

FUNDMARKET INSIGHT REPORT

LIPPER RESEARCH SERIES

APRIL 30, 2019

The Month in Closed-End Funds: April 2019

Performance

For the fourth month in a row, equity CEFs on average witnessed plus-side performance on both a NAV and market basis, rising 1.40% and 1.69%, respectively, for April. Also, for the fourth consecutive month, their fixed income CEF counterparts posted returns in the black on both a NAV (+1.01%) and market basis (+1.31%). Investors remained upbeat ahead of the Q1 earnings season and optimistic that the U.S. and China trade talks had made substantial progress during the month. The NASDAQ Composite Price Only Index (+4.74%) and the S&P 500 Price Only Index (+3.93%) posted the strongest April returns of the U.S. broad-based indices, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average Price Only Index (+2.56%) was the relative laggard of the group. On the global side, the Xetra DAX Total Return Index posted a handsome 6.89% return for the month, while the Shanghai Composite Price Only Index posted a 0.64% loss for the month.

At the beginning of April, investors pushed the S&P 500 Index to its longest winning streak (seven straight sessions) since October 2017 after investors cheered a better-than-expected nonfarm payrolls report and upbeat comments on the outlook of the U.S./China trade deal. In a letter to President Donald Trump, Chinese President Xi Jinping said that significant progress had been made over the past months and called for a speedy conclusion to the negotiations.

The Department of Labor announced the U.S. economy added 196,000 new jobs for March, outpacing analyst expectations of 177,000. While the unemployment rate remained steady at 3.8%, wage growth continued to be modest, with the average hourly earnings rising just four cents. Investors focused on the better-than-expected start to the Q1 earnings season as initial strong bank earnings improved confidence in the U.S. economy. Investors shrugged off news that the University of Michigan said that its April consumer sentiment index fell to 96.9 after learning that trade data released by China showed March exports rose 14.2% from a year earlier.

Mid-month, markets continued to rally after retail sales data showed a rise of 1.6% in March, beating analyst estimates, despite IHS Markit showing its U.S. composite Purchasing Managers' Index declined to 52.9 in April from 55.3 in March. New applicants for unemployment benefits continued their decline, hovering near 50-year lows. As investors kept a keen eye on the Treasury curve, the long end of the yield curve began to steepen, with the 10-year Treasury yield bouncing back to 2.60% on April 16.

Stocks continued their upward trek, with both the S&P 500 and NASDAQ posting record closes on stronger-than-expected Q1 U.S. gross domestic product growth. The U.S. economy grew at a rate of 3.2% in the first quarter, outpacing the 2.3% estimate provided by economists. Nonetheless, upside returns were capped by news that Japanese industrial production grew at a weaker-than-expected 1% in March and that crude oil prices fell more than 3% on April 26. And despite disappointing revenue growth reported by Alphabet, which weighed on the NASDAQ index, the S&P 500 posted its third-straight record close at month end as investors digested mixed earnings news and awaited the Federal Open Market Committee's statement during the week.

The Month in Closed-End Funds: April 2019

- For the fourth month in a row, equity closed-end funds (CEFs) and fixed income CEFs on average witnessed plus-side returns, rising 1.40% and 1.01%, respectively, on a net-asset-value (NAV) basis for April.
- Only 17% of all CEFs traded at a premium to their NAV, with 21% of equity CEFs and 14% of fixed income CEFs trading in premium territory. The world income CEFs macro-classification witnessed the largest narrowing of discounts for the month among Lipper's CEF macro-groups—136 basis points (bps) to 6.43%.
- Core CEFs (+3.74%) posted the strongest returns of all equity CEF classifications for the month.
- The Loan Participation CEFs classification (+1.72%) posted the strongest plus-side returns in the fixed income universe for the month.
- For the sixth month in a row, the municipal debt CEFs macro-group posted a plus-side return on average (+0.60%), with all classifications in the group witnessing positive returns for April.



