

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

FORM 485APOS

Post-effective amendments [Rule 485(a)]

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FILER

AMERICAN FUNDS TAX EXEMPT SERIES I

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Business Address
*1101 VERMONT AVE NW STE
600
WASHINGTON DC 20005
2028425665*

=====
SEC FILE NOS. 33-5270
811-4653
=====

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-1A
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO. 16
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940
AMENDMENT NO. 15

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I
(EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN CHARTER)
1101 VERMONT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES)

REGISTRANT'S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE:
(202) 842-5665

HARRY J. LISTER
WASHINGTON MANAGEMENT CORPORATION
1101 VERMONT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(NAME AND ADDRESS OF AGENT FOR SERVICE)

COPIES TO:
J. JUDE O'DONNELL, ESQ.
THOMPSON, O'DONNELL, MARKHAM, NORTON & HANNON
805 FIFTEENTH STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20005
(COUNSEL FOR THE REGISTRANT)

THE REGISTRANT WILL FILE ITS 24F-2 NOTICE FOR FISCAL 1999 ON OR ABOUT OCTOBER
27, 1999.

APPROXIMATE DATE OF PROPOSED PUBLIC OFFERING:

[X] IT IS PROPOSED THAT THIS FILING WILL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON NOVEMBER 15,
1999,

PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH (A) OF RULE 485.

[THE AMERICAN FUNDS GROUP LOGO]

The American Funds Tax-Exempt Series I

The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland-Registered Trademark-
The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia-Registered Trademark-
PROSPECTUS

NOVEMBER 15, 1999

THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THESE
SECURITIES. FURTHER, IT HAS NOT DETERMINED THAT THIS PROSPECTUS IS ACCURATE OR
COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I

1101 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF MARYLAND-REGISTERED TRADEMARK-

TICKER SYMBOL: TMDX NEWSPAPER ABBREV.: TEMd FUND NO.: 24

THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF VIRGINIA-REGISTERED TRADEMARK-

TICKER SYMBOL: TFVAX NEWSPAPER ABBREV.: TEVA FUND NO.: 25

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The American Funds Tax-Exempt Series I (the "Trust") is a fully managed, diversified, open-end investment company consisting of two separate series, The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland (the "Maryland Fund") and The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia (the "Virginia Fund"). Except where the context indicates otherwise, references to the "fund" apply to each of these two tax-exempt bond funds.

24/25-010-1199/MC THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I / PROSPECTUS 1

RISK/RETURN SUMMARY

The fund's primary objective is to provide you with a high level of current income exempt from regular federal and the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) income taxes. Its secondary objective is to preserve your investment. It invests primarily in investment grade municipal bonds, and to a lesser extent lower quality bonds, issued by municipalities in the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) including counties, cities, towns, and various regional or special districts.

The fund is designed for investors seeking income exempt from federal and state taxes, and capital preservation over the long term. An investment in the fund is subject to risks, including the possibility that its share value and total return may decline in response to certain events such as changes in the market or general economy. Because the fund invests in securities issued by the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) municipalities, the fund is more susceptible to factors adversely affecting issuers of such state's securities than is a comparable municipal bond mutual fund which does not concentrate in a single state. The values of debt securities may be affected by changing interest rates and credit ratings. In addition, lower quality and longer maturity bonds will be subject to greater credit risk and price fluctuations than higher quality and shorter maturity bonds.

You may lose money by investing in the fund. The likelihood of loss is greater if you invest for a shorter period of time.

Your investment in the fund is not a bank deposit and is not insured or guaranteed by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation or any other government agency, entity or person.

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INVESTMENT RESULTS -- THE MARYLAND FUND

The following information illustrates how the fund's results fluctuate. Past results are not an indication of future results.

Here are the fund's results calculated without a sales charge on a CALENDAR YEAR basis. (If a sales charge were included, results would be lower.)

EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC

<TABLE>

<S>	<C>
89	10.38%
90	5.86%
91	9.97%
92	8.37%
93	10.31%
94	-4.77%
95	16.45%
96	3.74%
97	8.96%
98	5.73%

</TABLE>

The fund's year-to-date return for the nine months ended September 30, 1999 was X.XX%.

The fund's highest/lowest QUARTERLY results during this time period were:

X HIGHEST +6.32% (quarter ended March 31, 1995)

X LOWEST -4.58% (quarter ended March 31, 1994)

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I / PROSPECTUS

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For periods ended December 31, 1998:

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN: <S>	THE MARYLAND FUND WITH MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE	
	DEDUCTED(1) <C>	LEHMAN INDEX(2) <C>
One Year	0.71%	6.48%
Five Years	4.77%	6.22%
Ten Years	6.85%	8.22%
Lifetime(3)	6.34%	8.23%

Yield(1): 3.56%

(For current yield information: please call American FundsLine-Registered Trademark- at 1-800-325-3590)

(1) THESE FUND RESULTS WERE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO A FORMULA WHICH REQUIRES THAT THE MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE BE DEDUCTED AND INCLUDE THE REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDEND AND CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS. RESULTS WOULD BE HIGHER IF THEY WERE CALCULATED AT NET ASSET VALUE.

(2) THE LEHMAN BROTHERS MUNICIPAL BOND INDEX REPRESENTS THE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT GRADE MUNICIPAL BOND MARKET. THIS INDEX IS UNMANAGED AND DOES NOT REFLECT SALES CHARGES, COMMISSIONS OR EXPENSES.

(3) THE FUND BEGAN INVESTMENT OPERATIONS ON AUGUST 14, 1986.

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INVESTMENT RESULTS -- THE VIRGINIA FUND

The following information illustrates how the fund's results fluctuate. Past results are not an indication of future results.

Here are the fund's results calculated without a sales charge on a CALENDAR YEAR basis. (If a sales charge were included, results would be lower.)

EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC

<S>	<C>
89	9.00%
90	5.71%
91	11.26%
92	7.84%
93	11.29%
94	-4.78%
95	15.85%
96	3.49%
97	8.31%
98	5.69%

The fund's year-to-date return for the nine months ended September 30, 1999 was X.XX%.

The fund's highest/lowest QUARTERLY results during this time period were:

X HIGHEST +6.61% (quarter ended March 31, 1995)

X LOWEST -4.47% (quarter ended March 31, 1994)

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I / PROSPECTUS

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For periods ended December 31, 1998:

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN: <S>	THE VIRGINIA FUND WITH MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE		LEHMAN INDEX (2) <C>
	DEDUCTED (1) <C>		
One Year	0.66%		6.48%
Five Years	4.47%		6.22%
Ten Years	6.71%		8.22%
Lifetime (3)	6.55%		8.23%

</TABLE>

Yield(1): 3.56%

(For current yield information: please call American
FundsLine-Registered Trademark- at 1-800-325-3590)

- (1) THESE FUND RESULTS WERE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO A FORMULA WHICH REQUIRES THAT THE MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE BE DEDUCTED AND INCLUDE THE REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDEND AND CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS. RESULTS WOULD BE HIGHER IF THEY WERE CALCULATED AT NET ASSET VALUE.
- (2) THE LEHMAN BROTHERS MUNICIPAL BOND INDEX REPRESENTS THE LONG-TERM INVESTMENT GRADE MUNICIPAL BOND MARKET. THIS INDEX IS UNMANAGED AND DOES NOT REFLECT SALES CHARGES, COMMISSIONS OR EXPENSES.
- (3) THE FUND BEGAN INVESTMENT OPERATIONS ON AUGUST 14, 1986.

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FEES AND EXPENSES OF THE FUND

THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBES THE FEES AND EXPENSES THAT YOU MAY PAY IF YOU BUY AND HOLD SHARES OF THE FUND.

SHAREHOLDER FEES
(FEES PAID DIRECTLY FROM YOUR INVESTMENT)

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

<S>	MARYLAND VIRGINIA FUND FUND	
	<C>	<C>
Maximum sales charge imposed on purchases (AS A PERCENTAGE OF OFFERING PRICE)	4.75% (1)	4.75% (1)
Maximum sales charge imposed on reinvested dividends	0%	0%
Maximum deferred sales charge	0% (2)	0% (2)
Redemption or exchange fees	0%	0%

</TABLE>

- (1) SALES CHARGES ARE REDUCED OR ELIMINATED FOR LARGER PURCHASES.
- (2) A CONTINGENT DEFERRED SALES CHARGE OF 1% APPLIES ON CERTAIN REDEMPTIONS MADE WITHIN 12 MONTHS FOLLOWING CERTAIN PURCHASES MADE WITHOUT A SALES CHARGE.

ANNUAL FUND OPERATING EXPENSES
(EXPENSES THAT ARE DEDUCTED FROM THE FUND ASSETS)

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

<S>	MARYLAND VIRGINIA FUND FUND	
	<C>	<C>
Management Fees	0.42%	0.41%
Service (12b-1) Fees	0.25%*	0.25%*
Other Expenses	0.11%	0.11%

*12b-1 EXPENSES MAY NOT EXCEED 0.25% OF THE FUND'S AVERAGE NET ASSETS ANNUALLY.

EXAMPLE

This Example is intended to help you compare the cost of investing in the fund with the cost of investing in other mutual funds.

The Example assumes that you invest \$10,000 in the fund for the time periods indicated and then redeem all of your shares at the end of those periods.

