes. 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul? 5 MR. SHANLEY: Yes. 6 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The 7 motion carries. 8 Thank you very much, Minching. 9 Okay. Next, timberland. 10 MR. TROTSKY: There's probably a motion 11 for request for qualification. 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Right. I'm just 13 pulling up the vote. I have a couple of pieces of 14 paper here. 15 Okay. So I'm going to seek a motion of 16 an approval for a request for qualifications for 17 timberland appraisal services. I seek a motion 18 that the PRIM Board approve the Real Estate and 19 Timberland Committee's recommendation to issue an 20 RFQ for timberland appraisal services as described 21 in the expanded agenda, and further to authorize 22 the executive director to take all actions 23 necessary to effectuate this vote.

Is there a motion?

- 1 MR. NAUGHTON: So moved, Dennis
- 2 Naughton.
- 3 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Boy, a lot of
- 5 people. Okay then.
- 6 Second?
- 7 MR. BROUSSEAU: Bob Brousseau.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay then. And is
- 9 Minching going to also give us the background on
- 10 this?
- 11 MS. KAO: Yes.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Thank you.
- 13 Go ahead.
- 14 MS. KAO: Thank you.
- 15 PRIM's timberland properties are
- 16 appraised annually in the fourth quarter. We use
- 17 a request for qualifications process to establish
- a group of qualified timber appraisers.
- 19 Individual property appraisal assignments are
- awarded through a bid process.
- 21 Current assignments expired upon the
- finalization of the 4Q21 appraisals. In order to
- reestablish the qualified appraisal list, with
- your approval, we would expect to issue the RFQ

- 1 later this year around the second quarter to have
- the process finalized in advance of the 4Q22
- 3 appraisal process. We will also utilize our
- timber consultants, IWC, to assist us in this
- 5 process.
- 6 Like real estate, this is procedural in
- 7 nature. And again, please let me know if you have
- 8 any questions.
- 9 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions at
- 10 all?
- 11 Hearing none, we'll proceed to the vote.
- 12 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 18 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 20 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- 21 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?

- 1 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 3 motion carries. Thank you.
- 4 MR. TROTSKY: Thank you, Treasurer.
- 5 And promotion I guess has dual meaning
- 6 in our Zoom environment, where you can be promoted
- 7 to be a presenter. But I'll also remind the board
- 8 that Minching herself was actually really promoted
- 9 at the end of last year to investment officer.
- 10 You may remember I announced that.
- 11 Congratulations. You're doing a great
- job, Minching.
- And just as a reminder, Minching really
- 14 focuses on investment analysis and modeling.
- 15 She's terrific at it. And also part of that
- 16 modeling is handling the quarterly valuations, and
- 17 that's why she's presenting today.
- 18 So congratulations. You got two
- 19 promotions in the last little while.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: All right.
- MS. KAO: Thank you, Michael.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you,
- 23 Minching.
- With that, we are moving along to the

- 1 adoption of the 2022 proxy voting guidelines.
- 2 MR. FALZONE: So, Treasurer, do you want
- 3 to read the motion, and then I can present?
- 4 TREASURER GOLDBERG: I shall. I shall
- 5 do so.
- I would seek a motion that the PRIM
- 7 Board approve the Admin and Audit Committee's
- 8 recommendation to adopt the enhancements to PRIM's
- 9 custom proxy voting guidelines attached as
- 10 Appendix I of the expanded agenda, and further to
- 11 authorize the executive director to take all
- 12 actions necessary to effectuate this vote.
- 13 Is there a motion?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Second?
- MS. FITCH: Second.
- 17 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay then. Go
- 18 ahead, Tony.
- MR. FALZONE: Thank you.
- 20 So at the Administration and Audit
- 21 Committee meeting earlier this month, ISS, who is
- our proxy voting vendor, highlighted some changes
- to the broader benchmark proxy voting policy.
- 24 That's at Appendix H.

