

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
Form S-3ASR
June 21, 2012

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 21, 2012

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form S-3

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Maryland

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

27-0186273

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, California 93021
(818) 224-7442**

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

**Jeff Grogin
Chief Administrative and Legal Officer and Secretary
PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust
6101 Condor Drive
Moorpark, California 93021
(818) 224-7442**

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

Copy to:

**Edward J. Fine
J. Gerard Cummins**

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Sidley Austin LLP
787 Seventh Avenue
New York, New York 10019
(212) 839-5300

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public:
From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement as determined by the registrant.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment to a registration statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to register additional securities or additional classes of securities pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check the following box.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/>	Accelerated filer <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Non-accelerated filer <input type="checkbox"/> (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company <input type="checkbox"/>
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CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of securities to be registered	Proposed maximum aggregate offering price	Amount of registration fee
Common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share		
Preferred shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share		
Warrants		
Total	(1)(2)	(3)

(1) An indeterminate number of the securities of each identified class is being registered as may from time to time be issued at unspecified prices. Securities registered hereunder may be sold separately, together or as units with other securities registered hereunder. The securities registered hereunder may be offered and sold from time to time by the registrant and/or by one or more selling shareholders to be identified in the future.

(2) Also includes such indeterminate number or amount of common shares of beneficial interest, preferred shares of beneficial interest and warrants as may be issued upon conversion or exchange of securities registered hereby, for which the registrant will receive no additional consideration.

(3)

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In accordance with Rule 415(a)(6) under the Securities Act of 1933, the securities registered pursuant to this registration statement include \$45,379,494 of unsold securities previously registered on registration statement on Form S-3 (No. 333-168699), as originally filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 10, 2010 and declared effective on September 24, 2010 (the "prior registration statement"). In connection with the registration of such unsold securities on the prior registration statement, the registrant paid a registration fee of \$3,235.56 applicable to such unsold securities, which fee will continue to be applied to such unsold securities included in this registration statement. Pursuant to Rule 415(a)(6), the offering of the unsold securities registered under the prior registration statement will be deemed terminated as of the date of effectiveness of this registration statement. In reliance on and in accordance with Rules 456(b) and 457(r) under the Securities Act of 1933, except with respect to the unsold securities that had been registered on the prior registration statement, the registrant is deferring payment of all of the registration fee.

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PROSPECTUS

PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust

Common Shares

Preferred Shares

Warrants to Purchase Common Shares or Preferred Shares

We may offer, issue and sell from time to time, together or separately, the securities described in this prospectus. We will provide the specific terms of any securities we may offer in supplements to this prospectus.

In addition, selling shareholders to be named in a prospectus supplement may offer and sell from time to time these securities in such amounts as set forth in a prospectus supplement.

You should read this prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement carefully before you invest. This prospectus may not be used to offer and sell any securities unless accompanied by a prospectus supplement describing the amount of and terms of the offering of those securities.

We or any selling shareholder may offer and sell these securities to or through one or more underwriters, dealers or agents, or directly to purchasers on a continuous or delayed basis. We or any selling shareholder reserves the sole right to accept, and together with any underwriters, dealers and agents, reserves the right to reject, in whole or in part, any proposed purchase of securities. The names of any underwriters, dealers or agents involved in the sale of any securities, the specific manner in which they may be offered and any applicable commissions or discounts will be set forth in the prospectus supplement covering the sales of those securities.

Our common shares of beneficial interest, or our common shares, \$0.01 par value per share, are listed on the New York Stock Exchange under the trading symbol "PMT." On June 20, 2012, the closing price of our common shares on the New York Stock Exchange was \$19.37.

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully read and consider the risks described under the section entitled "Risk Factors" included in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, in prospectus supplements relating to specific offerings of securities and in other information that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission before making a decision to invest in our securities.

We impose certain restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our common shares and our shares of beneficial interest. You should read the information under the section entitled "Description of Shares of Beneficial Interest Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer" in this prospectus for a description of these restrictions.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

The date of this prospectus is June 21, 2012.

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You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement or any applicable free writing prospectus. We have not authorized any other person to provide you with different or additional information. If anyone provides you with different or additional information, you should not rely on it. This prospectus and any applicable prospectus supplement do not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to purchase, any securities in any jurisdiction to or from any person to whom or from whom it is unlawful to make such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. You should assume that the information appearing in this prospectus, any applicable prospectus supplement, any applicable free writing prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference herein or therein is accurate only as of their respective dates or on the date or dates which are specified in these documents. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

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ABOUT THIS PROSPECTUS

This prospectus is part of a "shelf" registration statement that we have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. By using a shelf registration statement, we or any selling shareholder may sell, at any time and from time to time, in one or more offerings, any combination of the securities described in this prospectus. The exhibits to our registration statement contain the full text of certain contracts and other important documents that we have summarized in this prospectus or that we may summarize in a prospectus supplement. Since these summaries may not contain all the information that you may find important in deciding whether to purchase the securities offered, you should review the full text of these documents. The registration statement and the exhibits can be obtained from the SEC as indicated under the sections entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" and "Documents Incorporated By Reference."

This prospectus only provides you with a general description of the securities we or any selling shareholder may offer, which is not meant to be a complete description of each security. Each time we or any selling shareholder sells securities, we will provide a prospectus supplement that contains specific information about the terms of those securities. The prospectus supplement may also add, update or change information contained in this prospectus. If there is any inconsistency between the information in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, you should rely on the information in the prospectus supplement. You should read carefully both this prospectus and any prospectus supplement together with the additional information described under the sections entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" and "Documents Incorporated By Reference."