The Example also assumes that your investment has a 5% return each year and that the fund's operating expenses remain the same. Although your actual costs may be higher or lower, based on these assumptions your costs would be:

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

<S>	MARYLAND VIRGINIA	
	FUND <C>	FUND <C>
One Year	\$ 551	\$ 550
.....		
Three Years	\$ 712	\$ 709
.....		
Five Years	\$ 888	\$ 883
.....		
Ten Years	\$1,395	\$1,384

</TABLE>

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND RISKS

The fund's primary investment objective is to provide you with a high level of current income exempt from regular federal and the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) income taxes. Its secondary objective is preservation of capital. The fund seeks to achieve these objectives by investing primarily in investment grade municipal bonds, and to a lesser extent lower quality bonds, issued by municipalities in the respective state (Maryland or Virginia). Municipal bonds are debt obligations generally issued to obtain funds for various public purposes, including the construction of public facilities. In addition, the fund may invest up to 20% of its assets in securities that may subject you to federal alternative minimum taxes.

Because the fund invests in securities of issuers within the state of Maryland or Virginia, the fund is more susceptible to factors adversely affecting issuers of such state's securities than is a comparable municipal bond mutual fund which does not concentrate in a single state. Both Maryland and Virginia are affected by changes in levels of federal funding and financial support of certain industries, as well as by federal spending cutbacks due to the large number of residents that are employed by the federal government. In addition, each state is dependent on certain economic sectors. Maryland's

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economy is based largely on manufacturing, the service trade, and financial, real estate and insurance entities. Virginia's economy is most dependent on the government sector, manufacturing and financial services. To the extent there are changes to any of these sectors the fund may be adversely impacted. More detailed information about the fund's risks is contained in the statement of additional information.

The fund will invest primarily in debt securities rated Baa or BBB or better by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or Standard & Poor's Corporation (or unrated but determined by the investment adviser to be of equivalent quality) and may invest up to 20% of its assets in debt securities rated Ba and BB or below. The values of debt securities held by the fund may be affected by changing interest rates, effective maturities and credit ratings. For example, the values of bonds in the fund's portfolio generally will decline when interest rates rise and vice versa. The values of lower quality and longer maturity bonds may be subject to greater credit risk and price fluctuations than higher quality and shorter maturity bonds. The fund's investment adviser attempts to reduce these risks by doing a credit analysis of each issuer as well as by monitoring economic and legislative developments.

The fund may also hold cash and invest in money market instruments or taxable debt securities of any issuer to any extent deemed appropriate. The size of the fund's cash position will vary and will depend on various factors, including market conditions and purchases and redemptions of fund shares. A larger cash position could detract from the achievement of the fund's objective but it also

provides greater liquidity to meet redemptions or to make additional investments and it would reduce the fund's exposure in the event of a market downturn.

The fund relies on the professional judgment of its investment adviser, Capital Research and Management Company, to make decisions about the fund's portfolio securities. The basic investment philosophy of Capital Research and Management Company is to seek undervalued securities which represent good long-term investment opportunities.

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT RESULTS

The following additional investment results are for periods ended December 31, 1998:

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

AVERAGE ANNUAL TOTAL RETURN <S>	THE MARYLAND FUND WITH NO SALES CHARGE (1) <C>	THE VIRGINIA FUND WITH NO SALES CHARGE (1) <C>
One Year	5.73%	5.69%
.....		
Five Years	5.79%	5.50%
.....		
Ten Years	7.37%	7.23%
.....		
Lifetime (2)	6.76%	6.97%

</TABLE>

(1) THESE FUND RESULTS WERE CALCULATED ACCORDING TO A FORMULA THAT IS REQUIRED FOR ALL STOCK AND BOND FUNDS AND INCLUDE THE REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDEND AND CAPITAL GAIN DISTRIBUTIONS.

(2) THE FUND BEGAN INVESTMENT OPERATIONS ON AUGUST 14, 1986.

THE MARYLAND FUND
THE FOLLOWING CHART ILLUSTRATES THE QUALITY RATINGS OF THE VARIOUS BONDS HELD IN THE PORTFOLIO AS OF THE END OF THE FUND'S FISCAL YEAR, JULY 31, 1999. SEE THE APPENDIX FOR A DESCRIPTION OF QUALITY RATINGS.
EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC

<TABLE>
<S>

	<C>
AAA	45.9%
AA	16.4%
A	10.0%
BBB	10.7%
BB	7.8%
B	2.0%
Cash and Short-term Securities	7.2%

</TABLE>

BECAUSE THE FUND IS ACTIVELY MANAGED, ITS HOLDINGS WILL CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME.

THE VIRGINIA FUND
THE FOLLOWING CHART ILLUSTRATES THE QUALITY RATINGS OF THE VARIOUS BONDS HELD IN THE PORTFOLIO AS OF THE END OF THE FUND'S FISCAL YEAR, JULY 31, 1999. SEE THE APPENDIX FOR A DESCRIPTION OF QUALITY RATINGS.
EDGAR REPRESENTATION OF DATA POINTS USED IN PRINTED GRAPHIC

<TABLE>
<S>

	<C>
AAA	40.5%
AA	31.5%
A	7.9%
BBB	5.6%
BB	9.8%
Cash and Short-term Securities	4.7%

</TABLE>

BECAUSE THE FUND IS ACTIVELY MANAGED, ITS HOLDINGS WILL CHANGE FROM TIME TO TIME.

 IMPORTANT RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

YEAR 2000

The date-related computer issue known as the "Year 2000 problem" could have an adverse impact on the quality of services provided to the fund and its shareholders. However, the fund understands that its key service providers -- including the investment adviser and its affiliates -- are taking steps to address the issue. In addition, the Year 2000 problem may adversely affect the issuers in which the fund invests. For example, issuers may incur substantial costs to address the problem. They may also suffer losses caused by corporate and governmental data processing errors. The fund and its investment adviser will continue to monitor developments relating to this issue.

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 MANAGEMENT AND ORGANIZATION

BUSINESS MANAGER

Washington Management Corporation, since the fund's inception, has provided the services necessary to carry on the fund's general administrative and corporate affairs. These services encompass general corporate governance, regulatory compliance and oversight of each of the fund's contractual service providers including custodian operations, shareholder services and fund share distribution functions. Washington Management Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Johnston-Lemon Group, Incorporated, maintains its principal business address at 1101 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20005.

INVESTMENT ADVISER

Capital Research and Management Company, an experienced investment management organization founded in 1931, serves as investment adviser to the fund and other funds, including those in The American Funds Group. Capital Research and Management Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of The Capital Group Companies, Inc., is headquartered at 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Capital Research and Management Company manages the investment portfolio of the fund.

Total management fees paid by the fund to its business manager and investment adviser, as a percentage of average net assets, for the previous fiscal year are discussed earlier under "Fees and Expenses of the Fund."

Capital Research and Management Company and its affiliated companies have adopted a personal investing policy that is consistent with the recommendations contained in the report issued by the Investment Company Institute's Advisory Group on Personal Investing.

MULTIPLE PORTFOLIO COUNSELOR SYSTEM

Capital Research and Management Company uses a system of multiple portfolio counselors in managing mutual fund assets. Under this approach the portfolio of a fund is divided into segments which are managed by individual counselors. Counselors decide how their respective segments will be invested within the limits provided by a fund's objective(s) and policies and by Capital Research and Management Company's investment committee. In addition, Capital Research and Management Company's research professionals may

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make investment decisions with respect to a portion of a fund's portfolio. The primary individual portfolio counselors for The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland and Virginia are listed below.

<TABLE>
 <CAPTION>

PORTFOLIO COUNSELORS FOR THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I	PRIMARY TITLE(S)	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS PORTFOLIO COUNSELOR FOR THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I	YEARS OF EXPERIENCE AS INVESTMENT PROFESSIONAL (INCLUDING THE LAST FIVE YEARS) WITH CAPITAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT COMPANY OR ITS AFFILIATES	
			TOTAL YEARS	
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
DAVID A. HOAG	Vice President and Director, Capital Research Company*	6 years	8 years	11 years
BRENDA S. ELLERIN	Vice President, Capital Research	6 years	8 years	10 years

</TABLE>

* A WHOLLY OWNED SUBSIDIARY OF CAPITAL RESEARCH AND MANAGEMENT COMPANY.

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I / PROSPECTUS 13

SHAREHOLDER INFORMATION

SHAREHOLDER SERVICES

American Funds Service Company, the fund's transfer agent, offers you a wide range of services you can use to alter your investment program should your needs and circumstances change. These services may be terminated or modified at any time upon 60 days' written notice. For your convenience, American Funds Service Company has four service centers across the country.

AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE COMPANY SERVICE AREAS
CALL TOLL-FREE FROM ANYWHERE IN THE U.S.
(8 A.M. TO 8 P.M. ET):
800/421-0180
[MAP]

<TABLE>

<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
WESTERN	WESTERN CENTRAL	EASTERN CENTRAL	EASTERN
SERVICE CENTER	SERVICE CENTER	SERVICE CENTER	SERVICE CENTER
American Funds	American Funds	American Funds	American Funds
Service Company	Service Company	Service Company	Service Company
P.O. Box 2205	P.O. Box 659522	P.O. Box 6007	P.O. Box 2280
Brea, California	San Antonio, Texas	Indianapolis,	Norfolk, Virginia
92822-2205	78265-9522	Indiana	23501-2280
Fax: 714/671-7080	Fax: 210/474-4050	46206-6007	Fax: 757/670-4773
		Fax: 317/735-6620	

</TABLE>

A COMPLETE DESCRIPTION OF THE SERVICES WE OFFER IS INCLUDED IN THE FUND'S STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. In addition, an easy-to-read guide to owning a fund in The American Funds Group titled "Welcome to the Family" is sent to new shareholders and is available by writing or calling American Funds Service Company.