And then some of those changes have an 1 impact on our custom policy for 2022, which, as 2 the Treasurer mentioned in the motion, is at 3 Appendix I. Because those changes are basically 4 a carryover from the benchmark policy and more for 5 informational purposes, I wasn't going to go over 6 those. 7 I do want to direct your attention to 8 the global climate change proxy voting guideline 9 proposed by Treasurer Goldberg on page 19 of the 10 expanded agenda. 11 So during the last meeting cycle, we 12 provided a sneak preview to both the 13 Administration and Audit Committee and the board 14 of the draft language for our climate change proxy 15 voting guideline. We also provided this language 16 to ISS so they could plan the implementation and 17 help us figure out the best way and most impactful 18 way to do that. 19 So due to some disclosure limitations 20 and also taking into account current best 21 practices, they recommended using the Climate 22

guideline. And this process is consistent with

23

Action 100 to implement the climate change

- many of our peers implementing similar guidelines and the recommendation unanimously approved by the
- So this language is just slightly
 different than the language provided last cycle,

Administration and Audit Committee.

for your reference.

I will say a few words on the Climate

Action 100. There's more information available on

page 20 of the expanded agenda. And this is more

with the inclusion of the Climate Action 100.

- So the Climate Action 100 initiative was initially formed in the wake of the 2015 Paris Agreement, which is a global accord signed by nearly 200 countries and ratified by over 170 of them. And they're aiming to keep the increase in global average temperatures to well below 2 degrees Celsius above preindustrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit warming further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
 - The investor signatories of Climate

 Action 100 believe that engaging and working with
 these companies in which they invest to secure
 greater disclosure of climate change risk and
 create robust company emissions reduction

- 1 strategies is consistent with fiduciary duty and
- essential to achieve the goals of the Paris
- 3 Agreement.
- 4 So again, the Climate Action 100 is
- 5 overseen by a global steering committee. There
- are many signatories that are public funds:
- 7 CalPERS, CalSTRS, Connecticut, Minnesota, the New
- 8 York Common Fund, the Harvard endowment, MIT
- g Investment Management Company.
- And then on the private side, Goldman,
- JPMorgan, GMO, Lewis, PIMCO, all the big heavy
- hitters, SSGA, Wellington, MFS.
- So I think this is the most impactful
- way to implement the proxy voting guidelines
- suggested by ISS. ISS is here to answer any
- questions, if you have any.
- And with that, I'll open it up. I
- don't know if the Treasurer has some comments
- she'd like to make, but I think that's all I have
- 20 for this.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: The good news of us
- having these conversations ahead of time earlier
- in our meetings is that we've gotten a chance to
- 24 have a lot of conversation about this. In

- 1 particular, what's been going on is that there has
- been an extraordinary move and recognition of the
- 3 business risks associated with climate change.
- And what's made it more and more evident
- 5 are the wild swings and the incredible impacts on
- 6 doing business in so many parts of the country in
- 7 many various climate disruptions.
- 8 And so consequently, the thinking around
- 9 this is -- and as you noted, Tony, just about
- 10 everybody who is looking at this feels strongly
- 11 that not addressing these climate issues have long-
- term impacts for investors. And so it's fully
- appropriate for us to be joining in with others in
- our expectations that companies address these
- issues themselves ahead of time.
- And the best way to do so is through
- shareholder activism and voting with others in
- order to effectuate productive, internally driven
- 19 change within a business model.
- 20 And so that's the only thing I want to
- 21 add in terms of this. I fully support the change
- in the language. I think it's excellent.
- And consequently, I want to open it up
- for any questions anyone may have, or we can

- 1 proceed to the vote, whichever is the pleasure of
- the board.
- Theresa?
- 4 MS. McGOLDRICK: Sorry about that. I
- 5 was muted.
- I just want to voice again my position
- 7 on this, which I did at the Admin and Audit
- 8 Committee. And I am very much in favor of it and
- 9 have been supportive of all of the proxy voting
- 10 progressive updates that we've made over the
- 11 years. And this one in particular, I believe is
- something that we have to do.
- 13 I think Michael spoke very eloquently
- about his support. I know the Treasurer and her
- 15 work has been extremely important in making all of
- 16 this happen. Her passion and energy at the
- 17 national treasurers level across the country and
- here at PRIM have really influenced how
- 19 progressively we've moved.
- 20 And not only has it benefited all the
- 21 efforts that we've addressed within our proxy
- change moves like diversity and other issues,
- including now climate change, it has benefited our
- fund as well and our beneficiaries as a whole by,

