

This attachment contains the two most recent Senior Officer Fee Summaries for the Fund.

THE FOLLOWING IS NOT PART OF THE SHAREHOLDER REPORT OR THE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

SUMMARY OF SENIOR OFFICER'S EVALUATION OF
INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT¹

The following is a summary of the evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement between AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Adviser") and AB Corporate Shares (the "Trust") with respect to AB Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares (the "Portfolio").² The evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement was prepared by Philip L. Kirstein, the Senior Officer of the Trust, for the Trustees of the Trust, as required by the September 1, 2004 Assurance of Discontinuance ("AoD") between the Adviser and the New York State Attorney General (the "NYAG"). The Senior Officer's evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement is not meant to diminish the responsibility or authority of the Board of Trustees to perform its duties pursuant to Section 15 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 Act (the "40 Act") and applicable state law. The purpose of this summary is to provide shareholders with a synopsis of the independent evaluation of the reasonableness of the advisory fees proposed to be paid by the Portfolio which was provided to the Trustees in connection with their review of the proposed approval of the continuance of the Investment Advisory Agreement.

The Senior Officer's evaluation considered the following factors:

1. Advisory fees charged to institutional and other clients of the Adviser for like services;
2. Advisory fees charged by other mutual fund companies for like services;

¹ The Senior Officer's fee evaluation was completed on October 20, 2016 and discussed with the Board of Trustees on November 1-3, 2016.

² Future references to the Portfolio do not include "AB."

3. Costs to the Adviser and its affiliates of supplying services pursuant to the advisory agreement, excluding any intra-corporate profit;
4. Profit margins of the Adviser and its affiliates from supplying such services;
5. Possible economies of scale as the Portfolio grows larger; and
6. Nature and quality of the Adviser's services including the performance of the Portfolio.

These factors, with the exception of the first factor, are generally referred to as the “*Gartenberg* factors,” which were articulated by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 1982. *Gartenberg v. Merrill Lynch Asset Management, Inc.*, 694 F.2d 923 (2d Cir. 1982). On March 30, 2010, the Supreme Court held the *Gartenberg* decision was correct in its basic formulation of what Section 36(b) requires: to face liability under Section 36(b), “an investment adviser must charge a fee that is so disproportionately large that it bears no reasonable relationship to the services rendered and could not have been the product of arm’s length bargaining” *Jones v. Harris Associates L.P.*, 130 S. Ct. 1418 (2010). In *Jones*, the Court stated the *Gartenberg* approach fully incorporates the correct understanding of fiduciary duty within the context of Section 36(b) and noted with approval that “*Gartenberg* insists that all relevant circumstances be taken into account” and “uses the range of fees that might result from arm’s-length bargaining as the benchmark for reviewing challenged fees.”³

PORTFOLIO’S EXEMPTION FROM ADVISORY FEES OR EXPENSES

The Portfolio pays no advisory fee to the Adviser for receiving the services to be provided pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement. The Portfolio is designed to

³ *Jones v. Harris* at 1427.

serve the needs of providers of separately managed accounts (“SMAs”).⁴ Since SMA clients pay their wrap program provider a unitary fee for managing all investments of their portfolio, the Portfolio will not pay an advisory fee. The Adviser will also reimburse the Portfolio for all of its other operating expenses, except certain extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage costs and the interest on borrowed money.

The Portfolio is designed as a component of an institutional fixed-income mandate, Core Plus (“Core Plus SMA”), for SMA clients. Core Plus SMA is modeled on the Adviser’s U.S. Strategic Core Plus investment mandate. Core Plus SMA uses a 60% allocation to direct investments in individual U.S. Government/U.S. agency securities, including pass-thru agency mortgage-backed securities, or cash investments, complemented by a 40% allocation to the Portfolio in order to achieve the approximate exposures of the U.S. Strategic Core Plus investment mandate. The Portfolio’s role as a component of Core Plus SMA calls for the Portfolio to utilize leverage in certain circumstances.

The Portfolio’s net assets on September 30, 2016 are set forth below:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>9/30/16 Net Assets (\$MM)</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	\$162.9

The Portfolio, which offers only one no-load class of shares, is distributed through its principal underwriter, AllianceBernstein Investments, Inc. (“ABI”). Since the Portfolio is reimbursed by the Adviser for its operating expenses, the Portfolio does not have a distribution plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 40 Act.

⁴ The wrap program providers that offer SMAs currently employ the Adviser as one of several investment managers, and compensate the Adviser on the basis of all SMA assets managed by it, which would include assets of Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares.

I. ADVISORY FEES CHARGED TO INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER CLIENTS

The advisory fees charged to investment companies which the Adviser manages and sponsors are normally higher than those charged to similar sized institutional accounts, including pension plans and sub-advised investment companies. The fee differential reflects, among other things, different services provided to such clients, and different liabilities assumed. Services provided by the Adviser to the Portfolio that are not provided to non-investment company clients include providing office space and personnel to serve as Fund Officers, who among other responsibilities make the certifications required under the Sarbanes–Oxley Act of 2002, and coordinating with and monitoring the Portfolio’s third party service providers such as Fund counsel, auditors, custodians, transfer agents and pricing services. The accounting, administrative, legal and compliance requirements for the Portfolio are more costly than those for institutional client assets due to the greater complexities and time required for investment companies. The Adviser also believes that it incurs substantial entrepreneurial risk when offering a new mutual fund since establishing a new mutual fund requires a large upfront investment and it may take a long time for the fund to achieve profitability since the fund must be priced to scale from inception in order to be competitive and assets are acquired one account at a time. In addition, managing the cash flow of an investment company may be more difficult than that of a stable pool of assets, such as an institutional account with little cash movement in either direction, particularly if the Portfolio is in net redemption and the Adviser is frequently forced to sell securities to raise cash for redemptions. However, managing a fund with positive cash flow may be easier at times than managing a stable pool of assets. Finally, in recent years, investment advisers have