Unless otherwise indicated or the context requires otherwise, in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement hereto, references to "our company," "we," "us" and "our" mean PennyMac Mortgage Investment Trust and its consolidated subsidiaries, including PennyMac Operating Partnership, L.P., or our operating partnership.

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PENNYMAC MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST

We are a specialty finance company that invests primarily in residential mortgage loans and mortgage-related assets. Our objective is to provide attractive risk-adjusted returns to our investors over the long-term, principally through dividends and secondarily through capital appreciation. We intend to achieve this objective largely by investing in distressed mortgage loans and engaging in correspondent lending in which we acquire, pool, securitize or sell newly originated prime credit quality residential mortgage loans and retain the related mortgage servicing rights. We may supplement these activities through participation in other mortgage-related activities, which are in various states of analysis, planning or implementation, including: (i) the acquisition of REIT-eligible mortgage-backed securities, or MBS; (ii) the acquisition of mortgage servicing rights from liquidating and other institutions; and (iii) providing inventory financing of mortgage loans for mortgage lenders.

We are externally managed by our affiliate, PNMAC Capital Management, LLC, or PCM, pursuant to a management agreement. PCM is an investment adviser registered with the SEC that specializes in, and focuses on, residential mortgage loans. Most of our mortgage loan portfolio is serviced on our behalf primarily by another affiliate, PennyMac Loan Services, LLC, or PLS, pursuant to a loan servicing agreement.

We conduct substantially all of our operations, and make substantially all of our investments, through our operating partnership and its subsidiaries. We are the sole limited partner and one of our subsidiaries is the sole general partner of our operating partnership.

We believe that we qualify, and we have elected to be taxed, as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, or the Internal Revenue Code, beginning with our taxable period ended on December 31, 2009.

Our principal executive offices are located at 6101 Condor Drive, Moorpark, California 93021. Our telephone number is (818) 224-7442. Our website is www.pennymac-reit.com. The information contained on our website is not part of, or incorporated by reference into, this prospectus. We have included our website address only as an inactive textual reference and do not intend it to be an active link to our website.

RISK FACTORS

Investing in our securities involves risks. You should carefully read and consider the risks described under the section entitled "Risk Factors" in our most recent Annual Report on Form 10-K and any subsequent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, which are incorporated by reference herein, as well as the other information contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus and in any applicable prospectus supplement, before making a decision to invest in our securities. Each of the risks described in these documents could materially and adversely affect our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects, and could result in a partial or complete loss of your investment.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus and the documents we incorporate herein by reference contain certain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, which are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements are generally identifiable by use of forward-looking terminology such as "may," "will," "should," "potential," "intend," "expect," "seek," "anticipate," "estimate," "approximately," "believe," "could," "project," "predict," "continue," "plan" or other similar words or expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on certain assumptions, discuss future expectations, describe future plans and strategies, contain financial and operating projections or state other forward-looking information. Examples of forward-looking

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statements include: (i) projections of our revenues, income, earnings per share, capital structure or other financial items; (ii) descriptions of our plans or objectives for future operations, products or services; (iii) forecasts of our future economic performance, interest rates, profit margins and our share of future markets; and (iv) descriptions of assumptions underlying or relating to any of the foregoing expectations regarding the timing of generating any revenues.

Our ability to predict results or the actual effect of future events, actions, plans or strategies is inherently uncertain. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in such forward-looking statements are based on reasonable assumptions, our actual results and performance could differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. There are a number of factors, many of which are beyond our control, that could cause actual results to differ significantly from our expectations.

You should not place undue reliance on any forward-looking statement, each of which speaks only as of the date on which it is made. We expressly state that we have no current intention to update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, unless required by law.

Factors that could cause our actual results and performance to differ materially from historical results or those anticipated include, but are not limited to:

changes in our investment objectives or investment or operational strategies, including any new lines of business or new products and services that may subject us to additional risks;

volatility in our industry, interest rates and spreads, the debt or equity markets, the general economy or the residential finance and real estate markets specifically, whether the result of market events or otherwise;

events or circumstances which undermine confidence in the financial markets or otherwise have a broad impact on financial markets, such as a credit downgrade of U.S. Government obligations, the sudden instability or collapse of large depository institutions or other significant corporations, terrorist attacks, natural or man-made disasters, or threatened or actual armed conflicts;

changes in general business, economic, market, employment, or in consumer confidence and spending habits and political conditions from those expected;

continued declines in residential real estate and significant changes in U.S. housing prices and/or activity in the U.S. housing market;

the availability of, and level of competition for, attractive risk-adjusted investment opportunities in residential mortgage loans and mortgage-related assets that satisfy our investment objectives and investment strategies;

our success in winning bids to acquire loans;

the concentration of credit and real estate risks to which we are exposed;

the degree and nature of our competition;

changes in personnel and lack of availability of qualified personnel;

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our dependence on PCM and PLS and potential conflicts of interest with PCM, PLS and their affiliated entities, and the performance of such entities;

the availability, terms and deployment of short-term and long-term capital;

the adequacy of our cash reserves and working capital;