- 1 as you can see, increasing our fund's value.
- 2 It's a win-win situation where we're not
- only doing our job as fiduciaries in making sure
- 4 that our fund is more secure and investing in safe
- 5 investments, but also fighting climate change and
- 6 a win for our future.
- 7 So I just want to basically reiterate my
- 8 support from the Admin and Audit Committee meeting
- 9 where we first discussed this.
- Thank you.
- 11 MR. NAUGHTON: Madam Treasurer?
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes.
- MR. NAUGHTON: Just as a member of the
- 14 Administration and Audit Committee, I really want
- to thank Theresa for those comments, which she did
- make also at our meeting. And I hope that my
- fellow board members will support this most
- 18 important motion.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you, Dennis.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: One more comment,
- 21 please, Madam Treasurer.
- I'd like to join with Dennis and Theresa
- in strongly supporting this item. Several years
- 24 back -- I know Dennis can recall -- many of us who

- 1 are elected members of the board were -- I would
- 2 say lobbied or spoken to about divestment and came
- 3 to realize quite soon of course that within the
- 4 last two or three years, that divestment does not
- 5 equate to engagement.
- 6 It may satisfy a desire to deal with, I
- think, issues around this whole thing of climate
- 8 change, probably in a fashion that people thought
- 9 would work.
- 10 But undoubtedly we have found that in
- the last two years, through PRIM's involvement and
- 12 the work that Maria has done with MIT and
- engagement, we're finding that this is far more a
- 14 productive enterprise than simply divesting our
- 15 investments.
- 16 And I think the Treasurer probably --
- 17 you also spoke about this issue very eloquently in
- 18 terms of divestment.
- 19 So I'm very pleased that we're moving in
- 20 this direction. I know I've had comments and
- quite a few emails from our membership, say the
- teacher membership, on this issue in support of
- this voting our proxies in favor of what we have
- seen here would be Paris Climate Agreement.

1 And I strongly support this issue. 2 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you, Bob. 3 And I think what's happening is that out 4 of extreme frustration, there has -- and there are 5 those who will continue to want divestment. 6 However, it's becoming more and more evident that 7 engagement potentially has a great deal more 8 impact. 9 One example of that is the investors 10 Engine 1, who have now won three seats on the 11 Exxon board. Exxon is about one of the biggest 12 players in the fossil fuel industry. And believe 13 me, their presence on the board can effectuate far 14 better change than a city or a town or a state divesting and having those shares being bought up 15 16 by somebody else. 17 So the trend -- you know, a wise 18 philosopher once said to me, "The trend is your 19 friend." And the trend is for engagement these 20 days. 21 Tony, you thought that was funny? 22 MR. FALZONE: I'm going to steal that. TREASURER GOLDBERG: It happened to have 23 24 been my husband. A wise philosopher. I've never

- 1 called him that before, so don't anyone let him
- 2 know I said that.
- And so I'm happy that we're joining this
- 4 movement literally, and it gives me hope for the
- future of our business success and the world's
- 6 success.
- 7 So with that, I will proceed to our
- 8 vote. Bob?
- 9 MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- 11 MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- 17 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- 19 MS. ROSE: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
- 21 MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
- 23 motion carries. Thank you very much.
- 24 And next item on the agenda is the

- 1 establishment of an ESG committee and engage with
- 2 Funston Advisory Services LLC, that the PRIM Board
- 3 approve the Admin and Audit Committee's
- 4 recommendation to establish an environmental,
- 5 social and governance committee for the purpose of
- 6 advising the board on ESG-related matters, and to
- 7 engage Funston Advisory Services LLC to assist
- 8 with developing a proposal for the ESG committee
- 9 structure and charter, and further to authorize
- 10 the executive director to take all actions
- 11 necessary to effectuate this vote.
- 12 Is there a motion?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 14 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Second?
- MS. FITCH: Second.
- 16 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Tony, go
- 17 ahead.
- MR. FALZONE: Thank you.
- 19 So this is another item that was
- 20 mentioned during the last meeting cycle, and folks
- 21 over here at PRIM have been working very hard with
- the Treasurer, her staff, and I appreciate all the
- 23 help they've been giving me on some of these
- issues, talking about creating an ESG committee