been sued by institutional clients and have suffered reputational damage both by the attendant publicity and outcomes other than complete victories. Accordingly, the legal and reputational risks associated with institutional accounts are greater than previously thought, although arguably still not equal to those related to the mutual fund industry.

Notwithstanding the Adviser’s view that managing an investment company is not comparable to managing other institutional accounts because the services provided are different, the Supreme Court has indicated consideration should be given to the advisory fees charged to institutional accounts with a similar investment style as the Portfolio.⁵ In addition to the AB Institutional fee schedule, set forth below are what would have been the effective advisory fee for the Portfolio had the AB Institutional fee schedule been applicable to the Portfolio and the Portfolio’s advisory fee based on September 30, 2016 net assets.⁶

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Net Assets 9/30/16 (\$MM)</u>	<u>AB Institutional Fee Schedule</u>	<u>Effective AB Inst. Adv. Fee</u>	<u>Portfolio Advisory Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	\$162.9	U.S. Strategic Core Plus 0.50% on 1 st \$30 million 0.20% on the balance <i>Minimum Account Size: \$25m</i>	0.255%	N/A

The adviser also manages the AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc. (“AVPS”), which is available through variable annuity and variable life contracts offered by other financial institutions and offers policyholders the option to utilize certain AVPS

⁵ The Supreme Court stated that “courts may give such comparisons the weight that they merit in light of the similarities and differences between the services that the clients in question require, but the courts must be wary of inapt comparisons.” Among the significant differences the Supreme Court noted that may exist between services provided to mutual funds and institutional accounts are “higher marketing costs.” *Jones v. Harris* at 1428.

⁶ The Adviser has indicated that with respect to institutional accounts with assets greater than \$300 million, it will negotiate a fee schedule. Discounts that are negotiated vary based upon each client relationship.

portfolios as the investment option underlying their insurance contracts. Set forth below is the fee schedule of the AVPS portfolio that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio.⁷ Also shown is what would have been the effective advisory fee of the Portfolio had the AVPS fee schedule been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2016 net assets:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>AVPS Portfolio</u>	<u>Fee Schedule</u>	<u>AVPS Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Intermediate Bond Portfolio	0.45% on first \$2.5 billion 0.40% on next \$2.5 billion 0.35% on the balance	0.450%

The AB Investment Trust Management mutual funds (“ITM”), which are offered to investors in Japan, have an “all-in” fee to compensate the Adviser for investment advisory as well as fund accounting and administrative related services.

The fee schedule and the effective fee based on the Portfolio’s September 30, 2016 net assets for the ITM mutual fund that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio are as follows:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>ITM Mutual “Fund</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	AB Multi-Sector Bond Open ⁸ (Hedged/Unhedged)	0.40%

The Adviser provides sub-advisory investment services to certain other investment companies managed by other fund families. The Adviser charges the following fee for the sub-advisory relationship that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio. Also shown is what would have been the effective advisory fee of

⁷ The AVPS portfolio was also affected by the settlement between the Adviser and the NYAG.

⁸ The ITM fund is privately placed or institutional.

the Portfolio had the fee schedule of the sub-advisory relationship been applicable o the Portfolio based on September 30, 2016 net assets:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Sub-advised Fund</u>	<u>Sub-advised Fund Fee Schedule</u>	<u>Sub-Advised Management Fund Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Client #1 ⁹	0.29% on first \$100 million 0.20% thereafter	0.255%

It is fair to note that the services the Adviser provides pursuant to sub-advisory agreements are generally confined to the services related to the investment process; in other words, they are not as comprehensive as the services provided to the Portfolio by the Adviser. In addition, to the extent that this sub-advisory relationship is with an affiliate of the Adviser, the fee schedule may not reflect arm’s-length bargaining or negotiations.

While it appears that the sub-advisory relationship is paying a lower fee than the investment companies managed by the Adviser, it is difficult to evaluate the relevance of such a fee due to the differences in the services provided, risks involved and other competitive factors between the investment companies and the sub-advisory relationship. There could be various business reasons why an investment adviser would be willing to provide a sub-advised relationship investment related services at a different fee level than an investment company it is sponsoring where the investment adviser is provided all the services, not just investment management service generally required by a registered investment company.

⁹ The sub-advisory relationship is with an affiliate of the Adviser.

II. MANAGEMENT FEES CHARGED BY OTHER MUTUAL FUND COMPANIES FOR LIKE SERVICES.

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (“Broadridge”), an analytical service that is not affiliated with the Adviser, compared the fees charged to the Portfolio to the fees charged to other investment companies for similar services by other investment advisers.^{10,11} Each peer selected by Broadridge had a similar fee arrangement as the Portfolio, which is to say that with respect to the Portfolio’s peers, all of their fund expenses, including management fees, were reimbursed by their respective investment advisers.^{12, 13}

The Portfolio does not pay an advisory fee to the Adviser since the SMA clients pay their wrap program provider a unitary fee for managing all investments of their portfolios. In addition, the Adviser reimburses the Portfolio for all of its operating expenses, except certain extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage costs and interest on borrowed money.

