companies, corporations, business or statutory trusts or other entities (''Funds'') organized primarily for the benefit of eligible employees of Manulife Investment Management Private Markets (US) LLC and its affiliates from certain provisions of the Act. Each Fund, and each series thereof (to the extent such series is an issuer for purposes of the Act), will be an ''employees' securities company'' within the meaning of section 2(a)(13) of the Act.

Applicants: Manulife Investment Management Private Markets (US) LLC and Manulife Employee Securities Company 2025, L.P.

Filing Dates: The application was filed on March 14, 2025, and amended on October 3, 2025, April 16, 2026, and May 22, 2026.

Hearing or Notification of Hearing: An order granting the requested relief will be issued unless the Commission orders a hearing. Interested persons may request a hearing on any application by emailing the SEC's Secretary at *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov* and serving Applicants with a copy of the request by email, if an email address is listed for Applicants below, or personally or by mail, if a physical address is listed for Applicants below. The email should include the file number referenced above. Hearing requests should be received by the Commission by 5:30 p.m., Eastern time, on July 27, 2026, and should be accompanied by proof of service on Applicants, in the form of an affidavit or, for lawyers, a certificate of service. Pursuant to rule 0–5 under the Act, hearing requests should state the nature of the writer's interest, any facts bearing upon the desirability of a hearing on the matter, the reason for the request, and the issues contested. Persons who wish to be notified of a hearing may request notification by emailing the Commission's Secretary.

ADDRESSES: The Commission: *Secretarys-Office@sec.gov.* Applicants: Michael Lebowitz, Manulife Investment Management Private Markets (US) LLC, *mlebowitz@manulife.com;* and John Hunt, Sullivan & Worcester LLP, *jhunt@sullivanlaw.com.*

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Loomis Moore, Senior Counsel, or Matthew Cook, Branch Chief, at (202) 551–6825 (Division of Investment Management, Chief Counsel's Office).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: For Applicants' representations, legal analysis, and conditions, please refer to Applicants' third amended and restated application, dated May 22, 2026, which may be obtained via the Commission's website by searching for the file number at the top of this document, or for an Applicant using the Company name search field, on the SEC's EDGAR system.

The SEC's EDGAR system may be searched at *https://www.sec.gov/search-filings.* You may also call the SEC's Office of Investor Education and Assistance at (202) 551–8090.

For the Commission, by the Division of Investment Management, under delegated authority.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–13569 Filed 7–2–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[OMB Control No. 3235–0531]

Agency Information Collection Activities; Proposed Collection; Comment Request; Extension: Rule 0–1 Under the Investment Company Act of 1940, Definition of Terms Used in This Part

Upon Written Request, Copies Available From: Securities and Exchange Commission, Office of FOIA Services, 100 F Street NE, Washington, DC 20549–2736

Notice is hereby given that, pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. § 3501 *et seq.*), the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC or ''Commission'') is soliciting comments on the proposed collection of information described below.

The Investment Company Act of 1940 (the ''Investment Company Act'') [1] establishes a comprehensive framework for regulating the organization and operation of investment companies (''funds''). A principal objective of the Investment Company Act is to protect fund investors by addressing the conflicts of interest that exist between funds and their investment advisers and other affiliated persons. The Investment Company Act places significant responsibility on the fund board of directors in overseeing the operations of the fund and policing the relevant conflicts of interest.[2] Rule 0–1 (17 CFR 270.0–1), as amended, provides definitions for the terms used by the Commission in the rules and regulations it has adopted pursuant to the Investment Company Act. The rule also contains a number of rules of construction for terms that are defined either in the Investment Company Act itself or elsewhere in the Commission's rules and regulations. Finally, rule 0–1 defines terms that serve as conditions to the availability of certain of the Commission's exemptive rules. More specifically, the term ''independent legal counsel,'' as defined in paragraph (a)(6) of rule 0–1, sets out conditions that funds must meet in order to rely on any of ten exemptive rules (''exemptive rules'') under the Investment Company Act.[3]

If the board's counsel has represented the fund's investment adviser, principal underwriter, administrator (collectively, ''management organizations'') or their ''control persons'' [4] during the past two years, rule 0–1 requires that the board's independent directors make a determination about the adequacy of the counsel's independence. A majority of the board's independent directors are required to reasonably determine, in the exercise of their judgment, that the counsel's prior or current representation of the management organizations or their control persons was sufficiently limited to conclude that it is unlikely to adversely affect the counsel's professional judgment and legal representation.[5] Rule 0–1 also requires that a record for the basis of this determination is made in the minutes of the directors' meeting. In addition, the independent directors must have obtained an undertaking from the counsel to provide them with the information necessary to make their determination and to update promptly that information when the person begins to represent a management organization or control person, or when he or she materially increases his or her representation.[6] Generally, the independent directors must re-evaluate their determination no less frequently than annually.

Under rule 0–1, if a majority of a fund's independent directors makes a determination that the counsel's representation of fund management organizations (or any of their control persons) is or was so limited that it will

[1] 15 U.S.C. 80a *et seq.*

[2] For example, fund directors must approve investment advisory and distribution contracts. See 15 U.S.C. 80a–15(a), (b), and (c).

[3] See 17 CFR 270.0–1(a)(7). The relevant exemptive rules are: rule 10f–3 (17 CFR 270.10f–3), rule 12b–1 (17 CFR 270.12b–1), rule 15a–4(b)(2) (17 CFR 270.15a–4(b)(2)), rule 17a–7 (17 CFR 270.17a–7), rule 17a–8 (17 CFR 270.17a–8), rule 17d–1(d)(7) (17 CFR 270.17d–1(d)(7)), rule 17e–1(c) (17 CFR 270.17e–1(c)), rule 17g–1 (17 CFR 270.17g–1), rule 18f–3 (17 CFR 270.18f–3), and rule 23c–3 (17 CFR 270.23c–3).