- that would advise the board on ESG-related matters
- and being mindful of PRIM's existing charters and
- governance policies, past, along with best practice.
- The proposal before you today is the
- 5 Administration and Audit Committee's
- 6 recommendation that the PRIM Board establish an
- 7 ESG committee to advise the board on ESG-related
- g matters.
- 9 We also are proposing we engage with
- Funston on a very limited, narrow-scope engagement
- to develop a proposal for the ESG committee
- structure and charter.
- So a brief description of Funston is on
- page 20 of the expanded agenda. I'll just say a
- few words on them, for those that aren't familiar
- with them. They have over 40 years of experience
- and are nationally recognized for providing these
- types of services, including experience working
- 19 with funds on ESG matters. They have a knowledge
- 20 base of over 80 public retirement system charters
- and policies for reference. They work with many
- of our larger public pension fund peers.
- 23 And I have talked to Funston in the past
- over the years because they're such a big player

- 1 in the space.
- 2 I've talked to a lot of our peers at
- 3 CalPERS, CalSTRS, and Texas Teachers, Florida,
- 4 Ohio, Pennsylvania. They're very well-known.
- 5 They work with a lot of the bigger funds. And
- 6 ultimately, most of our peers are very happy with
- 7 the results, the ones that I've talked to.
- 8 So I performed what I would refer to as
- g like a mini procurement because it's such a small
- 10 engagement. And I spoke with different
- consultants at peer funds, compared costs between
- some firms and even with our own governance
- consultant, Cortex. As you know, they're winding
- down their governance practice. And we're going
- to be running an RFP, now that I have a general
- counsel, or that we have a general counsel in place.
- But Funston was the firm that was most
- prominent when I was discussing these issues with
- our peers. And I mentioned the engagement with
- 20 Funston will be very small, with a narrow scope of
- services. And we do plan to issue that RFP very
- soon, and that will be for a more full governance
- 23 manual and charter review later this year.
- 24 So this vote I think is an important

- 1 first step that allows us to begin to work with
- one of the leading public pension fund governance
- advisors. And it's a very small engagement. I
- 4 feel strongly about working with a governance
- 5 consultant expert to ensure -- this is a super
- 6 important initiative, and I want to make sure it's
- 7 handled correctly.
- 8 So that's all I have. I'm sure the
- 9 Treasurer has some comments too.
- 10 TREASURER GOLDBERG: What makes you
- 11 think so?
- 12 So this is exciting because Maria has
- done such outstanding work with MIT, and we're
- developing data points and an understanding about
- 15 how to look at ESG investments.
- And I think back to so many of the
- meetings I've attended over the years and the
- discussions around ESG, and I profoundly remember
- a retreat meeting that we had as a board where we
- 20 started right off with Michael saying there are so
- 21 many definitions of ESG, it's mind-boggling.
- Do you remember that, Michael?
- But Maria and the work that she is doing
- is on the cutting edge of defining data-driven

- 1 analysis that will support not just PRIM, but
- 2 others throughout the country are already
- 3 interested in hearing what the outcome is of the
- 4 work that we are doing, which is exciting to me.
- 5 And so this subcommittee will be
- 6 terrifically made up with a range -- you know, the
- 7 same kind of way in which we evaluate and
- 8 recommend from other subcommittees and will
- 9 support the work that so many and Maria is
- 10 aggregating without confusion. I'm going to call
- it "without confusion," that the -- it will be
- 12 leveraging off of that work in order to effectuate
- change and execute a model that will really be
- 14 significant.
- And so I'm very, very excited about
- this. And I think that, Tony, the way in which
- 17 you've done the research and identifying Funston
- and doing -- you know, we're doing this the right
- 19 way. We're not just dreaming up a committee.
- We're using expertise, and that is the goal in
- 21 everything that we do, to have expertise and an
- 22 understanding so that we are effective. Being
- effective is what our mantra is at PRIM.
- 24 So I'm happy to entertain any other

