



## WSIB hires new Corporate Governance Officer

(June 15, 2017)

**Olympia** – The Washington State Investment Board (WSIB) has named Bridget Murphy to the role of Corporate Governance Officer for its asset management program, effective June 15. She takes over the role from Kate Sandboe, who will retire after 12 years of building the corporate governance program for the state's public trust and retirement funds.

Murphy comes to the WSIB with more than eight years of experience in corporate governance and responsible investment advisory service. She previously served as Director of Engagement at Glass Lewis, a global corporate governance advisory services firm. She also has worked as corporate governance consultant with both Mercer and Guerdon Associates in Sydney, Australia.

At the WSIB, Murphy will be responsible for continued oversight, development and implementation of proxy voting practices in conjunction with an institutional investment program that totals more than \$116 billion. The proxy voting program allows the WSIB to engage with public companies and advocate on shareholder issues on behalf of the state's public employees, teachers, school employees, firefighters, law enforcement officers and judges.

"Bridget will enable our Board's corporate governance program to stay right on pace with the broadening demands of responsible engagement on vital investment issues," said Chris Phillips, WSIB Director of Institutional Relations. "Strong corporate governance has become an essential responsibility for investors focused on sustainable long-term performance and risk management."

Last year the WSIB corporate governance program voted 3,110 shareholder proxies, including casting votes on more than 27,000 proxy proposals. These proxy votes involved election of directors, compensation plans and other shareholder proposals on issues such as climate change and other environmental and social issues.

Corporate governance efforts are increasingly becoming the basis for constructive exchange of ideas and influence among investors advocating directional or policy changes at the corporate board level.

The WSIB is a global investment management organization with assets of more than \$116 billion and investments across 74 countries worldwide. It manages 17 retirement plans and 18 other public funds for programs such as benefit industrial insurance, colleges, universities and developmental disabilities programs.