[4] A ''control person'' is any person—other than a fund—directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by, or under common control, with any of the fund's management organizations. See 17 CFR 270.01(a)(6)(iv)(B).

[5] 17 CFR 270.0–1(a)(6)(i)(A).

[6] 17 CFR 270.0–1(a)(6)(i)(B).

not adversely affect the counsel's ability to provide impartial advice to the independent directors, the basis for that determination must be recorded in the board's meeting minutes. The records maintained under the rule are not submitted to the Commission, but may be reviewed by the Commission staff upon request to ensure compliance with the rule. Compliance with rule 0–1 is required to obtain or retain benefits.

We estimate that approximately 920 funds would need to make the required determination in order for their counsel to meet the definition of independent legal counsel under rule 0–1. Based on conversations with fund representatives and the Commission's experience with the use of rule 0–1, we estimate that the recordkeeping burden of compliance with rule 0–1 is approximately 1 hour per respondent. This time is spent, for example, preparing the materials and minutes. Accordingly, we calculate the total estimated annual internal burden of complying with rule 0–1 to be approximately 920 hours. The total annual external cost is estimated to be $0.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.

Written comments are invited on: (a) whether this proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the SEC, including whether the information will have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the SEC's estimate of the burden imposed by the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and the assumptions used; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated, electronic collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Please direct your written comments on this 60-Day Collection Notice to Austin Gerig, Director/Chief Data Officer, Securities and Exchange Commission, c/o Tanya Ruttenberg via email to *PaperworkReductionAct@sec.gov* by September 4, 2026.

Dated: June 30, 2026.

Sherry R. Haywood,

Assistant Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2026–13495 Filed 7–2–26; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8011–01–P

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

[Release No. 34–105820; File No. SR–TXSE–2026–009]

Self-Regulatory Organizations; Texas Stock Exchange LLC; Notice of Filing of a Proposed Rule Change To Amend a Continued Listing Standard Relating to Beneficial Holders Applicable to ETF Shares Listed on the Exchange Under Rule 17.104(b)(2)(B)

June 30, 2026.

Pursuant to Section 19(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"),[1] and Rule 19b–4 thereunder,[2] notice is hereby given that on June 16, 2026, Texas Stock Exchange LLC (the "Exchange" or "TXSE") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Commission") the proposed rule change as described in Items I, II, and III below, which Items have been prepared by the Exchange. The Commission is publishing this notice to solicit comments on the proposed rule change from interested persons.

I. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Terms of Substance of the Proposed Rule Change

The Exchange filed a proposal to amend Rule 17.104 related to the continued listing requirements on the Exchange for Exchange Traded Fund Shares ("ETF Shares"), as further described below.

The text of the proposed rule change is provided in Exhibit 5.

The text of the proposed rule change is available on the Commission's website (*https://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml*) at the Exchange's website (*https://txse.com/rule-filings*), and at the principal office of the Exchange.

II. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

In its filing with the Commission, the Exchange included statements concerning the purpose of and basis for the proposed rule change and discussed any comments it received on the proposed rule change. The text of these statements may be examined at the places specified in Item IV below. The Exchange has prepared summaries, set forth in Sections A, B, and C below, of the most significant parts of such statements.

[1] 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(1).

[2] 17 CFR 240.19b–4.

A. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement of the Purpose of, and Statutory Basis for, the Proposed Rule Change

1. Purpose

The Exchange proposes to change to Rule 17.104(b)(2)(B) (the "Beneficial Holders Rule") in order to amend the continued listing standard applicable to ETF Shares[3] listed on the Exchange.[4] Currently, the Exchange's continued listing standard for ETF Shares under the Beneficial Holders Rule requires that, following the initial 12-month period after commencement of trading on the Exchange, the Exchange shall consider the suspension of trading in and will commence delisting proceedings under Rule 16.500 for a series of ETF Shares for which there are fewer than 50 Beneficial Holders.[5] The Exchange is proposing to eliminate the Beneficial Holders Rule because it believes that the rule does not advance any investment protection objective specific to ETFs, produces arbitrary and negative outcomes for investors and for products that are otherwise operating normally, and that the competitive market for ETF Shares efficiently incentivizes stagnant and unprofitable funds to wind down. The Exchange is also proposing to renumber Rule 17.104(b)(2) in order to reflect the deletion of Rule 17.104(b)(2)(B).

Minimum shareholder requirements have applied to listed operating companies long before ETFs were listed in the United States and for such securities operate as a safeguard against manipulation and liquidity concerns related to a small and concentrated float. In that context, such a requirement makes sense: the supply of shares is relatively fixed and a security with limited distribution is more easily subject to manipulation. ETFs, however,

[3] The term "ETF Shares" means shares of stock issued by an Exchange-Traded Fund. *See* Exchange Rule 17.104(a)(1)(B). The term "Exchange-Traded Fund" has the same meaning as the term "exchange-traded fund" as defined in Rule 6c–11 under the Investment Act of 1940. See Exchange Rule 17.104(a)(1)(A).

[4] The Exchange notes that its Rules related to the listing and trading of other product types (that is, products listed pursuant to Chapter 17 that are not ETF Shares as defined above) have similar requirements related to Beneficial Holders which the Exchange is not proposing to change at this time. Specifically, the Exchange is only proposing to amend the Beneficial Holders Rules as it pertains to ETF Shares because such product type represents the vast majority of products listed on U.S. exchanges. The Exchange may consider proposing to amend the Beneficial Holders standards for other product types in a future proposal.

[5] As it relates to this filing, "Beneficial Holders" shall mean beneficial holders and, where applicable in a particular continued listing standard, record holders.