- 1 questions about this or, given that we've had,
- 2 again -- and I think we -- I mean we've been
- 3 talking about this issue now for probably almost
- 4 six months. Unless there are other questions, I'm
- 5 happy to proceed to the vote.
- 6 MR. NAUGHTON: Just quickly, Madam
- 7 Treasurer, if I may, I want to thank Tony. Again
- 8 as a member of the A&A committee, I was very
- 9 reassured by the comprehensive background look he
- 10 did into this proposal.
- 11 And once again, I hope that my fellow
- 12 board members will support it. Thank you.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Another comment, Madam
- 14 Treasurer. This has been a difficult process to
- put this together in a way that will be
- 16 comprehensive and I think very helpful for the
- 17 board.
- But I think probably the next board
- 19 cycle, if we -- I know we had a report last year
- 20 from Maria on MIT's work and how this is
- 21 dovetailing with what we are doing. It might be
- 22 helpful to the board and also too, as we establish
- 23 this committee in the future.
- 24 And enough said. I support it as I said

- 1 at the Administration and Audit Committee meeting.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Thank you, Bob.
- Any other comments or questions?
- 4 MS. FITCH: Yes. This is Ruth Ellen. I
- 5 do have just a thought.
- 6 As we progress with instituting of the
- 7 committee and getting it up and running, I think
- 8 it would be helpful to have kind of interim status
- 9 reports rather than waiting until three months has
- 10 gone by for another either committee or board
- 11 meeting.
- 12 I think it helps us as members to know
- kind of what's going on in the timeline of it as
- opposed to just being told it's done.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. I'm sure
- Tony will be happy to work with us on that.
- 17 MR. FALZONE: Once the vote happens
- today, I'll be working on an engagement letter.
- 19 Like I said, the scope is so narrow, I don't
- 20 expect it to be that complex, but I'll have a
- 21 better sense of the process, which I kind of have
- 22 a 30,000-foot view of, but --
- 23 MS. FITCH: Right.
- MR. FALZONE: The reason why we're not

- 1 waiting for the RFP, Ruth Ellen, is because I feel
- this is important enough where we can work outside
- 3 that on a very limited scope to fast-track it. So
- 4 that's my goal.
- 5 MS. FITCH: I absolutely agree. But if
- 6 we, being board members, can just be kept abreast
- 7 of the process and how it's going, et cetera, on
- 8 the actual time basis as opposed to being told
- 9 after the fact.
- 10 MR. FALZONE: Sure. I anticipate some
- involvement because I think part of that process
- is understanding how each of the board members
- 13 view ESG and its role within the fund. So I
- 14 assume you'll have an opportunity to even
- 15 participate at some level.
- MS. FITCH: Good, good. Thank you.
- 17 MR. FALZONE: You're welcome.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. With that,
- we have a motion, we have a second. I'll proceed
- to a vote.
- 21 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.

1 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim? 2 MR. HEARTY: Yes. 3 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa? 4 MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes. 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis? 6 MR. NAUGHTON: Yes. 7 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly? 8 MS. ROSE: Yes. 9 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul? 10 MR. SHANLEY: Yes. 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The 12 motion carries. Thank you --13 Oh, wait. Theresa -- I just got a 14 message that you had your hand up, Theresa. I 15 didn't see it. 16 MS. McGOLDRICK: I just wanted to really 17 echo what Dennis had said in our joint support for 18 ESG. I'm really proud of PRIM and the action 19 taken by the staff, led by the Treasurer, Michael 20 and Maria in ESG. 21 It's to me very important and a follow-22 up in all of our efforts with proxy voting to be 23 looking at these issues that not only benefit our 24 fund, but benefit the world, our earth and the

