INVESTORS HAVE SPOKEN
It’s Time for Electronic Delivery

It’s time to modernize to make electronic delivery (eDelivery) the default method for providing investors with access to their documents.

Fidelity customers and investors of all ages strongly prefer accessing their account statements and other regulatory documents online. However, currently the Securities and Exchange Commission’s (SEC) rules are outdated and based on paper mail delivery of documents. Fidelity urges the SEC to modernize its rules by making electronic delivery the default way to receive documents, while preserving investor choice for paper delivery if preferred.

Fidelity Customers Prefer DIGITAL DELIVERY

80% of retail brokerage customers opening a new account choose eDelivery.¹

90% of retail brokerage customers have and are providing Fidelity with an email address.¹

99.75% of emails to retail brokerage customers are successfully delivered without any issues.¹

Investors of All Ages Agree

85% of retail investors would be comfortable with eDelivery as the default for investor communications as long as there remains an option to opt-in to paper delivery.²

only 8% of retail investors want to receive all investment documents in paper form.²

76% of people 50 years or older say that they rely on technology to stay connected.³
The Federal Government has Adopted eDelivery

45M individuals have established online accounts since the Social Security Administration eliminated paper as the primary method of delivering statements in 2016.  

5.5M Federal Thrift Savings Plan (“TSP”) participants receive their quarterly statements digitally—an option since 2003.  

In May 2020, the Department of Labor permitted eDelivery of 401(k) documents to retirement plan participants.

eDelivery is Sustainable

In 2020 alone, Fidelity used over 10,200 tons of paper just for financial communications, the majority of which were required by regulations. That is enough paper to fill a football field 10 feet high using:

- 250,000 trees per year
- 10 million gallons of water per year

4 of 5 individual investors say eDelivery is an easy way to cut their carbon footprint.
Five Important Investor Protections in H.R. 1807

1. **Advance Notice**
   Investors will receive clear and readable disclosures about the transition to eDelivery well before the transition begins.

2. **Honor Investor Preferences**
   Investors who want to receive paper documents, can always choose to receive documents by postal mail.

3. **Easy Access to Change Contact Information**
   Firms can only send electronic disclosures to investors who have provided their contact information, which they can update at any time.

4. **Consumer Friendly Format**
   Investors will receive their disclosure documents in a timely and user-friendly manner that accommodates their accessibility needs.

5. **Safeguards to Assure Delivery**
   Firms should monitor for “bounce back” emails and revert to paper communications if digital delivery is no longer successful.

We urge Congress to pass the bipartisan Improving Disclosure for Investors Act (H.R. 1807)

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1. Fidelity Data as of November 2020
2. SIFMA, e-Delivery Investor Survey Results, July 18, 2022

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