TAX-EXEMPT FUNDS SHOULD NOT SERVE AS RETIREMENT PLAN INVESTMENTS.

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PURCHASE AND EXCHANGE OF SHARES

PURCHASE

Generally, you may open an account by contacting any investment dealer authorized to sell the fund's shares. You may purchase additional shares using various options described in the statement of additional information and "Welcome to the Family."

EXCHANGE

You may exchange your shares into other funds in The American Funds Group generally without a sales charge. Exchanges of shares from the money market funds initially purchased without a sales charge generally will be subject to the appropriate sales charge. Exchanges have the same tax consequences as ordinary sales and purchases. See "Transactions by Telephone..." for information regarding electronic exchanges.

THE FUND AND AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS, THE FUND'S PRINCIPAL UNDERWRITER, RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY PURCHASE ORDER FOR ANY REASON. ALTHOUGH THERE IS CURRENTLY NO SPECIFIC LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF EXCHANGES YOU CAN MAKE IN A PERIOD OF TIME, THE FUND AND AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY PURCHASE ORDER AND MAY TERMINATE THE EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE OF ANY INVESTOR WHOSE PATTERN OF EXCHANGE ACTIVITY THEY HAVE DETERMINED INVOLVES ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL HARM TO THE FUND.

INVESTMENT MINIMUMS

<TABLE>

<S>	<C>
To establish an account	\$1,000
To add to an account	\$ 50

</TABLE>

SHARE PRICE

The fund calculates its share price, also called net asset value, as of 4:00 p.m. New York time which is the normal close of trading on the New York Stock Exchange, every day the Exchange is open. In calculating net asset value, market prices are used when available. If a market price for a particular security is not available, the fund will determine the appropriate price for the security.

Your shares will be purchased at the offering price, or sold at the net asset value, next determined after American Funds Service Company receives and accepts your request. The offering price is the net asset value plus a sales charge, if applicable.

SALES CHARGE

A sales charge may apply to your purchase. Your sales charge may be reduced for larger purchases as indicated below.

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

INVESTMENT <S>	SALES CHARGE AS A PERCENTAGE OF		
	OFFERING PRICE <C>	NET AMOUNT INVESTED <C>	DEALER CONCESSION AS % OF OFFERING PRICE <C>
Less than \$25,000	4.75%	4.99%	4.00%
\$25,000 but less than \$50,000	4.50%	4.71%	3.75%
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000	4.00%	4.17%	3.25%
\$100,000 but less than \$250,000	3.50%	3.63%	2.75%
\$250,000 but less than \$500,000	2.50%	2.56%	2.00%
\$500,000 but less than \$1 million	2.00%	2.04%	1.60%
\$1 million or more and certain other investments described below	see below	see below	see below

</TABLE>

PURCHASES NOT SUBJECT TO SALES CHARGE

Investments of \$1 million or more are sold with no initial sales charge. A 1% CONTINGENT DEFERRED SALES CHARGE MAY BE IMPOSED ON CERTAIN REDEMPTIONS BY ACCOUNTS THAT INVEST WITH NO INITIAL SALES CHARGE, IF REDEMPTIONS ARE MADE WITHIN ONE YEAR OF PURCHASE. A dealer concession of up to 1% may be paid by the fund under its Plan of Distribution on investments made with no initial sales charge.

REDUCING YOUR SALES CHARGE

You and your immediate family may combine investments to reduce your sales charge. You must let your investment dealer or American Funds Service Company know if you qualify for a reduction in your sales charge using one or any combination of the methods described below and in the statement of additional information and "Welcome to the Family."

AGGREGATING ACCOUNTS

To receive a reduced sales charge, investments made by you, your spouse and your children under the age of 21 may be aggregated if made for their own account(s) and/or:

- trust accounts established by the above individuals. However, if the person(s) who established the trust is deceased, the trust account may be aggregated with accounts of the person who is the primary beneficiary of the trust.
- solely controlled business accounts
- single-participant retirement plans

Other types of accounts may be aggregated. You should check with your financial adviser or consult the statement of additional information or "Welcome to the Family" for more information.

CONCURRENT PURCHASES

You may combine simultaneous purchases of two or more American Funds, except direct purchases of money market funds to qualify for a reduced sales charge.

RIGHT OF ACCUMULATION

You may take into account the current value of your existing holdings in The American Funds Group, as well as individual holdings in various American Legacy products to determine your sales charge. Direct purchases of the money market funds are excluded.

STATEMENT OF INTENTION

You may establish a Statement of Intention (SOI) that allows you to combine the purchases you intend to make over a 13-month period in any non-money market fund or individual American Legacy product. At your request purchases made during the previous 90 days may be included; however capital appreciation and reinvested dividends and capital gains do not apply toward these combined purchases. An SOI allows you to take immediate advantage of the maximum quantity discount available. A portion of your account may be held in escrow to cover additional sales charges which may be due if your total investments over the 13-month period are insufficient to qualify for the applicable sales charge reduction.

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PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The fund has a Plan of Distribution or "12b-1 Plan" under which it may finance activities primarily intended to sell shares, provided the categories of expenses are approved in advance by the fund's board of trustees. Up to 0.25% of average net assets is paid annually to qualified dealers for providing certain services pursuant to the fund's Plan of Distribution. The 12b-1 fee paid by the fund, as a percentage of average net assets, for the previous fiscal year is indicated earlier under "Fees and Expenses of the Fund." Since these fees are paid out of the fund's assets on an ongoing basis, over time they will increase the cost of an investment and may cost you more than paying higher initial sales charges.

OTHER COMPENSATION TO DEALERS

American Funds Distributors may provide additional compensation to, or sponsor informational meetings for, dealers as described in the statement of additional information.

HOW TO SELL SHARES

Once a sufficient period of time has passed to reasonably assure that checks or drafts (including certified or cashiers' checks) for shares purchased have cleared (normally 15 calendar days), you may sell (redeem) those shares in any of the following ways:

THROUGH YOUR DEALER (CERTAIN CHARGES MAY APPLY)

- Shares held for you in your dealer's name must be sold through the dealer.

WRITING TO AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE COMPANY

- Requests must be signed by the registered shareholder(s)
- A signature guarantee is required if the redemption is:
 - Over \$50,000;
 - Made payable to someone other than the registered shareholder(s); or
 - Sent to an address other than the address of record, or an address of record which has been changed within the last 10 days.
- Additional documentation may be required for sales of shares held in corporate, partnership or fiduciary accounts.

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TELEPHONING OR FAXING AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE COMPANY, OR BY USING AMERICAN FUNDSLINE-REGISTERED TRADEMARK- OR AMERICAN FUNDSLINE ONLINE-REGISTERED TRADEMARK-:

- Redemptions by telephone or fax (including American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine) are limited to \$50,000 per shareholder each day
- Checks must be made payable to the registered shareholder
- Checks must be mailed to an address of record that has been used with the account for at least 10 days

Generally, you are automatically eligible to use these services for redemptions and exchanges unless you notify us in writing that you do not want any or all of these services. You may reinstate these services at any time.

Unless you decide not to have telephone, fax, or computer services on your account(s), you agree to hold the fund, American Funds Service Company, any of its affiliates or mutual funds managed by such affiliates, the fund's business manager, and each of their respective directors, trustees, officers, employees and agents harmless from any losses, expenses, costs or liabilities (including attorney fees) which may be incurred in connection with the exercise of these privileges, provided American Funds Service Company employs reasonable procedures to confirm that the instructions received from any person with appropriate account information are genuine. If reasonable procedures are not employed, it and/or the fund may be liable for losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions.

DISTRIBUTION ARRANGEMENTS

DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

The fund declares dividends from its net investment income daily and distributes the accrued dividends to you each month. Capital gains, if any, are usually distributed in November or December.

You may elect to reinvest dividends and/or capital gain distributions to purchase additional shares of this fund or any other fund in The American Funds Group or you may elect to receive them in cash.

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TAX CONSEQUENCES

Interest on municipal bonds is generally not included in gross income from federal income tax purposes. The fund is permitted to pass through to its shareholders federally tax-exempt income subject to certain requirements. However, the fund may invest in obligations which pay interest that is subject to state and local taxes when distributed by the fund. Dividends derived from taxable interest income, distributions of capital gains and dividends on gains from the disposition of certain market discount bonds will not be exempt from federal, state or local income tax.

Dividends and capital gains are generally taxable whether they are reinvested or received in cash -- unless you are exempt from taxation or entitled to tax deferral. Capital gains may be taxed at different rates depending on the length of time the fund holds its assets.

It is anticipated that federal exempt-interest dividends paid by the fund and derived from interest on bonds exempt from the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) income tax will also be exempt from such state's corporate and personal income tax. To the extent the fund's dividends are derived from interest on debt obligations other than the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) municipal securities, such dividends will be subject to such state's state income tax even though the dividends may be exempt from federal income tax.

You must provide the fund with certified correct taxpayer identification number (generally your Social Security Number) and certify that you are not subject to backup withholding. If you fail to do so, the IRS can require the fund to withhold 31% of your taxable distributions and redemptions. Federal law also requires the fund to withhold 30% of the applicable tax treaty rate from dividends paid to certain non-resident alien, non-U.S. partnership and non-U.S. corporation shareholder accounts.