- 1 people, as well as our beneficiaries.
- 2 So to me, the two are tied together very
- 3 integrally, and I think that it's extremely
- 4 cutting-edge stuff and very important that we're
- 5 studying these issues and how they affect the
- fund. And so I'm very excited for this committee.
- 7 Thank you.
- 8 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Sorry, Theresa. I
- 9 apologize for having missed --
- 10 MS. McGOLDRICK: No problem.
- 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Okay. Well, we've
- 12 had the vote. So that actually takes us through
- the agenda except for our legislative update.
- 14 Is Emily on?
- MR. FALZONE: I think we are promoting
- her and maybe Liz as well.
- 17 MS. McGOLDRICK: Liz Zelnick. Okay.
- 18 MR. GRISWOLD: She should be on in just
- 19 a second. It takes a moment for the promotion to
- happen.
- 21 MR. FALZONE: I should say her full
- 22 name, Treasurer. You're right. We're just such
- 23 good friends now, that I just --
- 24 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Elizabeth Zelnick

- 1 and Emily Kowtoniuk.
- 2 MR. FALZONE: Thank you.
- 3 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Policy team.
- 4 MS. KOWTONIUK: Hi. So I'm Emily
- 5 Kowtoniuk, and I will give a quick legislative
- 6 update.
- 7 We are now in the second year of the two-
- 8 year legislative session. And we're through joint
- 9 rule 10-day, which is the deadline by which all
- 10 committees of first impression need to report the
- 11 bills before them.
- We now have all of the paperwork
- processed, and we can report on the three buckets
- of bills that we've been tracking for PRIM.
- 15 So the first sort of line of effort is
- divestment bills, and we did see all of the
- 17 divestment bills go to study this session.
- There's also a new line of effort
- 19 looking at, on point, the intersection of ESG and
- 20 fiduciary duty. This is a new initiative, and
- 21 those bills actually went to study as well this
- 22 session.
- The only bills relative to PRIM that we
- saw receive a favorable report are the PRIM

- 1 membership bills. And this is the same initiative
- 2 that we saw last session that would require the
- 3 governor to appoint from a panel of three selected
- 4 of the public safety appointee.
- 5 Similar to last session, this bill did
- 6 receive a favorable report, and it will go now to
- 7 house rules, where we'll continue to watch it.
- 8 We could see this measure come up during
- 9 budget debate, and we're now discussing the FY '23
- 10 budget. The governor has proposed his budget.
- 11 And similar to last fiscal year, he's proposed a
- 12 \$250 million supplemental transfer to the PRIT
- 13 Fund, which the Treasurer spoke in support of at
- the joint ways and means hearing just last week.
- 15 In the last update, we did see the
- 16 governor sign the COVID supplemental budget, which
- does include an extension of the emergency Open
- 18 Meeting Law provisions, which were set to expire
- in April, and they're now extended through
- 20 July 15.
- 21 So happy to answer any questions.
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Fast, fast question,
- 23 Emily. Which particular bills you mentioned were
- 24 sent to study?

1 MS. KOWTONIUK: So all of the divestment 2 bills, and then there was a new bill filed by 3 Representative Domb that looked at ESG and climate 4 investing specifically. And that was also sent to 5 study. 6 MR. BROUSSEAU: Sometimes study can be 7 fast. Sometimes it can be prolonged and extended. 8 Do you have any idea whether or not 9 these will come through the committees and be 10 brought back during this legislative session? 11 MS. KOWTONIUK: Not during this 12 legislative session. I mean they could pop up 13 during budget debate, but these are sort of 14 perennially filed and perennially sent to study, 15 on the divestment side especially. 16 So I'd expect that we would see similar 17 initiatives next session, but that won't be until 18 next year. So for this session, I think we're 19 done. 20 MR. BROUSSEAU: Could you please just 21 elaborate a little bit on the changes to the 22 membership of PRIM Board, that one position? 23 MS. KOWTONIUK: Sure. So this is the