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For the month of April, the Treasury curve showed signs of steepening, with yields remaining flat at the short end of the curve, while yields at the long-end of the curve increased between 8 bps and 12 bps. The 20- and 30-year yields witnessed the largest increase for the month—each rising 12 bps to 2.75% and 2.93%, respectively, while the one-year yield saw the only decline—1 bp, to 2.39%. The two-/10-year Treasury spread ended the month at 24 bps after it declined to 15 bps on April 5 and April 15.

For April, the dollar strengthened against the euro (+0.26%), the pound (+0.03%), and the yen (+0.66%). Commodity prices were mixed for the month, with near-month gold prices declining 0.79% to close the month at \$1,282.8/ounce, and with front-month crude oil prices rising 6.27% to close at \$63.91/barrel.

For the month, 89% of all CEFs posted NAV-based returns in the black, with 79% of equity CEFs and 95% of fixed income CEFs chalking up returns in the plus column. For the first month in five, Lipper's world equity CEFs macro-group (+2.26%) outpaced its two equity-based brethren: mixed-asset CEFs (+2.08%) and domestic equity CEFs (+0.91%).

For the first month in 17, the Core CEFs classification (+3.74%) outperformed all other equity classifications, followed by Growth CEFs (+3.23%) and Value CEFs (+3.18%). Energy MLP CEFs (-1.25%) was the laggard of the equity universe, bettered by Sector Equity CEFs (-1.04%) and Pacific ex-Japan CEFs (-0.48%). For the remaining equity classifications, returns ranged from 0.05% (Natural Resources CEFs) to 3.03% (Developed Markets CEFs).

Four of the five top-performing equity CEFs were housed in Lipper's domestic equity CEFs macro-group. At the top of the chart was **John Hancock Financial Opportunities Fund (BTO)**, March's cellar dweller, housed in the Sector Equity CEFs classification, rising 8.04% on a NAV basis and traded at a 0.38% premium on April 30. BTO was followed by **Columbia Seligman Premium Technology Growth, Inc. (STK)**, warehoused in Lipper's Options Arbitrage/Options Strategies CEFs classification, gaining 7.09% and traded at a 0.23% premium at month end; **Gabelli Multimedia Trust Inc. (GGT)**, housed in Lipper's Global CEFs classification, rising 6.75% and traded at a 1.79% premium on April 30; **Foxy Corp (FXBY)**, housed in the Core CEFs classification, posting a 6.35% return and traded at a 32.81% discount on April 29 (FXBY didn't trade on April 30); and **General American Investors Company, Inc. (GAM)**, warehoused in the Core CEFs classification, gaining 6.25% and traded at a 16.43% discount at month end.

For the month, the dispersion of performance in individual equity CEFs—ranging from minus 6.92% to positive 8.04%—was narrower than March's spread and slightly more skewed to the negative side. The 20 top-performing equity CEFs posted returns at or above

CLOSED-END FUNDS LAB

TABLE 1
CURRENT-MONTH PERFORMANCE, P&D, P&D SHIFTS (% OF UNIVERSE)

	NAV RETURNS POSITIVE	PREMIUM/DISCOUNT		NOW TRADING AT	
		BETTER	WORSE	PREMIUM	DISCOUNT
Equity Funds	79	58	39	21	79
Bond Funds	95	61	38	14	86
ALL CEFs	89	60	39	17	83

TABLE 2
AVERAGE NAV RETURNS, SELECTED PERIODS (%)

	APRIL	YTD	3-MONTH	CALENDAR-2018
Equity Funds	1.40	13.58	4.86	-8.89
Bond Funds	1.01	5.78	3.52	-0.76
ALL CEFs	1.18	9.14	4.10	-7.28