Please see the statement of additional information, "Welcome to the Family," and your tax adviser for further information.

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FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

These financial highlights tables are intended to help you understand each fund's results for the past five years. Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. The total returns in the tables represent the rate that an investor would have earned or lost on an investment in the fund (assuming reinvestment of all dividends and distributions). This information has been audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, whose report, along with the funds' financial statements, is included in the statement of additional information, which is available upon request.

THE MARYLAND FUND

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

<S>	YEAR ENDED JULY 31				
	1999 <C>	1998 <C>	1997 <C>	1996 <C>	1995 <C>
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$16.04	\$16.02	\$15.39	\$15.29	\$15.00
INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:					
Net investment income	.74	.78	.79	.80	.80
Net gains or losses on securities (both realized and unrealized)	(.37)	.14	.63	.10	.29
Total from investment operations	.37	.92	1.42	.90	1.09
LESS DISTRIBUTIONS:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(.74)	(.78)	(.79)	(.80)	(.80)
Distributions (from capital gains)	(.10)	(.12)	--	--	--
Total distributions	(.84)	(.90)	(.79)	(.80)	(.80)
Net asset value, end of year	\$15.57	\$16.04	\$16.02	\$15.39	\$15.29
Total return(1)	2.28%	5.89%	9.52%	5.95%	7.58%
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:					
Net assets, end of year (in millions)	\$110	\$101	\$87	\$80	\$75
Ratio of expenses to average net assets	.78%	.79%	.82%	.81%	.78%
Ratio of net income to average net assets	4.63%	4.84%	5.08%	5.14%	5.38%
Portfolio turnover rate	12.35%	10.30%	15.27%	16.01%	20.91%

(1) EXCLUDES MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE OF 4.75%.

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I / PROSPECTUS

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THE VIRGINIA FUND

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

<S>	YEAR ENDED JULY 31				
	1999 <C>	1998 <C>	1997 <C>	1996 <C>	1995 <C>
Net asset value, beginning of year	\$16.36	\$16.37	\$15.77	\$15.79	\$15.49
INCOME FROM INVESTMENT OPERATIONS:					
Net investment income	.73	.78	.80	.81	.83
Net gains or losses on securities (both realized and unrealized)	(.36)	.03	.60	.03	.30
Total from investment operations	.37	.81	1.40	.84	1.13
LESS DISTRIBUTIONS:					
Dividends (from net investment income)	(.73)	(.78)	(.80)	(.81)	(.83)
Distributions (from capital gains)	(.18)	(.04)	--	(.05)	--
Total distributions	(.91)	(.82)	(.80)	(.86)	(.83)
Net asset value, end of year	\$15.82	\$16.36	\$16.37	\$15.77	\$15.79
Total return(1)	2.21%	5.08%	9.10%	5.46%	7.56%
RATIOS/SUPPLEMENTAL DATA:					
Net assets, end of year (in millions)	\$125	\$115	\$101	\$90	\$92
Ratio of expenses to average net assets	.77%	.78%	.81%	.79%	.79%

Ratio of net income to average net assets	4.46%	4.73%	4.99%	5.11%	5.37%
Portfolio turnover rate	12.72%	24.66%	18.41%	27.34%	32.18%

(1) EXCLUDES MAXIMUM SALES CHARGE OF 4.75%.

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FOR SHAREHOLDER SERVICES American Funds Service Company 800/421-0180	<C>	FOR DEALER SERVICES American Funds Distributors 800/421-9900 ext. 11
FOR 24-HOUR INFORMATION		
American FundsLine-Registered Trademark- 800/325-3590		American Funds Internet Web site http://www.americanfunds.com

Telephone conversations may be recorded or monitored for verification, recordkeeping and quality assurance purposes.

MULTIPLE TRANSLATIONS
This prospectus may be translated into other languages. In the event of any inconsistencies or ambiguity as to the meaning of any word or phrase in a translation, the English text will prevail.

OTHER FUND INFORMATION
ANNUAL/SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO SHAREHOLDERS
Contains additional information about the fund including financial statements, investment results, portfolio holdings, a statement from portfolio management discussing market conditions and the fund's investment strategies, and the independent accountants' report (in the annual report).
STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (SAI)
Contains more detailed information on all aspects of the fund, including the fund's financial statements.
A current SAI has been filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") and is incorporated by reference into this prospectus. The SAI and other related materials about the fund are available for review or to be copied at the SEC's Public Reference Room in Washington, DC (1-800-SEC-0330) or on the SEC's Internet Web site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

CODE OF ETHICS
Includes a description of the investment adviser's personal investing policy.
To request a free copy of any of the documents above:

Call American Funds Service Company 800/421-0180 ext. 1	or	Write to the Secretary of the fund 1101 Vermont Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20005
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Investment Company File No. 811-4653
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THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I
THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF MARYLAND
THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF VIRGINIA
PART B
STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
November 15, 1999

This document is not a prospectus but should be read in conjunction with the current Prospectus dated November 15, 1999 of The American Funds Tax-Exempt Series I (the "Trust"). The Trust currently consists of two series, The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland (the "Maryland Fund" or "fund") and The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia (the "Virginia Fund" or "fund"). Except where the context indicates otherwise, all references herein to the "fund" apply to each of the two funds. The Prospectus may be obtained from your securities dealer or financial planner or by writing to the Trust at the following address:

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I
Attention: Secretary
1101 Vermont Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 842-5665

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Financial Statements	Attached

</TABLE>

CERTAIN INVESTMENT LIMITATIONS AND GUIDELINES

The following limitations and guidelines are considered at the time of purchase, under normal market conditions, and are based on a percentage of the fund's net assets unless otherwise noted. This summary is not intended to reflect all of the fund's investment limitations.

The fund will invest at least 80% of its assets in, or derive at least 80% of its income from, securities exempt from both federal and the respective state (Maryland or Virginia) tax.

The fund may invest up to 20% of its assets in securities subject to alternative minimum taxes.

The fund may invest up to 20% of its assets in straight debt securities (not including convertible securities) rated Ba and BB or below (or unrated but determined to be of equivalent quality).

DESCRIPTION OF CERTAIN SECURITIES AND INVESTMENT TECHNIQUES

The fund may experience difficulty liquidating certain portfolio securities during significant market declines or periods of heavy redemptions. The descriptions below are intended to supplement the material in the prospectus under "Investment Objectives, Strategies and Risks."

DEBT SECURITIES -- Bonds and other debt securities are used by issuers to borrow money. Issuers pay investors interest and generally must repay the amount borrowed at maturity. Some debt securities, such as zero coupon bonds, do not pay current interest, but are purchased at a discount from their face values. The prices of debt securities fluctuate depending on such factors as interest rates, credit quality, and maturity. In general their prices decline when interest rates rise and vice versa.

Although the fund is not normally required to dispose of a security in the event its rating is reduced below the current minimum rating for its purchase (or it is not rated and its quality becomes equivalent to such a security), if, as a result of a downgrade or otherwise, the fund holds more than 20% of its assets in these securities, the fund will dispose of the excess as deemed prudent by the investment adviser.

High-yield, high-risk bonds rated Ba or below by Standard & Poor's Corporation or BB or below by Moody's Investors Services, Inc. (or unrated but considered to be of equivalent quality) are described by the ratings agencies as speculative and involve greater risk of default or price changes due to changes in the issuer's creditworthiness than higher rated bonds, or they may already be in default. The market prices of these securities may fluctuate more than higher quality securities and may decline significantly in periods of general

economic difficulty. It may be more difficult to dispose of, or to determine the value of, high-yield, high-risk bonds. Certain risk factors relating to "high-yield, high-risk bonds" are discussed below.

CERTAIN RISK FACTORS RELATING TO HIGH-YIELD, HIGH-RISK BONDS

SENSITIVITY TO INTEREST RATE AND ECONOMIC CHANGES - High-yield, high-risk bonds can be very sensitive to adverse economic changes and corporate developments. During an economic downturn or substantial period of rising interest rates, highly leveraged issuers or issuers whose revenue is very sensitive to economic conditions may experience financial stress that would adversely affect their ability to service their principal and interest payment obligations, to meet projected business goals, and to obtain additional financing. If the issuer of a bond defaulted on its obligations to pay interest or principal or entered into bankruptcy proceedings, the fund may incur losses or expenses in seeking recovery of amounts owed to it. In addition, periods of economic uncertainty and changes can be expected to result in increased volatility of market prices and yields of high-yield, high-risk bonds.

PAYMENT EXPECTATIONS - High-yield, high-risk bonds may contain redemption or call provisions. If an issuer exercised these provisions in a declining interest rate market, the fund would have to replace the security with a lower yielding security, resulting in a decreased return for investors. Conversely, a high-yield, high-risk bond's value will decrease in a rising interest market, as will the value of the fund's assets.

LIQUIDITY AND VALUATION - There may be little trading in the secondary market for particular bonds, which may affect adversely the fund's ability to value accurately or dispose of such bonds. Adverse publicity and investor perceptions, whether or not based on fundamental analysis, may decrease the values and liquidity of high-yield, high-risk bonds, especially in a thin market.

MUNICIPAL BONDS - Municipal bonds are generally debt obligations issued to obtain funds for various public purposes, including the construction of public facilities. Opinions relating to the validity of municipal bonds and to the exclusion from gross income for federal income tax purposes and, where applicable, the exemption from state and local income tax are rendered by bond counsel to the respective issuing authorities at the time of issuance.