bill that was filed by Senator Keenan on the

24

- 1 senate side and then actually by both
- 2 Representatives Peisch and Cusack on the house
- 3 side.
- 4 And this amends PRIM's statute to
- 5 require that the governor appoint the public
- 6 safety representative from a list of three
- 7 nominees submitted by the Massachusetts
- 8 Association of Contributory Retirement Systems.
- 9 MR. BROUSSEAU: Okay. Thank you.
- 10 MR. NAUGHTON: Madam Treasurer --
- 11 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Yes.
- MR. NAUGHTON: -- through you to Emily.
- 13 Emily, just a quick question on the
- other bill regarding ESG and fiduciary
- 15 responsibility.
- 16 Could you just put a little finer point
- on that for me, what that bill intends?
- MS. KOWTONIUK: I'm actually going to
- turn it over to Liz on this one because she's been
- working closest with the representative's office.
- 21 MS. ZELNICK: Hi, everyone. I'm Liz
- 22 Zelnick, deputy director for policy and
- 23 legislative affairs.
- 24 So with this particular bill,

- 1 Representative Domb presented an idea to create
- 2 essentially an outside agency to monitor PRIM's
- 3 progress in reaching sort of the net zero goals
- 4 laid out by the climate bill that passed last
- 5 year.
- 6 So obviously that got sent to study.
- 7 And our team really thinks that the ESG committee
- 8 that you guys just created really achieves the
- 9 same goals without so much red tape. And working
- 10 internally with the staff in the capacity that you
- 11 guys already have.
- MR. NAUGHTON: Thanks very much for
- 13 that.
- MS. ZELNICK: Absolutely.
- 15 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any other
- 16 questions?
- 17 Hearing none, that is actually the end
- of our agenda. Unless I'm missing a page.
- MS. FITCH: Nope.
- MR. FALZONE: I don't know if any --
- just a few words on client service, if I may.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Please do.
- MR. FALZONE: So we talked about the two
- 24 educational Webinars the client service team is

- 1 putting together for our clients.
- 2 I also would be remiss if I didn't
- 3 congratulate Jennifer Cole, who's on the client
- 4 service team, for her 20 years.
- I remember when Jennifer first started,
- 6 and I've been working with her ever since, and
- 7 it's been a pleasure. And I'm excited and look
- 8 forward to working with her in the future as well.
- And then secondarily to that, we do have
- an investor advisory council meeting that's on the
- 11 books for March, which is a meeting we put
- 12 together so that some of our retirement systems
- can come, normally they can meet with us, and we
- can talk a little bit more about what's going on
- so that our retirement systems have a little more
- 16 insight.
- 17 And Francesco is here to answer any
- 18 questions, if you have any.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Any questions for
- 20 Francesco?
- 21 Hearing none, I believe we are now at
- the end of our agenda.
- I want to congratulate us all. We have
- been having some rather marathon meetings for

- 1 quite some time, so we are very efficient today.
- 2 And I think that's due to the success of our
- 3 subcommittee meetings.
- 4 MS. FITCH: Yes. Agreed.
- 5 TREASURER GOLDBERG: With that, I will
- 6 seek a motion to adjourn. Is there a motion?
- 7 MR. BROUSSEAU: So moved.
- 8 MR. SHANLEY: So moved.
- 9 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Is there a second?
- 10 MS. McGOLDRICK: Second.
- 11 MS. FITCH: Second.
- 12 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Roll call vote.
- 13 Bob?
- MR. BROUSSEAU: Yes.
- 15 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Ruth Ellen?
- MS. FITCH: Yes.
- 17 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Jim?
- MR. HEARTY: Yes.
- 19 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Theresa?
- MS. McGOLDRICK: Yes.
- 21 TREASURER GOLDBERG: Dennis?
- MR. NAUGHTON: Yes.
- TREASURER GOLDBERG: Carly?
- MS. ROSE: Yes.

1	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Paul?
2	MR. SHANLEY: Yes.
3	TREASURER GOLDBERG: Myself, yes. The
4	motion carries.
5	I want to thank everyone for their
6	excellent attendance. And I always want to thank
7	the PRIM staff for the outstanding job that you
8	do.
9	MR. TROTSKY: Thank you very much.
10	(Meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.)
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