TABLE 3
NUMBER OF IPOs, YTD VERSUS PRIOR YEAR

	APRIL 2019	CALENDAR-2018
Conventional CEFs	3	3
Interval CEFs	7	33

TABLE 4
AVERAGE SIZE OF IPOs, SELECTED PERIODS, \$MIL

3 MONTHS THROUGH 3/31/2019	-
COMPARABLE YEAR-EARLIER THREE MONTHS	356
CALENDAR 2017 AVERAGE	94

TABLE 5
NUMBER OF MERGERS & LIQUIDATIONS, YTD VERSUS PRIOR YEAR

	APRIL 2019	CALENDAR-2018
ALL CEFs	13	40

Source: Lipper

4.67%, while the 20 lagging equity CEFs were at or below minus 1.91%.

For the month, 53 CEFs in the equity universe posted negative returns. The worst performing fund was housed in the Sector Equity CEFs classification: **ASA Gold & Precious Metals Limited (ASA)** shed 6.92% of its March-closing NAV price and traded at a 14.41% discount on April 30. The second worst performing CEF was **RENN Fund, Inc. (RCG)**, warehoused in the Global CEFs classification), declining 6.56% and traded at a 12.28% discount at month end.

As mentioned earlier, the Treasury yield steepened slightly during the month. The 10-year Treasury yield settled up 10 bps for the month, at 2.51%, after rising to 2.60% on April 16. For the second month in three, domestic taxable bond CEFs jumped to the top of the leaderboard, posting a plus-side return on average (+1.43%), followed by world income CEFs (+0.75%) and municipal bond CEFs (+0.60%).

All of the domestic taxable fixed income CEF classifications posted plus-side returns for the month, with Loan Participation CEFs (+1.72%, March's laggard), High Yield CEFs (Leveraged) (+1.56%), and High Yield CEFs (+1.45%) posting the strongest returns of the group. Corporate BBB-Rated Debt CEFs (+0.42%) and U.S. Mortgage CEFs (+0.66%) were the sub-group's relative laggards. The world income CEFs macro-group was helped by plus-side performance from Global Income CEFs (+1.11%), but held back by the Emerging Markets Debt CEFs (-0.18%) classification.

For the sixth consecutive month, the municipal debt CEFs macro-group posted a return in the black (+0.60%) on average, with all the classifications in the group experiencing plus-side returns for April. The California Municipal Debt CEFs (+0.71%), Pennsylvania Municipal Debt CEFs (+0.69%), and General & Insured Municipal Debt CEFs (Leveraged) (+0.64%) classifications posted the strongest returns of the group, while Intermediate Municipal Debt CEFs (+0.34%) was the relative laggard. National municipal debt CEFs (+0.60%) outperformed their single-state municipal debt CEF counterparts (+0.59%) by 1 bp.

Three of the five top-performing individual fixed income CEFs were housed in either Lipper's High Yield CEFs (Leveraged) or High Yield CEFs classifications. However, at the top of the fixed income universe chart were **PIMCO High Income Fund (PHK)**, housed in the General Bond CEFs classification), returning 3.57% and traded at a 25.12% premium on April 30, and **Guggenheim Credit Allocation Fund (GGM)**, also warehoused in Lipper's General Bond CEFs classification), returning 3.03% and traded at a 7.34% premium at month end. Following PHK and GMM were **MFS Special Value Trust (MFV)**, housed in Lipper's High Yield CEFs classification), returning 2.84% and traded at a 2.86% premium on April 30; **Ivy High Income Opportunities Fund (IVH)**, housed in the High Yield

CEFs [Leveraged] classification), posting a 2.83% return and traded at a 12.07% discount at month end; and **Credit Suisse High Yield Bond Fund (DHY)**, tacking 2.70% onto its March month-end value and traded at a 2.30% discount on April 30.