The two principal classifications of municipal bonds are general obligation and limited obligation (revenue) bonds. General obligation bonds are secured by the issuer's pledge of its full faith and credit including, if available, its taxing power for the payment of principal and interest. Issuers of general obligation bonds include states, counties, cities, towns and various regional or special districts. The proceeds of these obligations are used to fund a wide range of public facilities such as the construction or improvement of schools, highways and roads, water and sewer systems and facilities for a variety of other public purposes. Lease revenue bonds or certificates of participation in leases are payable from annual lease rental payments from a state or locality and may be considered a general obligation of the entity making annual rental payments to the extent such rental payments are appropriated annually.

Typically, the only security for a limited obligation or revenue bond is the net revenue derived from a particular facility or class of facilities financed thereby or, in some cases, from the proceeds of a special tax or other special revenues. Revenue bonds have been issued to fund a wide variety of revenue-producing public capital projects including: electric, gas, water and sewer systems; highways, bridges and tunnels; port and airport facilities; colleges and universities; hospitals; and convention, recreational and housing facilities. Although the security behind these bonds varies widely, many provide additional security in the form of a debt service reserve fund which may also be used to make principal and interest payments on the issuer's obligations. In addition, some revenue obligations (as well as general obligations) are insured by a bond insurance company or backed by a letter of credit issued by a banking institution.

Revenue bonds also include, for example, pollution control, health care and housing bonds, which, although nominally issued by municipal authorities, are generally not secured by the taxing power of the municipality but are secured by the revenues of the authority derived from payments by the private entity which owns or operates the facility financed with the proceeds of the bonds. Obligations of housing finance authorities have a wide range of security features including reserve funds and insured or subsidized mortgages, as well as the net revenues from housing or other public projects. Most of these bonds do not generally constitute the pledge of the credit of the issuer of such bonds. The credit quality of such revenue bonds is usually directly related to the credit standing of the user of the facility being financed or of an institution which provides a guarantee, letter of credit or other credit enhancement for the bond issue.

MUNICIPAL INFLATION-INDEXED BONDS - The fund may invest in inflation-indexed bonds issued by municipalities. Interest payments are made to bondholders semi-annually and are made up of two components; a fixed "real coupon" or spread, and a variable coupon linked to an inflation index. Accordingly,

payments will increase or decrease each period as a result of changes in the inflation index. In a period of deflation payments may decrease to zero, but in any event will not be less than zero.

ZERO COUPON BONDS - Municipalities may issue zero coupon securities which are debt obligations that do not entitle the holder to any periodic payments of interest prior to maturity or a specified date when the security begins to pay interest. They are issued and traded at a discount from their face amount or par value, which discount varies depending on the time remaining until cash payments begin, prevailing interest rates, liquidity of the security, and the perceived credit quality of the issuer.

PRE-REFUNDED BONDS - From time to time, a municipality may refund a bond that it has already issued prior to the original bond's call date by issuing a second bond, the proceeds of which are used to purchase securities. The securities are placed in an escrow account pursuant to an agreement between the municipality and an independent escrow agent. The principal and interest payments on the securities are then used to pay off the original bondholders. For the purpose of diversification, pre-refunded bonds will be treated as governmental issues.

FORWARD COMMITMENTS - The fund may enter into commitments to purchase or sell securities at a future date. When the fund purchases such securities, it assumes the risk of any decline in value of the security beginning on the date of the agreement. When the fund agrees to sell such securities, it does not participate in further gains or losses with respect to the securities beginning on the date of the agreement. If the other party to such a transaction fails to deliver or pay for the securities, the fund could miss a favorable price or yield opportunity, or could experience a loss.

TEMPORARY INVESTMENTS - The fund may invest in short-term municipal obligations with a maturity of one year or less during periods of temporary defensive strategy or when such investments are considered advisable for liquidity. Generally, the income from all such securities is exempt from federal income tax. See "Additional Information Concerning Taxes" below. Further, a portion of the fund's assets, which normally will be less than 20% of assets, may be held in cash or invested in high quality taxable short-term securities with a maturity of one year or less. Such temporary investments may include: (1) obligations of the U.S. Treasury; (2) obligations of agencies and instrumentalities of the U.S. Government; (3) money market instruments, such as certificates of deposit issued by domestic banks, corporate commercial paper, and bankers' acceptances; and (4) repurchase agreements (which are described below).

As the fund's aggregate commitments under these transactions increase, the opportunity for leverage similarly increases. The fund will not use these transactions for the purpose of leveraging and will segregate liquid assets which will be marked to market daily in amounts sufficient to meet its payment obligations in these transactions. Although these transactions will not be entered into for leveraging purposes, to the extent the fund's aggregate commitments under these transactions exceed its segregated assets, the fund temporarily would be in a leveraged position (because it will have an amount greater than its net assets subject to market risk). Should market values of the fund's portfolio securities decline while the fund is in a leveraged position, greater depreciation of its net assets will likely occur than were it not in such a position. The fund will not borrow money to settle these transactions and, therefore, will liquidate other portfolio securities in advance of settlement if necessary to generate additional cash to meet its obligations thereunder.

REPURCHASE AGREEMENTS - Although the fund has no current intention to do so during the next 12 months, it may enter on a temporary basis into repurchase agreements, under which the fund buys a security and obtains a simultaneous commitment from the seller to repurchase the security at a specified time and price. Repurchase agreements permit the fund to maintain liquidity and earn income over periods of time as short as overnight. The seller must maintain with the fund's custodian bank collateral equal to at least 100% of the repurchase price including accrued interest, as monitored daily by the Investment Adviser. The fund will only enter into repurchase agreements involving securities in which it could otherwise invest and with selected banks and securities dealers whose financial condition is monitored by the Investment Adviser. If the seller under the repurchase agreement defaults, the fund may incur a loss if the value of the collateral securing the repurchase agreement has declined and may incur disposition costs in connection with liquidating the collateral. If bankruptcy proceedings are commenced with respect to the seller, realization upon the collateral by a fund may be delayed or limited.

ADJUSTMENT OF MATURITIES - The Investment Adviser seeks to anticipate movements in interest rates and adjusts the maturity distribution of the portfolio accordingly. Longer term securities ordinarily yield more than shorter term securities but are subject to greater and more rapid price fluctuation. Keeping in mind the fund's objective of producing a high level of current income, the Investment Adviser will increase the fund's exposure to this price volatility only when it appears likely to increase current income without undue risk to capital.

ISSUE CLASSIFICATION - Securities with the same general quality rating and maturity characteristics, but which vary according to the purpose for which they were issued, often tend to trade at different yields. These yield differentials tend to fluctuate in response to political and economic developments, as well as temporary imbalances in normal supply/demand relationships. The Investment Adviser monitors these fluctuations closely, and will attempt to adjust portfolio concentrations in various issue classifications according to the value disparities brought about by these yield relationship fluctuations.

QUALITY - Securities issued for similar purposes and with the same general maturity characteristics, but which vary according to the creditworthiness of their respective issuers, tend to trade at different yields. These yield differentials also tend to fluctuate in response to political, economic and supply/demand factors. The Investment Adviser will attempt to take advantage of these fluctuations by adjusting the concentration of portfolio securities in any given quality category according to the value disparities produced by these yield relationship fluctuations.

The Investment Adviser believes that, in general, the market for municipal bonds is less liquid than that for taxable fixed-income securities. Accordingly, the ability of the fund to make purchases and sales of securities in the foregoing manner may, at any particular time and with respect to any particular securities, be limited or non-existent.

PORTFOLIO TURNOVER - Portfolio changes will be made without regard to the length of time particular investments may have been held. High portfolio turnover involves correspondingly greater transaction costs in the form of dealer spreads or brokerage commissions, and may result in the realization of net capital gains, which are taxable when distributed to shareholders. Fixed-income securities are generally traded on a net basis and usually neither brokerage commissions nor transfer taxes are involved. The fund does not anticipate its portfolio turnover to exceed 100% annually. The fund's portfolio turnover rate would equal 100% if each security in the fund's portfolio was replaced once every year. See "Financial Highlights" in the Prospectus for the fund's portfolio turnover for each of the last five years.

RISK OF NON-COMPLIANCE WITH CERTAIN FEDERAL REQUIREMENTS - The Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, imposes limitations on the use and investment of the proceeds of state and local governmental bonds and of other funds of the issuers of such bonds. These limitations must be satisfied on a continuing basis to maintain the exclusion from gross income of interest on such bonds. The provisions of the Code generally apply to bonds issued after August 15, 1986. Bond counsel qualify their opinions as to the federal tax status of new issues of bonds by making such opinions contingent on the issuer's future compliance with these limitations. Any failure on the part of an issuer to comply could cause the interest on its bonds to become taxable to investors retroactive to the date the bonds were issued. These restrictions in the Code also may affect the availability of certain municipal securities.

