

I strongly oppose the proposed rule change.

On my introduction to retail forex, I was impressed with the liquidity, relative transparency and overall openness of the market. With education of the counter-party risks, I was sure I had found my investment vehicle of choice.

This proposed rule change will not protect me or the average retail trader from losses.

This proposed rule change will regulate me and the average retail trader out of this market.

There are several other and more valuable opportunities for the Authority to serve the best interests of the retail investor than radically reducing the leverage ratio. One example would be the several predatory practices of broker-dealers that are counter-parties to their own customers. Another example would be the use of lot size as opposed to leverage; lot size is much more deterministic of and related to 'wiping out retail accounts' than leverage.

One of my earliest concerns, after finding the forex market, was how long I would be able to participate without being marginalized in or eliminated from the market by my government. I had no idea it would happen this soon.

The resources and energy expended to advance this proposed change would have been better spent asking the retail investor group what they needed to best protect them in the market. I doubt very seriously a reduction in leverage would have made even a very long list of desired changes.

Please do not adopt this proposed rule.

Sincerely,

Vern.