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our ability to match the interest rates and maturities of our assets with our financing;

the costs and effectiveness of our hedging efforts in relation to our commitments to purchase, our inventory of mortgage loans acquired for sale and our investments in mortgage servicing rights;

the timing and amount of cash flows, if any, from our investments;

unanticipated increases in financing and other costs, including a rise in interest rates;

the performance, financial condition and liquidity of borrowers;

incomplete or inaccurate information or documentation provided by customers or counterparties, or adverse changes in the financial condition of our customers and counterparties;

the quality and enforceability of the collateral documentation evidencing our ownership and rights in the assets in which we invest;

increased rates of delinquency, default and/or decreased recovery rates on our investments;

our ability to foreclose on our mortgage loan investments and liquidate the resulting real estate in a timely and cost-effective manner or at all;

increased prepayments of the mortgages and other loans underlying our MBS and other investments;

the degree to which our hedging strategies may or may not protect us from interest rate volatility;

the effect of the accuracy of, or changes in the estimates we make about, uncertainties and contingencies when measuring and reporting upon our financial condition and income;

our failure to maintain appropriate internal controls over financial reporting;

our ability to obtain and/or maintain licenses and other approvals in those jurisdictions where required to conduct our business;

our ability to comply with various federal, state and local laws that govern our business;

developments in the secondary markets for our mortgage loan products;

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legislative and regulatory changes that impact the mortgage loan industry or housing market;

changes in regulations or the occurrence of other events that impact the business, operation or prospects of government-sponsored entities or government agencies such as the Federal Housing Administration or the Veterans Administration;

the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and any other legislative and regulatory changes that impact the business, operations or governance of publicly-traded companies;

changes in government support of homeownership;

changes in government or government-sponsored home affordability programs;

changes in governmental regulations, accounting treatment, tax rates and similar matters (including changes to laws governing the taxation of REITs or the exclusions from registration as an investment company);

limitations imposed on our business and our ability to satisfy complex rules for us to qualify as a REIT for U.S. federal income tax purposes and qualify for an exclusion from the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the ability of certain of our subsidiaries to qualify as REITs or as

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taxable REIT subsidiaries, or TRSs, for U.S. federal income tax purposes, and our ability and the ability of our subsidiaries to operate effectively within the limitations imposed by these rules;

estimates relating to our ability to make distributions to our shareholders in the future;

the effect of public opinion on our reputation; and

the occurrence of natural disasters or other events or circumstances that could impact our operations.

These factors and the other risk factors described in this prospectus and any prospectus supplement, including the documents incorporated by reference herein and therein, are not necessarily all of the important factors that could cause our actual results and performance to differ materially from those expressed in or implied by any of our forward-looking statements. Other unknown or unpredictable factors also could adversely affect our actual results and performance. Consequently, there can be no assurance that the results or performance anticipated by us will be realized or, even if substantially realized, that they will have the expected consequences to or effects on us.

USE OF PROCEEDS

Unless otherwise indicated in a prospectus supplement, we intend to use the net proceeds from the offering of securities by us under this prospectus for general corporate purposes, including funding our investment activity, repayment of indebtedness and working capital. Further details relating to the use of the net proceeds from the offering of securities under this prospectus will be set forth in the applicable prospectus supplement.

We will not receive any proceeds from any sales of securities by any selling shareholder.

RATIO OF EARNINGS TO COMBINED FIXED CHARGES AND PREFERRED SHARE DISTRIBUTIONS

The following table sets forth our ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred share distributions for the periods shown:

	For the period August 4, 2009 (date operations commenced) through December 31, 2009	For the years ended December 31,		For the three months ended March 31, 2012
		2010	2011	
Ratio of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred share distributions(2)	(1)	30.6	4.8	2.7

(1) We did not have any fixed charges for this period and there are no preferred shares of beneficial interest, or preferred shares, issued and outstanding. Therefore, we have no ratio to calculate for this period.

(2) The ratios of earnings to combined fixed charges and preferred share distributions were computed by dividing earnings as adjusted by fixed charges and preferred share distributions (if applicable). For this purpose, earnings consist of net income from continuing operations plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense. As of the date of this prospectus, there are no preferred shares issued and outstanding and, therefore, there are no amounts for preferred distributions included in the above calculations.

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DESCRIPTION OF SHARES OF BENEFICIAL INTEREST

The following summary of the material terms of our shares of beneficial interest does not purport to be complete and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to the Maryland REIT Law, or the MRL, and to our declaration of trust and our amended and restated bylaws, or our bylaws. We have incorporated by reference our declaration of trust and bylaws as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

General

Our declaration of trust provides that we may issue up to 500,000,000 common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share, and 100,000,000 preferred shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share. As of June 18, 2012, 41,459,821 common shares were issued and outstanding and no preferred shares were issued and outstanding. Our declaration of trust authorizes our board of trustees to amend our declaration of trust to increase or decrease the aggregate number of authorized shares or the number of authorized shares of any class or series without shareholder approval.

Under Maryland law, shareholders are not personally liable for the obligations of a real estate investment trust solely as a result of their status as shareholders.

Common Shares

The common shares we or any selling shareholder may offer from time to time under this prospectus, when issued, will be duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable. Subject to the preferential rights, if any, of holders of any other class or series of shares of beneficial interest and to the provisions of our declaration of trust regarding the restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares, holders of our common shares are entitled to receive distributions on such common shares out of assets legally available therefor if, as and when authorized by our board of trustees and declared by us, and the holders of our common shares are entitled to share ratably in our assets legally available for distribution to our shareholders in the event of our liquidation, dissolution or winding up after payment of or adequate provision for all of our known debts and liabilities.