¹⁰ On June 5, 2015, Broadridge acquired the Fiduciary Services and Competitive Intelligence unit, *i.e.*, the group responsible for providing the Portfolio’s 15(c) reports, from Thomson Reuters’ Lipper division. The group that maintains Lipper’s expense and performance databases and investment classification/objective remains a part of Thomson Reuters’ Lipper division. Accordingly, the Portfolio’s investment classification/objective continued to be determined by Lipper.

¹¹ The Supreme Court cautioned against accepting mutual fund fee comparisons without careful scrutiny since “these comparisons are problematic because these fees, like those challenged, may not be the product of negotiations conducted at arm’s length.” *Jones v. Harris* at 1429.

¹² Only zero fee no-load funds that participate in a wrap fee program were considered for inclusion in the Fund’s EG, regardless of the Lipper investment classification/objective of the Funds’ peers. The Portfolio’s EG peers includes two BBB-rated Corporate Debt (“BBB”) funds, three Multi-Sector Income (“MSI”) fund, one Short-Intermediate Investment Grade Debt (“SII”) fund, four General Bond (“GB”) funds, two Core Bond (“IID”) funds, one General & Insured Municipal Debt (“GM”) fund, one Inflation-Protected Bond (“IUT”) fund, two Global Income (“GLI”) funds and one Intermediate Municipal Debt (“IMD”) fund. The Fund is classified by Lipper as IID.

¹³ “Management Fee” is the fee attributable to the management and bearing of expenses of the funds (not the management of the wrap fee program). In each case, the advisory contract provides for an advisory or management fee of zero.

III. COSTS TO THE ADVISER AND ITS AFFILIATES OF SUPPLYING SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE ADVISORY FEE ARRANGEMENT, EXCLUDING ANY INTRA-CORPORATE PROFIT.

The Adviser utilizes two profitability reporting systems, which operate independently but are aligned with each other, to estimate the Adviser's profitability in connection with investment advisory services provided to the Portfolio. The Senior Officer has retained a consultant to provide independent advice regarding the alignment of the two profitability systems as well as the methodologies and allocations utilized by both profitability systems. See Section IV for additional discussion.

IV. PROFIT MARGINS OF THE ADVISER AND ITS AFFILIATES FOR SUPPLYING SUCH SERVICES.

The profitability information for the Portfolio, prepared by the Adviser for the Board of Trustees, was reviewed by the Senior Officer and the consultant. The Portfolio does not pay an advisory fee to the Adviser. However, the Adviser does profit indirectly through the advisory fees that it receives from the wrap program providers whose SMA clients invest in the Portfolio. The Adviser's profitability with respect to the Portfolio, which was negative in 2015, was calculated using a weighted average of the profitability of the relevant SMA assets, in addition to any fund specific revenue or expense items.

ABI and AllianceBernstein Investor Services, Inc. ("ABIS"), affiliates of the Adviser, serve as the Portfolio's underwriter and transfer agent, respectively. The courts have referred to this type of business relationships as "fall-out benefits" to the Adviser and indicated that such benefits should be factored into the evaluation of the total relationship between the Portfolio and the Adviser. Neither case law nor common business practice precludes the Adviser's affiliates from earning a reasonable profit on this type of relationship provided the affiliates' charges and services are competitive.

However, neither ABI nor ABIS receive a fee for serving as the Portfolio's underwriter and transfer agent.

V. POSSIBLE ECONOMIES OF SCALE

The Adviser has indicated that economies of scale are being shared with shareholders through pricing to scale, breakpoints, fee reductions/waivers and enhancement to services.

In May 2012, an independent consultant, retained by the Senior Officer, provided the Board of Trustees information on the Adviser's firm-wide average costs from 2005 through 2011 and the potential economies of scale. The independent consultant noted that from 2005 through 2007 the Adviser experienced significant growth in assets under management ("AUM"). During this period, operating expenses increased, in part to keep up with growth, and in part reflecting market returns. However, from 2008 through the first quarter of 2009, AUM rapidly and significantly decreased due to declines in market value and client withdrawals. When AUM rapidly decreased, some operating expenses categories, including base compensation and office space, adjusted more slowly during this period, resulting in an increase in average costs. Since 2009, AUM has experienced less significant changes. The independent consultant noted that changes in operating expenses reflect changes in business composition and business practices in response to changes in financial markets. Finally, the independent consultant concluded that the increase in average cost and the decline in net operating margin across the Adviser since late 2008 are inconsistent with the view that there are currently reductions in average costs due to economies of scale that can be shared with the AB Mutual Funds managed by the Adviser through lower fees.

Previously, in February 2008, the independent consultant provided the Board of Trustees an update of the Deli¹⁴ study on advisory fees and various fund characteristics.¹⁵ The independent consultant first reiterated the results of his previous two dimensional comparison analysis (fund size and family size) with the Board of Trustees.¹⁶ The independent consultant then discussed the results of the regression model that was utilized to study the effects of various factors on advisory fees. The regression model output indicated that the bulk of the variation in fees predicted were explained by various factors, but substantially by fund AUM, family AUM, index fund indicator and investment style. The independent consultant also compared the advisory fees of the AB Mutual Funds to similar funds managed by 19 other large asset managers, regardless of the fund size and each Adviser's proportion of mutual fund assets to non-mutual fund assets.