For the remaining funds in the fixed income CEFs universe, monthly NAV-based performance ranged from minus 0.69% for **Stone Harbor Emerging Markets Income Fund (EDF)**, housed in Lipper's Emerging Markets Hard Currency Debt CEFs classification and traded at a 29.85% premium on April 30) to 2.63% for **Aberdeen Income Credit Strategies Fund (ACP)**, also housed in Lipper's High Yield CEFs [Leveraged] classification and traded at a 3.04% discount at month end). The 20 top-performing fixed income CEFs posted returns at or above 2.29%, while the 20 lagging CEFs were at or below 0.07%. There were 15 fixed income CEFs that witnessed negative NAV-based performance for April.

Premium and Discount Behavior

For April, the median discount of all CEFs narrowed 28 bps to 7.58%—still narrower than the 12-month moving average median discount (8.57%). Equity CEFs' median discount widened 2 bps to 7.57%, while fixed income CEFs' median discount narrowed 44 bps to 7.58%. World Income CEFs' median discount witnessed the largest narrowing among the CEF macro-groups—136 bps to 6.43%, while the municipal bond CEFs macro-group witnessed the smallest narrowing of discounts—3 bps to 8.02% (excluding the equity CEFs macro-group).

Gabelli Utility Trust (GUT), housed in the Utility CEFs classification) traded at the largest premium (+40.4%) in the CEFs universe on April 30, while **Dividend and Income Fund (DNI)**, housed in the Income & Preferred Stock CEFs classification) traded at the largest discount (-23.76%) at month end.

For the month, 60% of all funds' discounts or premiums improved, while 39% worsened. In particular, 58% of equity CEFs and 61% of fixed income CEFs saw their individual discounts narrow, premiums widen, or premiums replace discounts. The number of funds traded at premiums on April 30 (81) was one more than the number on March 29 (80).

CEF Events and Corporate Actions IPOs

BlackRock Multi-Sector Opportunities Trust II (XMSAX)

is a recently organized, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company with no operating history that began trading on April 16, 2019. The trust seeks high income and total return by investing in a broad range of debt and equity instruments, sectors, and strategies. The trust intends to invest across multiple sectors and employ multiple strategies. The trust will terminate at the close of business on February 28, 2025 (the termination date). The board of trustees of the trust may terminate the trust, without shareholder approval, prior to the termination date. The board may also, without shareholder approval, extend the termination date by up to one year to a date on or before February 28, 2026, which date shall then become the termination date. The trust is not a target term fund and thus does not seek to return the trust's initial public offering price of \$100.00 per common share upon termination. The final distribution of net assets upon termination may be more than, equal to, or less than \$100.00 per common share.

The common shares will not be listed for trading on any securities exchange. Accordingly, no secondary market for the common shares is expected to exist, and an investment in the common shares should be considered illiquid. Common shares are not redeemable at an investor's option, nor are they exchangeable for shares of any other fund, nor can there be any assurance that the trust will conduct tender offers on a quarterly basis or at all. The trust is designed primarily for long-term investors who are prepared to hold common shares until the termination date, or until the trust accepts an investor's common shares for repurchase in a tender offer conducted by the trust, if any.

There were two interval closed-end funds that began trading in April. **Blackstone/GSO Floating Rate Enhanced Income Fund; Class T-I Shares (BGFPX)** is a continuously offered, non-diversified, closed-end management investment company that operates as an interval fund which conducts periodic repurchase offers to provide liquidity to shareholders. The fund will offer to repurchase 5% of outstanding common shares at NAV monthly. The fund will provide notification of each repurchase offer at least seven calendar days before the repurchase request deadline. The fund may impose a repurchase fee of up to 2% on common shares that are accepted for repurchase by the fund and have been held by an investor for less than one year. The fund seeks attractive current income with low sensitivity to rising interest rates by investing in floating rate instruments. BGFPX began trading on April 18, 2019.