Subject to the provisions of our declaration of trust regarding the restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares and except as may otherwise be specified in the terms of any class or series of common shares, each outstanding common share entitles the holder to one vote on all matters submitted to a vote of shareholders, including the election of trustees, and, except as provided with respect to any other class or series of shares of beneficial interest, the holders of our common shares possess the exclusive voting power. There is no cumulative voting in the election of our trustees, which means that the shareholders entitled to cast a majority of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of trustees can elect all of the trustees then standing for election, and the remaining shareholders will not be able to elect any trustees.

Holders of common shares have no preference, conversion, exchange, sinking fund, redemption or appraisal rights and have no preemptive rights to subscribe for any of our securities. Subject to the restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares contained in our declaration of trust and the terms of any other class or series of common shares, all of our common shares have equal dividend, liquidation and other rights.

Preferred Shares

Our board of trustees may authorize the issuance of preferred shares in one or more series and may determine, with respect to any such series, the rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of the preferred shares, including:

distribution rights;

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conversion rights;

voting rights;

restrictions on ownership and transfer;

redemption rights and terms of redemptions; and

liquidation preferences.

The preferred shares we or any selling shareholder may offer from time to time under this prospectus, when issued, will be duly authorized, fully paid and nonassessable, and holders of preferred shares will not have any preemptive rights.

The issuance of preferred shares could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control or other transaction that might involve a premium price for our common shares or otherwise be in the best interests of our shareholders. In addition, any preferred shares that we issue could rank senior to our common shares with respect to the payment of distributions, in which case we could not pay any distributions on our common shares until full distributions have been paid with respect to such preferred shares.

The rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions of each series of preferred shares will be fixed by articles supplementary relating to the series. We will describe the specific terms of the particular series of preferred shares in the prospectus supplement relating to that series, which terms will include:

the designation and par value of the preferred shares;

the voting rights, if any, of the preferred shares;

the number of preferred shares offered, the liquidation preference per preferred share and the offering price of the preferred shares;

the distribution rate(s), period(s) and payment date(s) or method(s) of calculation applicable to the preferred shares;

whether distributions will be cumulative or non-cumulative and, if cumulative, the date(s) from which distributions on the preferred shares will accumulate;

the procedures for any auction and remarketing for the preferred shares, if applicable;

the provision for a sinking fund, if any, for the preferred shares;

the provision for, and any restriction on, redemption, if applicable, of the preferred shares;

the provision for, and any restriction on, repurchase, if applicable, of the preferred shares;

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the terms and provisions, if any, upon which the preferred shares will be convertible into common shares, including the conversion price (or manner or calculation) and conversion period;

the terms under which the rights of the preferred shares may be modified, if applicable;

the relative ranking and preferences of the preferred shares as to distribution rights and rights upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;

any limitation on issuance of any other series of preferred shares, including any series of preferred shares ranking senior to or on parity with the series of preferred shares as to distribution rights and rights upon the liquidation, dissolution or winding up of our affairs;

any listing of the preferred shares on any securities exchange;

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a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the preferred shares;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if applicable;

in addition to those restrictions described below, any other restrictions on the ownership and transfer of the preferred shares;
and

any additional rights, preferences, privileges or restrictions of the preferred shares.

Power to Reclassify Our Unissued Shares of Beneficial Interest

Our declaration of trust authorizes our board of trustees to classify and reclassify any unissued common or preferred shares into other classes or series of shares of beneficial interest. Prior to the issuance of shares of each class or series, our board of trustees is required by Maryland law and by our declaration of trust to set, subject to the provisions of our declaration of trust regarding the restrictions on ownership and transfer of shares of beneficial interest, the preferences, conversion and other rights, voting powers, restrictions, limitations as to dividends and other distributions, qualifications and terms and conditions of redemption for each class or series. Therefore, our board of trustees could authorize the issuance of a class or series of shares that has priority over our common shares as to voting rights, dividends or upon liquidation or with terms and conditions that could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control or other transaction that might involve a premium price for our common shares or otherwise be in the best interests of our shareholders. No preferred shares are presently outstanding.

Power to Increase or Decrease Authorized Shares of Beneficial Interest and Issue Additional Common Shares and Preferred Shares

We believe that the power of our board of trustees to amend our declaration of trust to increase or decrease the number of authorized shares of beneficial interest, to authorize us to issue additional authorized but unissued common shares or preferred shares and to classify or reclassify unissued common shares or preferred shares and thereafter to issue such classified or reclassified shares of beneficial interest provides us with increased flexibility in structuring possible future financings and acquisitions and in meeting other needs that might arise. The additional classes or series, as well as the additional common shares, will be available for issuance without further action by our shareholders, unless such action is required by applicable law or the rules of any stock exchange or automated quotation system on which our securities may be listed or traded. Although our board of trustees does not intend to do so, it could authorize us to issue a class or series of shares that could, depending upon the terms of the particular class or series, delay, defer or prevent a change in control or other transaction that might involve a premium price for our common shares or otherwise be in the best interests of our shareholders.

Restrictions on Ownership and Transfer

In order for us to qualify as a REIT under the Internal Revenue Code, our shares of beneficial interest must be beneficially owned by 100 or more persons during at least 335 days of a taxable year of 12 months (other than the first year for which an election to be a REIT has been made) or during a proportionate part of a shorter taxable year. Also, not more than 50% of the value of the outstanding shares of beneficial interest may be owned, directly or indirectly, by five or fewer individuals (as defined in the Internal Revenue Code to include certain entities) during the last half of a taxable year (other than the first year for which an election to be a REIT has been made).