VI. NATURE AND QUALITY OF THE ADVISER'S SERVICES INCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PORTFOLIO.

With assets under management of approximately \$490 billion as of September 30, 2016, the Adviser has the investment experience to manage and provide non-investment services (described in Section I) to the Portfolio.

¹⁴ The Deli study, originally published in 2002 based on 1997 data and updated for the February 2008 Presentation, may be of diminished value due to the age of the data used in the presentation and the changes experienced in the industry over the last four years. Source: Deli, Daniel N. "Mutual Fund Advisory Contracts: An Empirical Investigation." *Journal of Finance*, 57(1): 109-133 (2002).

¹⁵ As mentioned previously, the Supreme Court cautioned against accepting mutual fund fee comparisons without careful scrutiny since the fees may not be the product of negotiations conducted at arm's length. See *Jones V. Harris* at 1429.

¹⁶ The two dimensional analysis showed patterns of lower advisory fees for funds with larger asset sizes and funds from larger family sizes compared to funds with smaller asset sizes and funds from smaller family sizes, which according to the independent consultant is indicative of a sharing of economies of scale and scope. However, in less liquid and active markets, such is not the case, as the empirical analysis showed potential for diseconomies of scale in those markets. The empirical analysis also showed diminishing economies of scale and scope as funds surpassed a certain high level of assets.

The information below, prepared by Broadridge, shows the 1, 3, 5 year gross performance return and ranking of the Portfolio relative to its Lipper Performance Universe (“PU”)¹⁷ for the period ended July 31, 2016:¹⁸

	Portfolio Return (%)	PU Median (%)	PU Rank
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares			
1 Year	2.10	4.59	131/157
3 Year	1.65	4.72	104/108
5 Year	1.84	5.06	69/70

Set forth below are the 1, 3, and 5 year and since inception net performance returns of the Portfolio (in bold) versus its benchmark.¹⁹ Portfolio and benchmark volatility and reward-to-variability ratio (“Sharpe Ratio”) information is also shown.²⁰

Period Ending July 31, 2016
Annualized Net Performance (%)

	1 Year (%)	3 Year (%)	5 Year (%)	Since Inception (%)	Volatility (%)	Sharpe (%)	Risk Period (Year)
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	2.10	1.65	1.84	2.43	1.58	1.10	5
Bloomberg Barclays U.S. Aggregate ex Govt. Index	6.14	4.65	3.88	4.08	2.74	1.37	5
<i>Inception Date: September 51, 2010</i>							

¹⁷ The Portfolio’s PU includes peers with the same Lipper investment classification/objective and load type as the Portfolio.

¹⁸ The performance returns of the Portfolio were provided Broadridge.

¹⁹ The Adviser provided Portfolio and benchmark performance return information for the periods through July 31, 2016.

²⁰ Portfolio and benchmark volatility and Sharpe Ratio information was obtained through Lipper LANA, a database maintained by Lipper. Volatility is a statistical measure of the tendency of a market price or yield to vary over time. A Sharpe Ratio is a risk adjusted measure of return that divides a fund’s return in excess of the riskless return by the fund’s standard deviation. A fund with a greater volatility would be viewed as more risky than a fund with equivalent performance but lower volatility; for that reason, a greater return would be demanded for the more risky fund. A fund with a higher Sharpe Ratio would be viewed as better performing than a fund with a lower Sharpe Ratio.

CONCLUSION:

Based on the factors discussed above the Senior Officer's conclusion is that the Investment Advisory Agreement for the Portfolio is reasonable and within the range of what would have been negotiated at arm's-length in light of all the surrounding circumstances. This conclusion with respect to the Portfolio is based on an evaluation of all of these factors and no single factor was dispositive.

Dated: November 18, 2016

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SUMMARY OF SENIOR OFFICER'S EVALUATION OF
INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT¹

The following is a summary of the evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement between AllianceBernstein L.P. (the "Adviser") and AB Corporate Shares (the "Trust") with respect to AB Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares (the "Portfolio").² The evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement was prepared by Philip L. Kirstein, the Senior Officer of the Trust, for the Trustees of the Trust, as required by the September 1, 2004 Assurance of Discontinuance ("AoD") between the Adviser and the New York State Attorney General (the "NYAG"). The Senior Officer's evaluation of the Investment Advisory Agreement is not meant to diminish the responsibility or authority of the Board of Trustees to perform its duties pursuant to Section 15 of the Investment Company Act of 1940 Act (the "40 Act") and applicable state law. The purpose of this summary is to provide shareholders with a synopsis of the independent evaluation of the reasonableness of the advisory fees proposed to be paid by the Portfolio which was provided to the Trustees in connection with their review of the proposed approval of the continuance of the Investment Advisory Agreement.

The Senior Officer's evaluation considered the following factors:

1. Advisory fees charged to institutional and other clients of the Adviser for like services;
2. Advisory fees charged by other mutual fund companies for like services;

¹ The Senior Officer's fee evaluation was completed on October 22, 2015 and discussed with the Board of Trustees on November 3-5, 2015.

² Future references to the Portfolio do not include "AB."