OFI Carlyle Private Credit Fund; Class N Shares (OCPNX) is a Delaware statutory trust that is registered under the Investment Company Act of 1940 as a non-diversified, closed-end investment management company that is operated as an interval fund. The fund seeks current income by allocating its assets across a wide range of credit strategies. The fund intends to achieve this goal by allocating capital across several credit strategies including structured credit, direct lending, opportunistic credit, distressed credit, and others as opportunities arise. The fund is designed primarily for long-term investors and not as a trading vehicle. The fund is an interval fund pursuant to which it, subject to applicable law, will conduct quarterly repurchase offers for between 5% and 25% of the fund's outstanding shares at NAV. The fund began trading on April 18, 2019.

Rights, Repurchases, Tender Offers

NexPoint Strategic Opportunities Fund (NHF) announced the commencement of a non-transferable rights offering to purchase additional shares of common stock of the fund. The fund is issuing non-transferable rights to its common shareholders of record as of April 29, 2019 (the record date). Record-date shareholders will receive one right for each common share held on the record date. The rights will entitle the record-date shareholders to purchase one new share of common stock for every three rights held (one for three). The rights will be mailed to record-date shareholders approximately two business days after the record date.

Record-date shareholders who fully exercise their rights will be entitled to subscribe for additional common shares of the fund that remain unsubscribed as a result of any unexercised rights by other record-date shareholders. In addition, the fund in its sole discretion may elect to issue additional common shares in an amount up to 25% of the common shares issued in the primary subscription. The subscription price per common share will be determined based upon a formula equal to the lesser of (1) 95% of the reported NAV on May 22, 2019 (the expiration date), or (2) 95% of the average of the last reported sales price of the fund's common shares on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) on the expiration date and on each of the four trading days preceding the expiration date.

Eaton Vance Municipal Bond Fund (EIM) commenced a cash tender offer on April 18, 2019, for up to 10% or 8,969,613 of its outstanding common shares at a price per share equal to 98% of the Fund's NAV per share as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE on the date the tender offer expires. The tender offer will expire on May 17, 2019, or on such later date to which the offer is extended. The pricing date will also be May 17, 2019, unless extended. If the number of shares tendered



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exceeds the maximum amount of the offer, the fund will purchase shares from tendering shareholders on a pro rata basis (disregarding fractional shares). Accordingly, there is no assurance that the fund will purchase all of a shareholder's tendered common shares in connection with the offer.

Western Asset Middle Market Income Fund Inc. (XWMFX) announced the final results of its issuer tender offer for up to 2.5% of the outstanding common shares, or 6,035 shares of the fund, at a price equal to the fund's NAV per share on the day on which the tender offer expired. As described in the offer, the fund reserved the right to purchase up to an additional 2% of the fund's outstanding shares without amending or extending the offer (the additional shares). The fund's offer expired on April 4, 2019.

A total of 21,839 shares were duly tendered and not withdrawn. Because the number of shares tendered exceeds 10,863 shares, which number includes additional shares accepted for purchase by the fund, the tender offer is oversubscribed. Therefore, in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in the tender offer, the fund will purchase shares from all tendering stockholders on a pro rata basis, excluding any odd lot transactions and disregarding fractions. Accordingly, on a pro rata basis, approximately 47% of shares for each stockholder who properly tendered shares have been accepted for payment. The fund expects to transmit payment to purchase the duly tendered and accepted shares on or about April 8, 2019. The purchase price of properly tendered shares is \$742.22 per share, equal to the per share NAV as of the close of the regular trading session of the NYSE on April 4, 2019. Shares that were tendered but not accepted for payment and shares that were not tendered will remain outstanding.

BlackRock Debt Strategies Fund, Inc. (DSU) announced the expiration and final results of the fund's tender offer for up to 5% of its outstanding shares of common shares, or 2,636,959 shares. The tender offer, which commenced on March 15, 2019, and expired on April 15, 2019, was oversubscribed.

Based on final results, 21,792,955 shares were properly tendered. Because the tender offer was oversubscribed, the relative number of shares that were purchased from each stockholder was prorated based on the number of shares properly tendered (the pro-ration factor was 12.10137%). The purchase price of properly tendered and accepted shares was 98% of the fund's NAV (\$11.9854) as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE on April 16, 2019, the business day immediately following the day the tender offer expired.