Our declaration of trust contains restrictions on the ownership and transfer of our common shares and other outstanding shares of beneficial interest. The relevant sections of our declaration of trust

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provide that, subject to the exceptions described below, no person or entity may beneficially own, or be deemed to own, by virtue of the applicable constructive ownership provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, more than 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding common shares, which we refer to as the common share ownership limit, or 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding shares of beneficial interest, which we refer to as the aggregate share ownership limit. We refer to the common share ownership limit and the aggregate share ownership limit collectively as the "share ownership limits."

The constructive ownership rules under the Internal Revenue Code are complex and may cause shares of beneficial interest owned actually or constructively by a group of related individuals and/or entities to be owned constructively by one individual or entity. As a result, the acquisition of less than 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding common shares or 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding shares of beneficial interest (or the acquisition of an interest in an entity that owns, actually or constructively, our shares of beneficial interest), could, nevertheless, cause the acquirer, or another individual or entity, to own constructively in excess of 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding common shares or 9.8% by vote or value, whichever is more restrictive, of our outstanding shares of beneficial interest and thereby violate the applicable share ownership limit.

Our board of trustees may, upon receipt of certain representations and undertakings and in its sole discretion, exempt (prospectively or retroactively) any person, in whole or in part, from the share ownership limits and establish a different limit, or excepted holder limit, for a particular shareholder if the person's ownership in excess of the share ownership limits will not then or in the future result in our being "closely held" under Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code (without regard to whether the shareholder's interest is held during the last half of a taxable year) or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT or result in our shares of beneficial interest being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons (determined without reference to any rules of attribution). As a condition of its exemption or creation of an excepted holder limit, our board of trustees may, but is not required to, require an opinion of counsel or Internal Revenue Service, or IRS, ruling satisfactory to our board of trustees in order to determine or ensure our status as a REIT and may impose any other conditions or restrictions on such a waiver or excepted holder limit as it determines.

In connection with granting an exemption from the share ownership limits, establishing an excepted holder limit or at any other time, our board of trustees may from time to time increase or decrease one or both of the share ownership limits for all other persons and entities; provided, however, that any decrease in a share ownership limit will not be effective for any person whose percentage of ownership of our shares is in excess of such decreased limit until the person's percentage of ownership of our shares equals or falls below the decreased limit (other than a decrease as a result of a retroactive change in existing law, in which case the decrease will be effective immediately), but any further acquisition of our shares in excess of such person's percentage of ownership of our shares will be in violation of the applicable limits; and provided, further, that the share ownership limits may not be increased if, after giving effect to such increase, five or fewer individuals could beneficially own or constructively own in the aggregate more than 49.9% in value of the shares then outstanding. Prior to the modification of the share ownership limits, our board of trustees may, but is not required to, require such opinions of counsel, affidavits, undertakings or agreements as it may deem necessary or advisable in order to determine or ensure our qualification as a REIT.

Our declaration of trust further prohibits:

any person from beneficially or constructively owning, applying certain attribution rules of the Internal Revenue Code, our shares of beneficial interest that would result in our being "closely held" under Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code (without regard to whether the

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shareholder's interest is held during the last half of a taxable year) or otherwise cause us to fail to qualify as a REIT; and

any person from transferring our shares of beneficial interest if such transfer would result in our shares of beneficial interest being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons (determined without reference to any rules of attribution).

Any person who acquires or attempts or intends to acquire beneficial or constructive ownership of our shares of beneficial interest that will or may violate the share ownership limits or any of the other restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares of beneficial interest described above will be required to immediately give written notice to us or, in the case of a proposed or attempted transaction, give at least 15 days' prior written notice to us, and provide us with such other information as we may request in order to determine the effect of such transfer on our qualification as a REIT. The share ownership limits and the other restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares of beneficial interest will not apply if our board of trustees determines that it is no longer in our best interest to attempt to qualify, or to continue to qualify, as a REIT or that compliance is no longer required in order for us to qualify as a REIT.

Pursuant to our declaration of trust, if any transfer of our shares of beneficial interest would result in our shares of beneficial interest being beneficially owned by fewer than 100 persons, such transfer will be void *ab initio* and the intended transferee will acquire no rights in such shares. In addition, if any purported transfer of our shares of beneficial interest or any other event would otherwise result in:

any person violating the share ownership limits or any applicable excepted holder limit established by our board of trustees;
or

our being "closely held" under Section 856(h) of the Internal Revenue Code (without regard to whether the shareholder's interest is held during the last half of a taxable year) or otherwise failing to qualify as a REIT,

then that number of shares (rounded up to the nearest whole share) that would cause us to violate such restrictions will be deemed to be transferred to, and held by, a charitable trust for the exclusive benefit of one or more charitable organizations selected by us, and the intended transferee will acquire no rights in such shares. The deemed transfer will be effective as of the close of business on the business day prior to the date of the violative transfer or other event that results in a deemed transfer to the charitable trust. A person who, but for the deemed transfer of the shares to the charitable trust, would have beneficially or constructively owned the shares so transferred is referred to as a "prohibited owner," which, if appropriate in the context, also means any person who would have been the record owner of the shares that the prohibited owner would have so owned.