3. Costs to the Adviser and its affiliates of supplying services pursuant to the advisory agreement, excluding any intra-corporate profit;
4. Profit margins of the Adviser and its affiliates from supplying such services;
5. Possible economies of scale as the Portfolio grows larger; and
6. Nature and quality of the Adviser's services including the performance of the Portfolio.

These factors, with the exception of the first factor, are generally referred to as the “*Gartenberg* factors,” which were articulated by the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit in 1982. *Gartenberg v. Merrill Lynch Asset Management, Inc.*, 694 F. 2d 923 (2d Cir. 1982). On March 30, 2010, the Supreme Court held the *Gartenberg* decision was correct in its basic formulation of what Section 36(b) requires: to face liability under Section 36(b), “an investment adviser must charge a fee that is so disproportionately large that it bears no reasonable relationship to the services rendered and could not have been the product of arm’s length bargaining” *Jones v. Harris Associates L.P.*, 130 S. Ct. 1418 (2010). In *Jones*, the Court stated the *Gartenberg* approach fully incorporates the correct understanding of fiduciary duty within the context of Section 36(b) and noted with approval that “*Gartenberg* insists that all relevant circumstances be taken into account” and “uses the range of fees that might result from arm’s-length bargaining as the benchmark for reviewing challenged fees.”³

PORTFOLIO’S EXEMPTION FROM ADVISORY FEES OR EXPENSES

The Portfolio pays no advisory fee to the Adviser for receiving the services to be provided pursuant to the Investment Advisory Agreement. The Portfolio is designed to

³ *Jones v. Harris* at 1427.

serve the needs of providers of separately managed accounts (“SMAs”).⁴ Since SMA clients pay their wrap program provider a unitary fee for managing all investments of their portfolio, the Portfolio will not pay an advisory fee. The Adviser will also reimburse the Portfolio for all of its other operating expenses, except certain extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage costs and the interest on borrowed money.

The Portfolio is designed as a component of an institutional fixed-income mandate, Core Plus (“Core Plus SMA”), for SMA clients. Core Plus SMA is modeled on the Adviser’s U.S. Strategic Core Plus investment mandate. Core Plus SMA uses a 60% allocation to direct investments in individual U.S. Government/U.S. agency securities, including pass-thru agency mortgage-backed securities, or cash investments, complemented by a 40% allocation to the Portfolio in order to achieve the approximate exposures of the U.S. Strategic Core Plus investment mandate. The Portfolio’s role as a component of Core Plus SMA calls for the Portfolio to utilize leverage in certain circumstances.

The Portfolio’s net assets on September 30, 2015 are set forth below:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>9/30/15 Net Assets (\$MM)</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	\$61.2

The Portfolio, which offers only one no-load class of shares, is distributed through its principal underwriter, AllianceBernstein Investments, Inc. (“ABI”). Since the Portfolio is reimbursed by the Adviser for its operating expenses, the Portfolio does not have a distribution plan pursuant to Rule 12b-1 under the 40 Act.

⁴ The wrap program providers that offer SMAs currently employ the Adviser as one of several investment managers, and compensate the Adviser on the basis of all SMA assets managed by it, which would include assets of Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares.

I. ADVISORY FEES CHARGED TO INSTITUTIONAL AND OTHER CLIENTS

The advisory fees charged to investment companies which the Adviser manages and sponsors are normally higher than those charged to similar sized institutional accounts, including pension plans and sub-advised investment companies. The fee differential reflects, among other things, different services provided to such clients, and different liabilities assumed. Services provided by the Adviser to the Portfolio that are not provided to non-investment company clients include providing office space and personnel to serve as Fund Officers, who among other responsibilities make the certifications required under the Sarbanes–Oxley Act of 2002, and coordinating with and monitoring the Portfolio’s third party service providers such as Fund counsel, auditors, custodians, transfer agents and pricing services. The accounting, administrative, legal and compliance requirements for the Portfolio are more costly than those for institutional client assets due to the greater complexities and time required for investment companies. The Adviser also believes that it incurs substantial entrepreneurial risk when offering a new mutual fund since establishing a new mutual fund requires a large upfront investment and it may take a long time for the fund to achieve profitability since the fund must be priced to scale from inception in order to be competitive and assets are acquired one account at a time. In addition, managing the cash flow of an investment company may be more difficult than that of a stable pool of assets, such as an institutional account with little cash movement in either direction, particularly if the Portfolio is in net redemption and the Adviser is frequently forced to sell securities to raise cash for redemptions. However, managing a fund with positive cash flow may be easier at times than managing a stable pool of assets. Finally, in recent years, investment advisers have

been sued by institutional clients and have suffered reputational damage both by the attendant publicity and outcomes other than complete victories. Accordingly, the legal and reputational risks associated with institutional accounts are greater than previously thought, although arguably still not equal to those related to the mutual fund industry.