INVESTMENT RESTRICTIONS

The fund has adopted certain investment restrictions which may not be changed without a majority vote of its outstanding shares. Such majority is defined by the Investment Company Act of 1940, (the "1940 Act"), as the vote of the lesser of (i) 67% or more of the outstanding voting securities present at a meeting, if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities are present in person or by proxy, or (ii) more than 50% of the outstanding voting securities. Investment limitations expressed in the following restrictions are considered at the time securities are purchased and are based on the fund's net assets unless otherwise indicated. These restrictions provide that the fund may not:

1. Invest more than 5% of the value of its total assets in the securities of any one issuer or hold more than 10% of any class of securities of any one issuer (for this purpose all indebtedness of an issuer shall be deemed a single class), provided that this limitation shall apply only to 75% of the value of the fund's total assets and, provided further, that the limitation shall not apply to obligations of the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities;
2. Enter into any repurchase agreement maturing in more than seven days (unless subject to a demand feature of seven days or less) if any such investment, together with any illiquid securities held by the fund, exceeds 10% of the value of its total assets;
3. Buy or sell real estate in the ordinary course of its business; however, the fund may invest in securities secured by real estate or interests therein;
4. Acquire securities subject to legal or contractual restrictions on disposition;
5. Make loans to others, except for the purchase of debt securities or entering into repurchase agreements;

6. Sell securities short, except to the extent that the fund contemporaneously owns or has the right to acquire at no additional cost securities identical to those sold short;

7. Purchase securities on margin, except such short-term credits as may be necessary for the clearance of purchases or sales;

8. Borrow money, except from banks for temporary or emergency purposes, not in excess of 5% of the value of the fund's total assets, excluding the amount borrowed. This borrowing provision is intended to facilitate the orderly sale of portfolio securities to accommodate unusually heavy redemption requests, if they should occur; it is not intended for investment purposes;

9. Mortgage, pledge, or hypothecate its assets, except in an amount up to 10% of the value of its total assets, but only to secure borrowings for temporary or emergency purposes;

10. Underwrite any issue of securities, except to the extent that the purchase of municipal bonds directly from the issuer in accordance with the fund's investment objective, policies and restrictions, and later resale may be deemed to be an underwriting;

11. Invest in companies for the purpose of exercising control or management;

12. Purchase securities of other investment companies, except in connection with a merger, consolidation, acquisition, or reorganization;

13. Buy or sell commodities or commodity contracts or oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development programs;

14. Write, purchase or sell puts, calls, straddles, spreads or any combination thereof;

15. Purchase or retain the securities of any issuer, if, to the knowledge of the fund, those individual officers and Trustees of the Trust, its Investment Adviser, or principal underwriter, each owning beneficially more than 1/2 of 1% of the securities of such issuer, together own more than 5% of the securities of such issuer;

16. Invest more than 5% of the value of the fund's total assets in securities of any issuer with a record of less than three years continuous operation, including predecessors, except those issued or guaranteed by the U.S. Government or its agencies or instrumentalities, or municipal bonds rated at least "A" by either Moody's Investors Service, Inc. or Standard & Poor's Corporation; or

17. Invest more than 25% of its assets in securities of any industry although, for purposes of this limitation, the issuers of municipal securities and U. S. Government obligations are not considered to be part of any industry. Notwithstanding Investment Restriction #12, the fund may invest in securities of other investment companies if deemed advisable by its officers in connection with the administration of a deferred compensation plan adopted by the Trustees pursuant to an exemptive order granted by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

For the purpose of the fund's investment restrictions, the identification of the "issuer" of municipal bonds which are not general obligation bonds is made by the Investment Adviser on the basis of the characteristics of the obligation as described, the most significant of which is the ultimate source of funds for the payment of principal of and interest on such bonds.

For purposes of investment restriction number 13, the term "oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development programs" includes oil, gas or other mineral exploration or development leases.

Another policy of the fund which is not deemed a fundamental policy, and thus may be changed by the Board of Trustees without shareholder approval, is that the fund may not invest 25% or more of its assets in securities the interest on which is paid from revenues of similar type projects (such as hospitals and health facilities; turnpikes and toll roads; ports and airports; or colleges and universities). The fund may, however, invest more than an aggregate of 25% of its total assets in industrial development bonds.

FUND ORGANIZATION

The fund is an open-end, diversified management investment company. It was organized as a Massachusetts business trust in 1986. All fund operations are supervised by the fund's board of trustees who meet periodically and perform duties required by applicable state and federal laws. Members of the board who are not affiliated with the business manager or investment adviser or their affiliates are paid certain fees for services rendered to the fund as described in "Trust Officers and Trustees" below. They may elect to defer all or a portion of these fees through a deferred compensation plan in effect for the fund.

TRUST OFFICERS AND TRUSTEES

(WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL OCCUPATIONS DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS) #
TRUSTEE COMPENSATION

<TABLE> <CAPTION> NAME, ADDRESS AND AGE NUMBER AFFILIATED BOARDS	POSITION WITH REGISTRANT	PRINCIPAL OCCUPATION(S) DURING PAST 5 YEARS#	AGGREGATE COMPENSATION (INCLUDING VOLUNTARILY DEFERRED COMPENSATION/1/) FROM FUNDS	TOTAL COMPENSATION FROM ALL FUNDS AFFILIATED WITH THE AMERICAN FUNDS GROUP FOR THE YEAR ENDED 7/31/99	TOTAL OF FUND ON WHICH TRUSTEE SERVES
<S> Cyrus A. Ansary 1725 K Street, N.W., Suite 410 Washington, D.C. 20006 Age: 65	<C> Trustee	<C> Investment Services International Co. LLC, President	<C> \$2,500	<C> \$53,200	<C> 3
Stephen Hartwell*{ Age: 84	Chairman Emeritus and Trustee	Washington Management Corporation, Chairman of the Board	none/3/	none/3/	3
James H. Lemon, Jr.*{ Age: 63	Chairman of the Trust	The Johnston-Lemon Group, Incorporated, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer	none/3/	none/3/	3
Harry J. Lister*{ Age: 63	President and Trustee	Washington Management Corporation, President and Director	none/3/	none/3/	3
Jean Head Sisco 5335 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 2001508 Age: 74	Trustee	Sisco Associates, Partner	\$3,500	\$23,100	3
T. Eugene Smith 666 Tintagel Lane McLean, VA 22101 Age: 69	Trustee	T. Eugene Smith, Inc., President	\$3,500	\$55,100	3
Stephen G. Yeonas 1355 Beverly Road, Suite 102 McLean, VA 22101 Age: 74	Trustee	Stephen G. Yeonas Company, Chief Executive Officer	\$3,500/2/	\$23,100	3

</TABLE>

OTHER OFFICERS

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

<S>

<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
HOWARD L. KITZMILLER{ Senior Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer Washington Management Corporation, Director, Senior Vice President, Secretary and Assistant Treasurer (Age: 69)	LOIS A. ERHARD{ Vice President Washington Management Corporation, Vice President (Age: 47)	MICHAEL W. STOCKTON{ Assistant Vice President, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer Washington Management Corporation, Assistant Vice President, Assistant Secretary and Assistant Treasurer (Age: 32)	J. LANIER FRANK{ Assistant Vice President Washington Management Corporation, Assistant Assistant Vice President (Age: 38)

</TABLE>

Positions within the organizations listed may have changed during this period.

* Trustees who are considered "interested persons" as defined in the 1940 Act, on the basis of their affiliation with the fund's Business Manager, Washington Management Corporation.

{ Address is 1101 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

/1/Amounts may be deferred by eligible trustees under a non-qualified deferred compensation plan adopted by the fund in 1994. Deferred amounts accumulate at an earnings rate determined by the total return of one or more funds in The American Funds Group as designated by the Trustee.

/2/Since the plan's adoption, the total amount of deferred compensation accrued by the funds (plus earnings thereon) through 9/30/99, the latest calendar quarter, for participants is as follows: Trustee Stephen G. Yeonas (\$XX,XXX). Amounts deferred and accumulated earnings thereon are not funded and are general unsecured liabilities of the funds until paid to the Trustee.

/3/Stephen Hartwell, James H. Lemon, Jr. and Harry J. Lister are affiliated with the Business Manager and, accordingly, receive no compensation from the funds.

All of the officers listed are officers of the Business Manager. All of the Trustees and officers are also officers and/or directors of one or more of the other funds for which Washington Management Corporation serves as Business Manager. No Trustee compensation is paid by the funds to any officer or Trustee who is a director, officer or employee of the Business Manager, the Investment Adviser or affiliated companies. Each fund pays an annual retainer fee of \$750, an attendance fee of \$200 per meeting and \$100 per Committee meeting to unaffiliated Trustees. The Trustees may elect, on a voluntary basis, to defer all or a portion of those fees through a deferred compensation plan in effect for the funds. Each fund also reimburses certain meeting-related expenses of the Trustees.

The Business Manager has established a charitable foundation, the Washington Management Corporation Foundation, which makes contributions to charities organized under Section 501 (c) (3) or 509(a) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code. Trustees and officers of the fund, as well as all employees of the Business Manager and its affiliates, may participate in a gift matching program sponsored by the Foundation.

As of November 2, 1999, the officers and Trustees and their families as a group, owned beneficially or of record 1.xx% and 1.xx%, respectively, of the outstanding shares of the Maryland and Virginia funds.

MANAGEMENT

BUSINESS MANAGER - Since its inception, the Trust has operated under a Business Management Agreement with Washington Management Corporation (the "Business Manager"), 1101 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005.

The primary function of the Business Manager is to oversee the various services and operations of the fund. The Business Manager provides all services required to carry on the fund's general administrative and corporate affairs. These services include all executive personnel, clerical staff, office space and equipment, arrangements for and supervision of all shareholder services, Federal and state regulatory compliance and responsibility for accounting and record keeping facilities. The Business Manager provides similar services to other mutual funds.