Any distribution made to the prohibited owner, prior to our discovery that the shares had been deemed to be transferred to the charitable trust as described above, must be repaid to the charitable trustee upon demand for distribution to the beneficiary by the charitable trust. If the transfer to the charitable trust as described above would not be effective, for any reason, to prevent violation of the applicable restriction on ownership and transfer contained in our declaration of trust, then our declaration of trust provides that the transfer of the shares will be void *ab initio*. These rights will be exercised for the exclusive benefit of the charitable beneficiary. Any distribution authorized but unpaid will be paid when due to the charitable trustee.

Shares of beneficial interest transferred to a charitable trust are deemed offered for sale to us, or our designee, at a price per share equal to the lesser of (i) the price paid per share in the transaction that resulted in such transfer to the charitable trust (or, if the event that resulted in the transfer to the charitable trust did not involve a purchase of such shares of beneficial interest at market price, the last sale price reported on the New York Stock Exchange (or other applicable exchange) on the trading day immediately preceding the day of the event that resulted in the transfer of such shares of beneficial

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interest to the charitable trust) and (ii) the market price on the date we, or our designee, accepts such offer. We have the right to accept such offer until the charitable trustee has sold the shares held in the charitable trust as discussed below. Upon a sale to us, the interest of the charitable beneficiary in the shares sold terminates, the charitable trustee must distribute the net proceeds of the sale to the prohibited owner and any distributions held by the charitable trustee with respect to such shares of beneficial interest must be distributed to the charitable beneficiary.

If we do not buy the shares, the charitable trustee must, within 20 days of receiving notice from us of a transfer of shares to the charitable trust, sell the shares to a person or entity designated by the charitable trustee who could own the shares without violating the share ownership limits or the other restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares described above. After that sale, the charitable trustee must distribute to the prohibited owner an amount equal to the lesser of (i) the price paid by the prohibited owner for the shares in the transaction that resulted in the transfer to the charitable trust (or, if the event that resulted in the transfer to the charitable trust did not involve a purchase of such shares at market price, the last sale price reported on the New York Stock Exchange (or other applicable exchange) on the trading day immediately preceding the day of the event which resulted in the transfer to the charitable trust) and (ii) the sales proceeds (net of any commissions and other expenses of sale) received by the charitable trust for the shares. Any net sales proceeds in excess of the amount payable to the prohibited owner will be immediately paid to the charitable beneficiary, together with any distributions thereon. In addition, if, prior to discovery by us that shares of beneficial interest have been transferred to a charitable trust, such shares of beneficial interest are sold by a prohibited owner, then such shares will be deemed to have been sold on behalf of the charitable trust and, to the extent that the prohibited owner received an amount for or in respect of such shares that exceeds the amount that such prohibited owner was entitled to receive, such excess amount must be paid to the charitable trustee upon demand. The prohibited owner has no rights in the shares held by the charitable trust.

The charitable trustee will be designated by us and will be unaffiliated with us and with any prohibited owner. Prior to the sale of any shares by the charitable trust, the charitable trustee will receive, in trust for the charitable beneficiary, all distributions made by us with respect to such shares and may also exercise all voting rights with respect to such shares.

Subject to Maryland law, effective as of the date that the shares have been transferred to the charitable trust, the charitable trustee will have the authority, at the charitable trustee's sole discretion:

to rescind as void any vote cast by a prohibited owner prior to our discovery that the shares have been transferred to the charitable trust; and

to recast the vote in accordance with the desires of the charitable trustee acting for the benefit of the beneficiary of the charitable trust.

However, if we have already taken irreversible action, then the charitable trustee may not rescind and recast the vote.

If our board of trustees determines that a proposed transfer would violate any of the restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares of beneficial interest set forth in our declaration of trust, our board of trustees may take such action as it deems advisable to refuse to give effect to or to prevent such transfer, including, but not limited to, causing us to redeem shares of beneficial interest, refusing to give effect to the transfer on our books or instituting proceedings to enjoin the transfer.

Every owner of more than 5% (or such lower percentage as required by the Internal Revenue Code or the regulations promulgated thereunder) of all classes or series of our shares, including common shares, must give written notice to us within 30 days after the end of each taxable year stating the name and address of such owner, the number of shares of each class and series of shares that the owner beneficially owns and a description of the manner in which such shares are held. Each such

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owner must provide to us such additional information as we may request in order to determine the effect, if any, of such beneficial ownership on our status as a REIT and to ensure compliance with the restrictions on ownership and transfer of our shares. In addition, each shareholder must, upon demand, provide to us such information as we may request, in good faith, in order to determine our status as a REIT and to comply with the requirements of any taxing authority or governmental authority or to determine such compliance.

These ownership and transfer restrictions could delay, defer or prevent a change in control or other transaction that might involve a premium price for our common shares or otherwise be in the best interest of our shareholders.

Transfer Agent and Registrar

The transfer agent and registrar for our common shares is Computershare Shareowner Services LLC.

DESCRIPTION OF WARRANTS

We may issue warrants to purchase common shares or preferred shares. Warrants may be issued independently or together with any securities or may be attached to or separate from the securities. Each series of warrants will be issued under a separate warrant agreement to be entered into by us with a bank or trust company, as warrant agent, as specified in the applicable prospectus supplement. The warrant agent will act solely as our agent in connection with the warrants and will not assume any obligation or relationship of agency or trust for or with any holders or beneficial owners of warrants.