Notwithstanding the Adviser’s view that managing an investment company is not comparable to managing other institutional accounts because the services provided are different, the Supreme Court has indicated consideration should be given to the advisory fees charged to institutional accounts with a similar investment style as the Portfolio.⁵ In addition to the AB Institutional fee schedule, set forth below are what would have been the effective advisory fee for the Portfolio had the AB Institutional fee schedule been applicable to the Portfolio and the Portfolio’s advisory fee based on September 30, 2015 net assets.⁶

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Net Assets 9/30/15 (\$MM)</u>	<u>AB Institutional Fee Schedule</u>	<u>Effective AB Inst. Adv. Fee</u>	<u>Portfolio Advisory Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	\$61.2	U.S. Strategic Core Plus 50 bp on 1 st \$30 million 20 bp on the balance <i>Minimum Account Size: \$25 m</i>	0.347%	0.000%

The Adviser manages AB Intermediate Bond Fund, Inc. (“Intermediate Bond Fund, Inc.”), a retail mutual fund that has a somewhat similar investment style as the

⁵ The Supreme Court stated that “courts may give such comparisons the weight that they merit in light of the similarities and differences between the services that the clients in question require, but the courts must be wary of inapt comparisons.” Among the significant differences the Supreme Court noted that may exist between services provided to mutual funds and institutional accounts are “higher marketing costs.” *Jones v. Harris* at 1428.

⁶ The Adviser has indicated that with respect to institutional accounts with assets greater than \$300 million, it will negotiate a fee schedule. Discounts that are negotiated vary based upon each client relationship.

Portfolio.⁷ Set forth in the table below are the advisory fee schedule of the Intermediate Bond Fund, Inc. and what would have been the effective advisory fee of the Portfolio had the advisory fee schedule of the retail mutual fund been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2015 net assets:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>AB Mutual Funds ("ABMF")</u>	<u>Fee Schedule</u>	<u>ABMF Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Intermediate Bond Fund, Inc.	0.45% on first \$2.5 billion 0.40% on next \$2.5 billion 0.35% on the balance	0.450%

The Adviser also manages Sanford C. Bernstein Fund II – Intermediate Duration Institutional Portfolio ("SCB II"), which has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio. Set forth in the table below are SCB II's advisory fee schedule and what would have been the effective fee of the Portfolio had SCB II's advisory fee schedule been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2015 net assets:⁸

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>ABMF Fund</u>	<u>Fee Schedule</u>	<u>SCB Fund Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Sanford C. Bernstein Fund II – Intermediate Duration Institutional Portfolio ⁹	0.50% on 1 st \$1 billion 0.45% on the balance	0.500%

⁷ The advisory fee schedule of AB Intermediate Bond Fund, Inc. was affected by the December 2003 settlement between the Adviser and the NYAG. The NYAG related master fee schedule, implemented in January 2004, contemplates eight categories with almost all of the AB funds in each category having the same advisory fee schedule.

⁸ Although a part of the AB Mutual Funds, SCB II's advisory fee schedule was not affected by the Adviser's settlement with the NYAG since its fee schedule had a lower breakpoint level (\$1 billion) than the breakpoint level (\$2.5 billion) of the High Income category of the NYAG related master schedule. The advisory fee schedule of the High Income category is as follows: 0.50% on the first \$2.5 billion, 0.45% on the next \$2.5 billion and 0.40% thereafter.

⁹ Sanford C. Bernstein Fund II – Intermediate Duration Institutional Portfolio has an expense cap of 0.45%, which effectively reduces the advisory fee.

The Adviser manages Sanford C. Bernstein Fund, Inc. (“SCB Fund”), an open-end management investment company. The Intermediate Duration Portfolio of SCB Fund has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio. Set forth below are Intermediate Duration Portfolio’s advisory fee schedule and what would have been the effective advisory fee of the Portfolio had the fee schedule of Intermediate Duration Portfolio been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2015 net assets:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>SCB Fund Portfolio</u>	<u>Fee Schedule</u>	<u>SCB Fund Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Intermediate Duration Portfolio ¹⁰	0.50% on 1 st \$1 billion 0.45% on next \$2 billion 0.40% on next \$2 billion 0.35% on next \$2 billion 0.30% thereafter	0.500%

The adviser also manages the AB Variable Products Series Fund, Inc. (“AVPS”), which is available through variable annuity and variable life contracts offered by other financial institutions and offers policyholders the option to utilize certain AVPS portfolios as the investment option underlying their insurance contracts. Set forth below is the fee schedule of the AVPS portfolio that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio.¹¹ Also shown is what would have been the effective advisory fee of the Portfolio had the AVPS fee schedule been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2015 net assets:

¹⁰ Sanford C. Bernstein Fund - Intermediate Duration Portfolio has an expense cap of 0.45%, which effectively reduces the advisory fees by at least five basis points.

¹¹ The AVPS portfolio was also affected by the settlement between the Adviser and the NYAG.

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>AVPS Portfolio</u>	<u>Fee Schedule</u>	<u>AVPS Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Intermediate Bond Portfolio	0.45% on first \$2.5 billion 0.40% on next \$2.5 billion 0.35% on the balance	0.450%

The AB Investment Trust Management mutual funds (“ITM”), which are offered to investors in Japan, have an “all-in” fee to compensate the Adviser for investment advisory as well as fund accounting and administrative related services. The fee schedule of the ITM mutual fund that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Fund is as follows:

<u>Fund</u>	<u>ITM Mutual Fund</u>	<u>Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	AB Multi-Sector Bond Open (Hedged/Unhedged)	0.40%

The Adviser provides sub-advisory investment services to certain other investment companies managed by other fund families. The Adviser charges the following fee for the sub-advisory relationship that has a somewhat similar investment style as the Portfolio. Also shown is what would have been the effective advisory fee of the Portfolio had the fee schedule of the sub-advisory relationship been applicable to the Portfolio based on September 30, 2015 net assets:

<u>Portfolio</u>	<u>Sub-advised Fund</u>	<u>Sub-advised Fund Fee Schedule</u>	<u>Sub-Advised Management Fund Effective Fee</u>
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	Client #1 ¹²	0.29% on first \$100 million 0.20% thereafter	0.290%

¹² The sub-advisory relationship is with an affiliate of the Adviser.

