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Letter of Comment No: 4/10  
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**From:** Brenna Bristol-Leach [bleach@sierrahealth.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, June 14, 2004 2:35 PM  
**To:** Director - FASB  
**Subject:** Share-Based Payment Exposure Draft

Brenna Bristol-Leach  
851 Luella Ct  
Pahrump, NV 89048

June 14, 2004

Ms. Suzanne Bielstein  
Financial Accounting Standards Board  
401 Merrit 7  
Norwalk, CT 06856-5116

Dear Ms. Bielstein:

Re: Share-Based Payment Exposure Draft

I work for a company that allows employees to purchase my employer's stock at a discount through an Employee Stock Purchase Plan (ESPP). I understand that the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) has proposed a change to accounting standards that would require my company to count this discount as an expense against its earnings (Share-Based Payment exposure draft). I respectfully request that you reconsider this proposal and not require expensing of the discount allowed in ESPPs.

I am concerned that required expensing of the discount in the ESPP may make this valuable benefit plan less attractive to my employer, potentially causing my employer to either discontinue the plan, or reduce or eliminate the current discount. If the discount is greatly reduced or eliminated, buying company stock through the ESPP would no longer be much of a benefit. Unlike benefits aimed only at high-paid executives, this is a valuable benefit for employees across the company.

The ESPP is a very important benefit to me. Being able to participate in an ESPP has enabled me to invest in my financial future and experience a sense of ownership in my company. This benefit helped attract me to and serves as an incentive for me to remain with my employer. I could even say I continuously strive to perform to the best of my ability because I am an owner of the company.

I have recently re-evaluated this program and look forward to purchasing during the next available period. I will be able to do this in part to the low buy in rate, as I would not be able to afford to buy as many shares at face value. I have seen how this has benefitted many of my co-workers in the recent past. One was able to finance a home improvement w/out taking out an expensive loan; another is financially securing her son's future, and another took the opportunity to make a profit. I look forward to doing all these same things, and this was definitely a benefit that I weighed heavily in deciding to work for this company. PLEASE do NOT take this opportunity away from us. Thank You- Brenna Bristol-Leach/Member service/SHS

Millions of workers like me in companies across the country are able to purchase their employer's stock through ESPPs. This builds company loyalty and helps to promote high standards of work when employees have a sense of ownership.

I strongly urge FASB to consider the negative impact the proposed rule would have on the nearly 16 million workers like me and eliminate the expensing requirement for ESPP discounts in the final rule.

CC:  
SEC, Chairman, William Donaldson  
SEC, Chief Accountant, Donald Nicolaisen  
Employee Ownership Coalition (eoc@vennstrategies.com)

Sincerely,

Brenna Bristol-Leach