We will describe the specific terms of any warrants we may offer in the prospectus supplement relating to those warrants, which terms will include:

the title of the warrants;

the aggregate number of warrants;

the price or prices at which the warrants will be issued;

the designation, amount and terms of the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants;

any provisions for adjustment of the number of securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants or the exercise price of the warrants;

the designation and terms of the other securities, if any, with which the warrants are to be issued and the number of the warrants issued with each security;

if applicable, the date on and after which the warrants and the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants will be separately transferable;

the price or prices at which the securities purchasable upon exercise of the warrants may be purchased;

the minimum or maximum number of warrants which may be exercised at any one time;

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the date on which the right to exercise the warrants shall commence and the date on which the right shall expire;

a discussion of any material U.S. federal income tax considerations applicable to the exercise of the warrants;

information with respect to book-entry procedures, if applicable; and

any additional terms of the warrants, including terms, procedures and limitations relating to the exchange and exercise of the warrants.

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Each warrant will entitle the holder of the warrant to purchase for cash the amount of common shares or preferred shares, as applicable, at the exercise price stated or determinable in the applicable prospectus supplement. Warrants may be exercised at any time up to the close of business on the expiration date shown in the applicable prospectus supplement, unless otherwise specified in such prospectus supplement. After the close of business on the expiration date, unexercised warrants will become void. Warrants may be exercised as described in the applicable prospectus supplement. When the warrant holder makes the payment and properly completes and signs the warrant certificate at the corporate trust office of the warrant agent or any other office indicated in the applicable prospectus supplement, we will, as soon as possible, forward the common shares or preferred shares, as applicable, that the warrant holder has purchased. If the warrant holder exercises the warrant for less than all of the warrants represented by the warrant certificate, we will issue a new warrant certificate for the remaining warrants.

CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF MARYLAND LAW AND OF OUR DECLARATION OF TRUST AND BYLAWS

The following summary of certain provisions of Maryland law and of our declaration of trust and bylaws does not purport to be complete, and is subject to and qualified in its entirety by reference to Maryland law and our declaration of trust and bylaws. We have incorporated by reference our declaration of trust and bylaws as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part.

Classification of Board of Trustees

Pursuant to our declaration of trust, our board of trustees is divided into three classes of trustees. Trustees of each class are chosen for three-year terms upon the expiration of their current terms, and every year one class of our trustees is elected by our shareholders. We believe that classification of our board of trustees helps to assure the continuity and stability of our business strategies and policies as determined by our board of trustees. Holders of our common shares do not have the right to cumulative voting in the election of trustees. Consequently, at each annual meeting of shareholders, the shareholders entitled to cast a majority of the votes entitled to be cast in the election of trustees are able to elect all of the successors of the class of trustees whose terms expire at the meeting.

The classified board provision in our declaration of trust could have the effect of making the replacement of incumbent trustees more time consuming and difficult. Two separate meetings of shareholders, instead of one, will generally be required to effect a change in a majority of our trustees. Thus, the classified board provision could increase the likelihood that incumbent trustees will retain their positions. The staggered terms of trustees could delay, defer or prevent a change of control or other transaction that might involve a premium price for our common shares or otherwise be in the best interests of our shareholders.

Number of Trustees; Vacancies

Our declaration of trust and bylaws provide that the number of our trustees may be established by our board of trustees but may not be more than 15. Our declaration of trust and bylaws currently provide that any vacancy may be filled only by a majority of the remaining trustees. Pursuant to our declaration of trust, we have elected to be subject to the provision of Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the Maryland General Corporation Law, or the MGCL, regarding the filling of vacancies on our board of trustees. Accordingly, except as may be provided by our board of trustees in setting the terms of any class or series of shares, any and all vacancies on our board of trustees may be filled only by the affirmative vote of a majority of the remaining trustees in office, even if the remaining trustees do not constitute a quorum, and any individual elected to fill such vacancy will serve for the remainder of the full term of the class in which the vacancy occurred and until a successor is duly elected and qualifies.

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Each of our trustees is elected by our shareholders to serve for the applicable term of the class to which he or she was elected, pursuant to our classified board provisions, and until his or her successor is duly elected and qualifies. A plurality of all votes cast in the election of trustees at a meeting of shareholders at which a quorum is present is sufficient to elect a trustee. The presence in person or by proxy of shareholders entitled to cast a majority of all the votes entitled to be cast at a meeting constitutes a quorum.

Removal of Trustees

Our declaration of trust provides that, subject to the rights of holders of any class or series of preferred shares, a trustee may be removed only for "cause," and then only by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast generally in the election of trustees. For this purpose, "cause" means, with respect to any particular trustee, conviction of a felony or a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction holding that such trustee caused demonstrable, material harm to us through bad faith or active and deliberate dishonesty. These provisions, when coupled with the exclusive power of our board of trustees to fill vacancies on our board of trustees, generally precludes shareholders from (i) removing incumbent trustees except for "cause" and with a substantial affirmative vote and (ii) filling the vacancies created by such removal with their own nominees.