It is fair to note that the services the Adviser provides pursuant to sub-advisory agreements are generally confined to the services related to the investment process; in other words, they are not as comprehensive as the services provided to the Portfolio by the Adviser. In addition, to the extent that this sub-advisory relationship is with an affiliate of the Adviser, the fee schedule may not reflect arm's-length bargaining or negotiations.

While it appears that the sub-advisory relationship is paying a lower fee than the investment companies managed by the Adviser, it is difficult to evaluate the relevance of such a fee due to the differences in the services provided, risks involved and other competitive factors between the investment companies and the sub-advisory relationship. There could be various business reasons why an investment adviser would be willing to provide a sub-advised relationship investment related services at a different fee level than an investment company it is sponsoring where the investment adviser is provided all the services, not just investment management service generally required by a registered investment company.

II. MANAGEMENT FEES CHARGED BY OTHER MUTUAL FUND COMPANIES FOR LIKE SERVICES.

Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc. (“Broadridge”), an analytical service that is not affiliated with the Adviser, compared the fees charged to the Portfolio to the fees charged to other investment companies for similar services by other investment advisers.^{13, 14} Each peer selected by Broadridge had a similar fee arrangement as the

¹³ On June 5, 2015, Broadridge acquired the Fiduciary Services and Competitive Intelligence unit, *i.e.*, the group responsible for providing the Portfolio's 15(c) reports, from Thomson Reuters' Lipper division. The group that maintains Lipper's expense and performance databases and investment classification/objective remains a part of Thomson Reuters' Lipper division. Accordingly, the Portfolio's investment classification/objective continued to be determined by Lipper.

Portfolio, which is to say that with respect to the Portfolio's peers, all of their fund expenses, including management fees, were reimbursed by their respective investment advisers.^{15, 16}

The Portfolio does not pay an advisory fee to the Adviser since the SMA clients pay their wrap program provider a unitary fee for managing all investments of their portfolios. In addition, the Adviser reimburses the Portfolio for all of its operating expenses, except certain extraordinary expenses, taxes, brokerage costs and interest on borrowed money.

III. COSTS TO THE ADVISER AND ITS AFFILIATES OF SUPPLYING SERVICES PURSUANT TO THE ADVISORY FEE ARRANGEMENT, EXCLUDING ANY INTRA-CORPORATE PROFIT.

The Adviser utilizes two profitability reporting systems, which operate independently but are aligned with each other, to estimate the Adviser's profitability in connection with investment advisory services provided to the Portfolio. The Senior Officer has retained a consultant to provide independent advice regarding the alignment of the two profitability systems as well as the methodologies and allocations utilized by both profitability systems. See Section IV for additional discussion.

¹⁴ The Supreme Court cautioned against accepting mutual fund fee comparisons without careful scrutiny since "these comparisons are problematic because these fees, like those challenged, may not be the product of negotiations conducted at arm's length." *Jones v. Harris* at 1429.

¹⁵ Only zero fee no-load funds that participate in a wrap fee program were considered for inclusion in the Fund's EG, regardless of the Lipper investment classification/objective of the Funds' peers. The Portfolio's EG peers includes two BBB-rated Corporate Debt ("BBB") funds, three Multi-Sector Income ("MSI") fund, one Short-Intermediate Investment Grade Debt ("SII") fund, four General Bond ("GB") funds, two Core Bond ("IID") funds, one General & Insured Municipal Debt ("GM") fund, one Inflation-Protected Bond ("IUT") fund, two Global Income ("GLI") funds and one Intermediate Municipal Debt ("IMD") fund. The Fund is classified by Lipper as IID.

¹⁶ "Management Fee" is the fee attributable to the management and bearing of expenses of the funds (not the management of the wrap fee program). In each case, the advisory contract provides for an advisory or management fee of zero.

IV. PROFIT MARGINS OF THE ADVISER AND ITS AFFILIATES FOR SUPPLYING SUCH SERVICES.

The profitability information for the Portfolio, prepared by the Adviser for the Board of Trustees, was reviewed by the Senior Officer and the consultant. The Portfolio does not pay an advisory fee to the Adviser. However, the Adviser does profit indirectly through the advisory fees that it receives from the wrap program providers whose SMA clients invest in the Portfolio. The Adviser's profitability with respect to the Portfolio, which was negative in 2014, was calculated using a weighted average of the profitability of the relevant SMA assets, in addition to any fund specific revenue or expense items.

ABI and AllianceBernstein Investor Services, Inc. ("ABIS"), affiliates of the Adviser, serve as the Portfolio's underwriter and transfer agent, respectively. The courts have referred to this type of business relationships as "fall-out benefits" to the Adviser and indicated that such benefits should be factored into the evaluation of the total relationship between the Portfolio and the Adviser. Neither case law nor common business practice precludes the Adviser's affiliates from earning a reasonable profit on this type of relationship provided the affiliates' charges and services are competitive. However, neither ABI nor ABIS receive a fee for serving as the Portfolio's underwriter and transfer agent.