The Business Manager receives a fee at the annual rate of 0.135% of the first \$60 million of the fund's net assets plus 0.09% of the fund's net assets in excess of \$60 million plus 1.35% of gross investment income. For the fiscal years ended July 31,

1999, 1998, and 1997 the Business Manager's fees were \$202,000, \$181,000 and \$165,000 for the Maryland Fund and \$224,000, \$201,000 and \$184,000 for the Virginia Fund, respectively. For the fiscal year ended July 31, 1999, the Business Manager's fees for the Maryland Fund amounted

to 0.XXX% of average net assets and for the Virginia Fund amounted to 0.XXX% of average net assets.

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INVESTMENT ADVISER - The Investment Adviser, Capital Research and Management Company, founded in 1931, maintains research facilities in the U.S. and abroad (Los Angeles, San Francisco, New York, Washington, D.C., London, Geneva, Singapore, Hong Kong and Tokyo), with a staff of professionals, many of whom have a number of years of investment experience. The Investment Adviser is located at 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071, and at 135 South State College Boulevard, Brea, CA 92821. The Investment Adviser's research professionals travel several million miles a year, making more than 5,000 research visits in more than 50 countries around the world. The Investment Adviser believes that it is able to attract and retain quality personnel. The Investment Adviser is responsible for more than \$200 billion of stocks, bonds and money market instruments and serves over eight million investors of all types. These investors include privately owned businesses and large corporations as well as schools, colleges, foundations and other non-profit and tax-exempt organizations.

The Investment Adviser receives a fee at the annual rate of 0.165% of the first \$60 million of the fund's net assets plus 0.12% of the fund's net assets in excess of \$60 million plus 1.65% of gross investment income. For the fiscal years ended July 31, 1999, 1998, and 1997 the Investment Adviser's fees were \$252,000, \$224,000 and \$203,000, for the Maryland Fund and \$279,000, \$250,000 and \$229,000 for the Virginia Fund, respectively. For the fiscal year ended July 31, 1999, the Investment Adviser's fees for the Maryland Fund amounted to 0.xxx% of average net assets and for the Virginia Fund amounted to 0.xxx% of average net assets.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND INVESTMENT ADVISORY AGREEMENT - The Business Management Agreement and Investment Advisory Agreement, unless sooner terminated, will continue in effect until July 31, 2000 and may be renewed from year to year thereafter, provided that any such renewal has been specifically approved at least annually as to the fund by (i) the Board of Trustees, or by the vote of a majority (as defined in the 1940 Act) of the outstanding voting securities of the fund, and (ii) the vote of a majority of Trustees who are not parties to the Agreements or "interested persons" (as defined in the 1940 Act) of any such party, cast in person at a meeting called for the purpose of voting on such approval. The Agreements also provide that either party has the right to terminate them, without penalty, upon sixty (60) days' written notice to the other party and that the Agreements automatically terminate in the event of their assignment (as defined in the 1940 Act).

The fund pays all expenses not specifically assumed by the Business Manager or the Investment Adviser, including, but not limited to, registration and filing fees with federal and state agencies; blue sky expenses; expenses of shareholders' meetings; the expense of reports to existing shareholders; expenses of printing proxies and prospectuses; insurance premiums; legal and auditing fees; dividend disbursement expenses; the expense of the issuance, transfer and redemption of its shares; custodian fees; printing and preparation of registration statements; taxes; the fund's distribution expenses pursuant to the Plan of Distribution; compensation, fees and expenses paid to Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Trust; association dues; and costs of stationery, forms and certificates prepared exclusively for the fund.

PRINCIPAL UNDERWRITER - American Funds Distributors, Inc. (the Principal Underwriter) is the Trust's principal underwriter of the fund's shares. The Principal Underwriter is located at 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071, 135 South State College Boulevard, Brea, CA 92821, 3500 Wiseman Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78251, 8332 Woodfield Crossing Boulevard, Indianapolis, IN 46240, and 5300 Robin Hood Road, Norfolk, VA 23513. Each fund in the Trust has adopted a Plan of Distribution (the "Plan"), pursuant to rule 12b-1 under the 1940 Act (see "Principal Underwriter" in the Prospectus). The Principal Underwriter receives amounts payable pursuant to the Plan (see below) and commissions consisting of that portion of the sales charge remaining after the discounts which it allows to investment dealers. For the fiscal years ended July 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997 the commissions on Maryland Fund shares totaled \$xxx,xxx, \$250,000, and \$170,000 of which the Principal Underwriter retained \$80,000, \$48,000 and \$32,000, respectively, while the commissions on the Virginia Fund shares totaled \$xxx,xxx, \$300,000 and \$265,000 of which the Principal Underwriter retained \$87,000, \$58,000 and \$52,000, respectively.

Johnston, Lemon & Co. Incorporated ("Johnston, Lemon"), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the business manager's parent company, The Johnston-Lemon Group, Inc. ("JLIG"), received commission amounts of \$xx,xxx, \$44,000, and \$27,000, and \$xx,xxx, \$41,000 and \$35,000, respectively, for the fiscal years ended July 31, 1999, 1998 and 1997, on its retail sales of the Maryland and Virginia Funds and the Distribution Plan of the funds, but received no net brokerage commissions resulting from purchases and sales of securities for the investment account of the funds.

As required by rule 12b-1 and the 1940 Act, the Plan (together with the Principal Underwriting Agreement) has been approved by the full Board of Trustees and separately by a majority of the Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the fund and who have no direct or indirect financial interest in

the operation of the Plan or the Principal Underwriting Agreement, and the Plan has been approved by the vote of a majority of the outstanding voting securities of the Trust. The officers and Trustees who are "interested persons" of the Trust may be considered to have a direct or indirect financial interest in the operation of the Plan due to present or past affiliations with the Business Manager. Potential benefits of the Plan to the fund are improved shareholder services, savings to the fund in transfer agency costs, savings to the fund in advisory fees and other expenses, benefits to the investment process from growth or stability of assets and maintenance of a financially healthy management organization. The selection and nomination of Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Trust shall be committed to the discretion of the Trustees who are not interested persons during the existence of the Plan. The Plan may not be amended to increase materially the amount to be spent for distribution without shareholder approval. The Board of Trustees reviews quarterly a written report of amounts expended under the Plan or any related agreement and the purposes for which such expenditures were made and approves annually any continuance of the Plan.

Under the Plan the fund may expend up to 0.25% of its average net assets annually to finance any activity which is primarily intended to result in the sale of fund shares, provided the Board of Trustees has approved the category of expenses for which payment is being made. The following categories of expenses have been approved: service fees for qualified dealers; dealer commissions and wholesaler compensation on no-load sales of shares (including sales exceeding \$1 million (including purchases by any employer-sponsored 403(b) plan and by any defined contribution plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code including a "401(k)" plan with 100 or more eligible employees or a community foundation).

Commissions on sales of shares exceeding \$1 million (including purchases by any employer-sponsored 403(b) plan or purchases by any defined contribution plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, including any "401(k)" plan with 100 or more eligible employees) in excess of the Plan limitation not reimbursed during the most recent fiscal quarter are recoverable for five quarters, provided that such commissions do not exceed the annual expense limit. After five quarters, commissions are not recoverable. During the Trust's fiscal year ended July 31, 1999, distribution expenses under the Plan paid or payable to the Principal Underwriter were \$268,000 for the Maryland Fund and \$305,000 for the Virginia Fund, all of which was used as compensation to dealers and wholesalers. As of July 31, 1999, accrued and unpaid distribution expenses were \$45,000 and \$52,000, respectively.

All officers of the fund and three of its Directors, who are "interested persons" of the fund, are officers or directors of Washington Management Corporation, a wholly-owned subsidiary of JLG. Johnston, Lemon participates in receiving dealer service fee payments from the Plan. Some of the fund's officers and three Directors who are "interested persons" of the fund are also registered representatives with Johnston, Lemon and, as such, to the extent they have sold shares of the fund, receive a portion of the service fee payments in the same manner as all other Johnston, Lemon registered representatives.

DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS

DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS - For the purpose of calculating dividends, daily net investment income of the fund consists of: (a) all interest income accrued on the fund's investments including any discount or premium ratably amortized to the date of maturity or determined in such other manner as may be deemed appropriate; minus (b) all liabilities accrued, including interest, taxes and other expense items, amounts determined and declared as dividends or distributions and reserves for contingent or undetermined liabilities, all determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. If a shareholder has elected to receive dividends and/or capital gain distributions in cash, and the postal or other delivery service is unable to deliver checks to the shareholder's address of record, or the shareholder does not respond to mailings from American Funds Service Company with regard to uncashed distribution checks, the shareholder's distribution option will automatically be converted to having all dividends and other distributions reinvested in additional shares.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING TAXES

The following is only a summary of certain additional tax considerations generally affecting the fund and its shareholders. No attempt is made to present a detailed explanation of the tax treatment of the fund or its shareholders, and the discussion here and in such fund's Prospectus is not intended as a substitute for careful tax planning. Investors are urged to consult their tax advisers with specific reference to their own tax situations.

GENERAL - The fund is not intended to constitute a balanced investment program and is not designed for investors seeking capital appreciation or maximum tax-exempt income irrespective of fluctuations in principal. Shares of the fund generally would not be suitable for tax-exempt institutions or tax-deferred retirement plans (E.G., plans qualified under Section 401 of the Internal Revenue Code, Keogh-type plans and individual retirement accounts).