BlackRock Advisors, LLC announced that the board of trustees of **BlackRock Florida Municipal 2020 Term Trust (BFO)** authorized an open market share repurchase program pursuant to which the fund may

repurchase up to 20% of its outstanding common shares (based on common shares outstanding on March 31, 2019) in open market transactions through the earlier of (1) November 30, 2020, or (2) the fund's adoption of a plan of termination. The repurchase program seeks to help meet the fund's investment objective to return \$15.00 per common share to holders of common shares on or about December 31, 2020, through NAV accretion. There is no guarantee that the Fund will achieve its investment objective.

Mergers and Reorganizations

Morgan Stanley Asia-Pacific Fund, Inc. (APF) announced that the NAV per share of the fund—for purposes of calculating the number of Class I shares of common stock of Emerging Markets Portfolio ("MSIF Emerging Markets")—a series of Morgan Stanley Institutional Fund, Inc., that stockholders of the fund will receive in exchange for the transfer of substantially all of the assets and liabilities of the fund—was \$16.8422 as of the close of business of the NYSE on April 5, 2019 (the effective date). The NAV per share of MSIF Emerging Markets was \$24.82 as of the effective date; accordingly, each share of common stock of the fund will be exchanged for approximately 0.67857373 shares of MSIF Emerging Markets on April 8, 2019, to those stockholders who held shares of the fund as of the effective date. Stockholders in Japan holding shares of the fund through the Japan Securities Depository Center, Incorporated, will receive a cash payment equal to the NAV of \$16.8422 per share of their common shares of the fund, rather than shares of MSIF Emerging Markets.

Alliance California Municipal Income Fund, Inc. (AKP) announced that shareholders of the fund approved the proposed plan of liquidation and dissolution of the fund at the special meeting of shareholders, and that the fund will begin to transition its portfolio in anticipation of making its liquidating distributions. In connection with the liquidation, the fund closed its stock registry books and records at the close of business on Thursday, May 2, 2019. The proportionate interests of stockholders in the fund's assets were fixed on the basis of their respective stockholdings at the close of business on May 2, 2019. As of that time, the trading of the fund's shares on the NYSE was expected to be suspended.

The fund expects to make one or more liquidating or other distributions to common stockholders. It is anticipated that liquidating and other distributions to common stockholders will be made on or about June 21, 2019. The fund's preferred stock will be redeemed and preferred stockholders will receive the liquidation preference amount of each share plus accumulated unpaid dividends and other distributions. It is anticipated that redemption of the fund's preferred stock will take place on or about May 21, 2019.

Other

Neuberger Berman MLP Income Fund Inc. (NML) announced that its board of directors has approved certain changes to the fund's investment policy and, as a result, a change in the name of the fund. The fund anticipates that the name and policy changes will be effective on or about June 3, 2019. The changes will not alter the fund's investment objective to seek total return with an emphasis on cash distributions.

The fund currently has an investment policy that requires the fund to invest, under normal market conditions, at least 80% of its managed assets in master limited partnerships or limited liability companies that have economic characteristics substantially similar to master limited partnerships (collectively, MLPs). Under the revised investment policy, the fund will continue to invest in MLPs but will also have the ability to invest in energy companies as well, regardless of whether the companies are structured as partnerships or C corporations.