Business Combinations

Under certain provisions of the MGCL applicable to Maryland real estate investment trusts, certain "business combinations," including a merger, consolidation, share exchange or, in certain circumstances, an asset transfer or issuance or reclassification of equity securities, between a Maryland real estate investment trust and an "interested shareholder" (generally, any person who beneficially owns 10% or more of the voting power of the real estate investment trust's outstanding voting shares or an affiliate or associate of the real estate investment trust who, at any time within the two-year period prior to the date in question, was the beneficial owner of 10% or more of the voting power of the then outstanding voting shares of the real estate investment trust) or an affiliate of such an interested shareholder, are prohibited for five years after the most recent date on which the interested shareholder becomes an interested shareholder. Thereafter, any such business combination must be recommended by the board of trustees of such real estate investment trust and approved by the affirmative vote of at least (a) 80% of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of outstanding voting shares of the real estate investment trust and (b) two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast by holders of voting shares of the real estate investment trust other than shares held by the interested shareholder with whom (or with whose affiliate) the business combination is to be effected or held by an affiliate or associate of the interested shareholder, unless, among other conditions, the real estate investment trust's shareholders receive a minimum price (as defined in the MGCL) for their shares and the consideration is received in cash or in the same form as previously paid by the interested shareholder for its shares. Under the MGCL, a person is not an "interested shareholder" if the board of trustees approved in advance the transaction by which the person otherwise would have become an interested shareholder. A real estate investment trust's board of trustees may provide that its approval is subject to compliance with any terms and conditions determined by it.

These provisions of the MGCL do not apply, however, to business combinations that are approved or exempted by a board of trustees prior to the time that the interested shareholder becomes an interested shareholder. Pursuant to the statute, our board of trustees has by resolution exempted business combinations between us and any other person from these provisions of the MGCL, provided that the business combination is first approved by our board of trustees and, consequently, the five year prohibition and the supermajority vote requirements will not apply to such business combinations. As a result, any person approved by our board of trustees will be able to enter into business combinations with us that may not be in the best interests of our shareholders without compliance by us with the

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supermajority vote requirements and other provisions of the statute. This resolution, however, may be altered or repealed in whole or in part at any time. If this resolution is repealed, or our board of trustees does not otherwise approve a business combination, the statute may discourage others from trying to acquire control of us and increase the difficulty of consummating any offer.

Control Share Acquisitions

The MGCL provides that holders of "control shares" of a Maryland real estate investment trust acquired in a "control share acquisition" have no voting rights with respect to the control shares except to the extent approved by the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes entitled to be cast on the matter, excluding shares of beneficial interest in a real estate investment trust in respect of which any of the following persons is entitled to exercise or direct the exercise of the voting power of such shares in the election of trustees: (1) a person who makes or proposes to make a control share acquisition, (2) an officer of the real estate investment trust or (3) an employee of the real estate investment trust who is also a trustee of the real estate investment trust. "Control shares" are voting shares which, if aggregated with all other such shares owned by the acquirer, or in respect of which the acquirer is able to exercise or direct the exercise of voting power (except solely by virtue of a revocable proxy), would entitle the acquirer to exercise voting power in electing trustees within one of the following ranges of voting power: (A) one-tenth or more but less than one-third, (B) one-third or more but less than a majority or (C) a majority of all voting power. Control shares do not include shares that the acquirer is then entitled to vote as a result of having previously obtained shareholder approval. A "control share acquisition" means the acquisition of issued and outstanding control shares, subject to certain exceptions.

A person who has made or proposes to make a control share acquisition, upon satisfaction of certain conditions (including an undertaking to pay expenses), may compel our board of trustees to call a special meeting of shareholders to be held within 50 days of demand to consider the voting rights of the shares. If no request for a meeting is made, the real estate investment trust may itself present the question at any shareholders' meeting.

If voting rights are not approved at the meeting or if the acquirer does not deliver an acquiring person statement as required by the statute, then, subject to certain conditions and limitations, the real estate investment trust may redeem any or all of the control shares (except those for which voting rights have previously been approved) for fair value determined, without regard to the absence of voting rights for the control shares, as of the date of the last control share acquisition by the acquirer or of any meeting of shareholders at which the voting rights of such shares are considered and not approved. If voting rights for control shares are approved at a shareholders' meeting and the acquirer becomes entitled to vote a majority of the shares entitled to vote, all other shareholders may exercise appraisal rights. The fair value of the shares as determined for purposes of such appraisal rights may not be less than the highest price per share paid by the acquirer in the control share acquisition.

The control share acquisition statute does not apply to (a) shares acquired in a merger, consolidation or share exchange if the real estate investment trust is a party to the transaction or (b) acquisitions approved or exempted by the declaration of trust or bylaws of the real estate investment trust.

Our bylaws contain a provision exempting from the control share acquisition statute any and all acquisitions by any person of our shares. There is no assurance that such provision will not be amended or eliminated at any time in the future.

Subtitle 8

Subtitle 8 of Title 3 of the MGCL permits a Maryland real estate investment trust with a class of equity securities registered under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, or the Exchange Act, and at

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least three independent trustees to elect to be subject, by provision in its declaration of trust or bylaws or a resolution of its board of trustees and notwithstanding any contrary provision in the declaration of trust or bylaws, to any or all of five provisions:

a classified board;

a two-thirds vote requirement for removing a trustee;

a requirement that the number of trustees be fixed only by vote of the trustees;

a requirement that a vacancy on the board be filled only by the remaining trustees and for the remainder of the full term of the class of trustees in which the vacancy occurred; and

a majority requirement for the calling of a special meeting of shareholders.

Pursuant to our declaration of trust, we have elected to be subject to the provision of Subtitle 8 that requires that vacancies on our board may be filled only by the remaining trustees and for the remainder of the full term of the trusteeship in which the vacancy occurred. Through provisions in our declaration of trust and bylaws unrelated to Subtitle 8, we already (1) have a classified board, (2) require the affirmative vote of the shareholders entitled to cast at least two-thirds of all of the votes entitled to be cast generally in the election of trustees to remove any trustee from the board, which removal will be allowed only for cause, (3) vest in the board the