V. POSSIBLE ECONOMIES OF SCALE

The Adviser has indicated that economies of scale are being shared with shareholders through pricing to scale, breakpoints, fee reductions/waivers and enhancement to services.

In May 2012, an independent consultant, retained by the Senior Officer, provided the Board of Trustees information on the Adviser's firm-wide average costs from 2005

through 2011 and the potential economies of scale. The independent consultant noted that from 2005 through 2007 the Adviser experienced significant growth in assets under management (“AUM”). During this period, operating expenses increased, in part to keep up with growth, and in part reflecting market returns. However, from 2008 through the first quarter of 2009, AUM rapidly and significantly decreased due to declines in market value and client withdrawals. When AUM rapidly decreased, some operating expenses categories, including base compensation and office space, adjusted more slowly during this period, resulting in an increase in average costs. Since 2009, AUM has experienced less significant changes. The independent consultant noted that changes in operating expenses reflect changes in business composition and business practices in response to changes in financial markets. Finally, the independent consultant concluded that the increase in average cost and the decline in net operating margin across the Adviser since late 2008 are inconsistent with the view that there are currently reductions in average costs due to economies of scale that can be shared with the AB Mutual Funds managed by the Adviser through lower fees.

Previously, in February 2008, the independent consultant provided the Board of Trustees an update of the Deli¹⁷ study on advisory fees and various fund characteristics.¹⁸ The independent consultant first reiterated the results of his previous two dimensional comparison analysis (fund size and family size) with the Board of Trustees.¹⁹ The

¹⁷ The Deli study, originally published in 2002 based on 1997 data and updated for the February 2008 Presentation, may be of diminished value due to the age of the data used in the presentation and the changes experienced in the industry since 2008.

¹⁸ As mentioned previously, the Supreme Court cautioned against accepting mutual fund fee comparisons without careful scrutiny since the fees may not be the product of negotiations conducted at arm’s length. See *Jones V. Harris* at 1429.

¹⁹ The two dimensional analysis showed patterns of lower advisory fees for funds with larger asset sizes and funds from larger family sizes compared to funds with smaller asset sizes and funds from smaller family sizes, which according to the independent consultant is indicative of a sharing of economies of scale

independent consultant then discussed the results of the regression model that was utilized to study the effects of various factors on advisory fees. The regression model output indicated that the bulk of the variation in fees predicted were explained by various factors, but substantially by fund AUM, family AUM, index fund indicator and investment style. The independent consultant also compared the advisory fees of the AB Mutual Funds to similar funds managed by 19 other large asset managers, regardless of the fund size and each Adviser's proportion of mutual fund assets to non-mutual fund assets.

VI. NATURE AND QUALITY OF THE ADVISER'S SERVICES INCLUDING THE PERFORMANCE OF THE PORTFOLIO.

With assets under management of approximately \$463 billion as of September 30, 2015, the Adviser has the investment experience to manage and provide non-investment services (described in Section I) to the Portfolio.

The information below, prepared by Broadridge, shows the 1 and 3 year gross performance return and ranking of the Portfolio relative to its Lipper Performance Universe ("PU")²⁰ for the period ended July 31, 2015:²¹

	Portfolio Return (%)	PU Median (%)	PU Rank
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares			
1 Year	0.96	1.72	54/85
3 Year	0.93	4.29	46/47

and scope. However, in less liquid and active markets, such is not the case, as the empirical analysis showed potential for diseconomies of scale in those markets. The empirical analysis also showed diminishing economies of scale and scope as funds surpassed a certain high level of assets.

²⁰ The Portfolio's PU includes peers with the same Lipper investment classification/objective and load type as the Portfolio.

²¹ The performance returns of the Portfolio were provided Broadridge.

Set forth below are the 1, 3 year and since inception net performance returns of the Portfolio (in bold) versus its benchmark.²² Portfolio and benchmark volatility and reward-to-variability ratio (“Sharpe Ratio”) information is also shown.²³

Period Ending July 31, 2015
Annualized Net Performance (%)

	1 Year (%)	3 Year (%)	Since Inception (%)	Volatility (%)	Sharpe (%)	Risk Period (Year)
Taxable Multi-Sector Income Shares	0.96	0.93	2.50	0.83	1.04	3
Barclays U.S. Aggregate ex Govt. Index	2.54	2.09	3.66	2.98	0.69	3

Inception Date: September 51, 2010

CONCLUSION:

Based on the factors discussed above the Senior Officer’s conclusion is that the Investment Advisory Agreement for the Portfolio is reasonable and within the range of what would have been negotiated at arm’s-length in light of all the surrounding circumstances. This conclusion with respect to the Portfolio is based on an evaluation of all of these factors and no single factor was dispositive.

Dated: November 25, 2015

²² The Adviser provided Portfolio and benchmark performance return information for the periods through July 31, 2015.

²³ Portfolio and benchmark volatility and Sharpe Ratio information was obtained through Lipper LANA, a database maintained by Lipper. Volatility is a statistical measure of the tendency of a market price or yield to vary over time. A Sharpe Ratio is a risk adjusted measure of return that divides a fund’s return in excess of the riskless return by the fund’s standard deviation. A fund with a greater volatility would be viewed as more risky than a fund with equivalent performance but lower volatility; for that reason, a greater return would be demanded for the more risky fund. A fund with a higher Sharpe Ratio would be viewed as better performing than a fund with a lower Sharpe Ratio.