Under the fund's amended 80% policy, the fund's MLP investments may include, but are not limited to, MLPs structured as limited partnerships (LPs) or limited liability companies (LLCs); MLPs that are organized as LPs or LLCs, but taxed as C corporations; equity securities that represent an indirect interest in an MLP issued by an MLP affiliate, including institutional units and MLP general partner or managing member interests; C corporations whose predominant assets are interests in MLPs; MLP equity securities, including MLP common units, MLP subordinated units, MLP convertible subordinated units and MLP preferred units; private investments in public equities issued by MLPs; MLP debt securities; and other U.S. and non-U.S. equity and fixed income securities and derivative instruments that provide exposure to the MLP market, including pooled investment vehicles that primarily hold MLP interests and exchange-traded notes. Under the amended 80% policy, the fund's energy investments other than MLPs may include equity and fixed income securities of U.S. and non-U.S. companies that (1) operate within the oil and gas storage, transportation, refining, marketing, equipment and services, drilling, exploration, or production sub-industries or (2) have at least 50% of their assets, income, sales or profits committed to, or derived from, the exploration, development, production, gathering, transportation (including marine), transmission, terminal operation, processing, storage, refining, distribution, mining, or marketing of natural gas, natural gas liquids (including propane), crude oil, refined petroleum products, coal, electricity, or other energy sources, including renewable energy, energy-related equipment or services.

Neuberger Berman and the board believe the amended investment policy will allow Neuberger Berman to better manage the fund's portfolio in the best interests of the fund and in pursuit of its investment objective. As a result of the change to the fund's investment policy, the board also approved changing the fund's name to **Neuberger Berman MLP and Energy Income Fund Inc.** The fund

will continue to trade on the NYSE American under its current ticker symbol of NML.

The board of trustees of each of **Eaton Vance Municipal Bond Fund (EIM)**, **Eaton Vance California Municipal Bond Fund (EVM)**, and **Eaton Vance New York Municipal Bond Fund (ENX)** has approved changes to each fund's investment objective and investment policies in order to permit each fund to invest up to 20% of its net assets in municipal obligations rated below investment grade, and to permit each fund to invest up to 20% of its net assets in municipal obligations on which the interest may be subject to the alternative minimum tax (AMT). Each of the foregoing changes were effective immediately.

Investment objectives: Each fund's investment objective has been revised to eliminate references to the AMT, however, each fund will continue to invest at least 80% of its net assets in municipal obligations which are exempt from the AMT. Each fund's revised investment objective is as follows: EIM to provide current income exempt from federal income tax; EVM to provide current income exempt from federal income tax and California personal income tax; and ENX to provide current income exempt from federal income tax and New York State and New York City personal income tax.

Investment Policies: Pursuant to its revised investment policies, each fund may invest up to 20% of its net assets in municipal obligations rated BBB/Baa or below (or unrated obligations deemed by the fund's adviser, Eaton Vance Management, to be of equivalent quality), provided that not more than 15% of its net assets may be invested in municipal obligations rated below B (or unrated obligations deemed by Eaton Vance to be of equivalent quality) and may invest up to 20% of its net assets in AMT bonds. Each fund's investment policy to seek at all times to avoid investments in AMT bonds has been eliminated.

Each fund's policy to invest at least 80% of its net assets in municipal obligations—the interest on which is exempt from federal income tax, including AMT (and for EVM and ENX the state and/or local taxes noted above)—and that are rated A or better is unchanged.

The China Fund, Inc. (CHN) announced that its board of directors has signed agreements covering fund administration, fund accounting, custodial services, and securities lending with Brown Brothers Harriman & Co (BBH) that are planned to commence on or about July 1, 2019, following an orderly transition from the present provider. BBH, a privately held financial services institution with eighteen offices worldwide, will provide all cross-border custody, accounting, administration, and securities lending support services to the fund. This change of provider is a direct result of the board of directors' review of the fund's service providers, which was initiated in 2018 following stockholders' election of the newest members of the board. This change in the fund's primary service provider is expected to result in considerable cost savings to the fund. A comparative analysis conducted by the board over a three-month trading period toward the end of calendar 2018 indicated that the annualized savings from all services combined, based on actual transaction activity for that period, will be very significant. It is intended that further details of all such cost savings achieved as a result of the board's service provider review will be expanded in the upcoming interim report to shareholders.

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