Such retirement plans would not gain any additional benefit from the tax-exempt nature of the fund's dividends because such dividends would be ultimately taxable to the beneficiaries when distributed to them. In addition, the fund may not be an appropriate investment for entities which are "substantial users" of facilities financed by industrial development bonds or "related persons" thereof. "Substantial user" is defined under U.S. Treasury Regulations to include a non-exempt person who regularly uses a part of such facilities in their trade or business and whose gross revenues derived with respect to the facilities financed by the issuance of bonds are more than 5% of the total revenues derived by all users of such facilities, or who occupies more than 5% of the usable area of such facilities or for whom such facilities or a part thereof were specifically constructed, reconstructed or acquired. "Related persons" include certain related natural persons, affiliated corporations, a partnership and its partners and an S Corporation and its shareholders.

The fund intends to meet all the requirements and to elect the tax status of a "regulated investment company" under the provisions of Subchapter M of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"). As such, the fund will not be subject to federal income taxes to the extent it distributes its net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, to shareholders. The fund must distribute 90% of the aggregate interest excludable from gross income and 90% of the investment company taxable income earned by it during the taxable year.

The percentage of total dividends paid by the fund with respect to any taxable year which qualify for exclusion from gross income ("exempt-interest dividends") for Federal tax purposes will be the same for all shareholders receiving dividends during such year. In order for the fund to pay exempt-interest dividends during any taxable year, at the close of each fiscal quarter at least 50% of the aggregate value of the Trust's and fund's assets must consist of tax-exempt obligations. Not later than 60 days after the close of its taxable year, the fund will notify each shareholder of the portion of the dividends paid by the Fund to the shareholder with respect to such taxable year which constitutes exempt-interest dividends. The aggregate amount of dividends so designated cannot, however, exceed the excess of the amount of interest excludable from gross income from tax under Section 103 of the Code received by the Fund during the taxable year over any amounts disallowed as deductions under Sections 265 and 171(a)(2) of the Code.

Interest on indebtedness incurred by a shareholder to purchase or carry Fund shares is not deductible for federal income tax purposes if the Fund distributes exempt-interest dividends during the shareholder's taxable year. If a shareholder receives an exempt-interest dividend with respect to any share and such share is held for six months or less, any loss on the sale or exchange of such share will be disallowed to the extent of the amount of such exempt-interest dividend.

While the Fund does not expect to realize substantial long-term capital gains, any net realized long-term capital gains will be distributed annually. The fund will have no tax liability with respect to such gains, and the distributions will be taxable to shareholders as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long a shareholder has held the fund's shares. Such distributions will be designated as a capital gains dividend in a written notice mailed by the fund to shareholders not later than 60 days after the close of the fund's taxable year. The fund may also make a distribution of net realized long-term capital gains near the end of the calendar year to comply with certain requirements of the Code. Gain recognized on the disposition of a debt obligation (including tax-exempt obligations purchased after April 30, 1993) purchased by the fund at a market discount (generally at a price less than the principal amount) will be treated as ordinary income to the extent of the portion of the market discount which accrued during the period of time the fund held the debt obligation. Similarly, while the fund does not expect to earn any taxable income, any taxable income earned by the fund will be distributed and will be taxable to shareholders as ordinary income (whether distributed in cash or additional shares).

If for any taxable year the fund does not qualify for the special tax treatment afforded regulated investment companies, all of its taxable income will be subject to tax at regular corporate rates (without any deduction for distributions to its shareholders). In such event, dividend distributions would be taxable to shareholders to the extent of earnings and profits, and may be eligible for the dividends received deduction for corporations. Under the Code, if, within 90 days after fund shares are purchased, such shares are redeemed and either reinstated in the same fund or exchanged for shares of any other fund in The American Funds Group and the otherwise applicable sales charge is waived, then the amount of the sales charge previously incurred in purchasing fund shares shall not be taken into account for purposes of determining the amount of any gain or loss on the redemption, but will be treated as having been incurred in the purchase of the fund shares acquired in the reinstatement or exchange.

The tax status of a gain realized on a redemption will not be affected by exercise of the reinstatement privilege, but a loss may be nullified if you reinvest in the same fund within 30 days.

As of the date of this statement of additional information, the maximum federal individual stated tax rate applicable to ordinary income is 39.6% (effective tax rates may be higher for some individuals due to phase out of exemptions and elimination of deductions); the maximum individual tax rate applicable to net capital gains on securities held more than one year is 20%; and the maximum corporate tax rate applicable to ordinary income and net capital gain is 35%. Naturally, the amount of tax payable by a shareholder with respect to either distributions from the fund or disposition of fund shares will be affected by a combination of tax rules covering E.G., deductions, credits, deferrals, exemptions, sources of income and other matters.

FEDERAL TAXES - Under the Code, a nondeductible excise tax of 4% is imposed on the excess of a regulated investment company's "required distribution" for the calendar year ending within the regulated investment company's taxable year over the "distributed amount" for such calendar year. The term "required distribution" means the sum of (i) 98 percent of ordinary income (generally net investment income) for the calendar year, (ii) 98 percent of capital gain net income (both long-term and short-term) for the one-year period ending on October 31 (as though the one-year period ending on October 31 were the regulated investment company's taxable year), and (iii) the sum of any untaxed, undistributed net investment income and net capital gains of the regulated investment company for prior periods. The term "distributed amount" generally means the sum of (i) amounts actually distributed by each fund from its current year's ordinary income and capital gain net income and (ii) any amount on which such fund pays income tax for the year. Each fund intends to meet these distribution requirements to avoid the excise tax liability.

Individuals and corporations may be subject to alternative minimum tax. The Code treats interest on private activity bonds, as defined therein, as an item of tax preference for alternative minimum tax purposes. Also, shareholders will not be permitted to deduct any of their share of fund expenses in computing alternative minimum taxable income. Further, under the Code federal exempt-interest dividends are includable in adjusted current earnings in calculating corporate alternative minimum taxable income. Fund shareholders are required by the Code to report to the federal government all exempt-interest dividends and all other tax-exempt interest received.

PURCHASE OF SHARES

<TABLE>
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METHOD INITIAL INVESTMENT ADDITIONAL INVESTMENTS

See "Investment Minimums and Fund Numbers" for initial investment minimums. \$50 minimum (except where a lower minimum is noted under "Investment Minimums and Fund Numbers").

By contacting Visit any investment dealer who is registered in the state where the purchase is made and who has a sales agreement with American Funds Distributors. Mail directly to your investment dealer's address printed on your investment dealer account statement.

By mail Make your check payable to the fund and mail to the address indicated on the account application. Please indicate an investment dealer on the account application. Fill out the account additions form at the bottom of a recent account statement, make your check payable to the fund, write your account number on your check, and mail the check and form in the envelope provided with your account statement.

By telephone Please contact your investment dealer to open account, then follow the procedures for additional investments. Complete the "Investments by Phone" section on the account application or American FundsLink Authorization Form. Once you establish the privilege, you, your financial advisor or any person with your account information can call American FundsLineR and make investments by telephone (subject to conditions noted in "Telephone and Computer Purchases, Redemptions and Exchanges" below).

By computer Please contact your investment dealer to open account, then follow the procedures for additional investments. Complete the American FundsLink Authorization Form. Once you establish the privilege, you, your financial advisor or any person with your account information may access American FundsLine OnLineR on the Internet and make investments by computer (subject to conditions noted in "Telephone and Computer Purchases, Redemptions and Exchanges" below).

By wire Call 800/421-0180 to obtain your account number(s), if necessary. Please indicate an investment dealer on the account. Instruct your bank to wire funds to: Your bank should wire your additional investments in the same manner as described under "Initial Investment."

Wells Fargo Bank
155 Fifth Street
Sixth Floor
San Francisco, CA 94106
(ABA #121000248)
For credit to the account of:
American Funds Service Company
a/c #4600-076178
(fund name)
(your fund acct. no.)

THE FUNDS AND AMERICAN FUNDS DISTRIBUTORS RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY PURCHASE ORDER.

</TABLE>

INVESTMENT MINIMUMS AND FUND NUMBERS - Here are the minimum initial investments required by the funds in The American Funds Group along with fund numbers for use with our automated phone line, American FundsLine (see description below):

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

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FUND	<C> MINIMUM INITIAL INVESTMENT	<C> FUND NUMBER
STOCK AND STOCK/BOND FUNDS		
AMCAP Fund/R/	\$1,000	02
American Balanced Fund/R/	500	11
American Mutual Fund/R/	250	03
Capital Income BuilderR	1,000	12
Capital World Growth and Income Fund/sm/	1,000	33
EuroPacific Growth Fund/R/	250	16
Fundamental Investors/sm/	250	10
The Growth Fund of America/R/	1,000	05
The Income Fund of AmericaR	1,000	06
The Investment Company of America/R/	250	04
The New Economy Fund/R/	1,000	14
New Perspective Fund/R/	250	07
New World Fund/sm/		1,000 36
SMALLCAP World Fund/R/	1,000	35
Washington Mutual Investors Fund/sm/	250	01
BOND FUNDS		
American High-Income Municipal Bond Fund/R/	1,000	40
American High-Income Trust/sm/	1,000	21
The Bond Fund of America/sm/	1,000	08
Capital World Bond Fund/R/	1,000	31
Intermediate Bond Fund of America/sm/	1,000	23
Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America/sm/	1,000	43
The Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America/R/	1,000	19
The Tax-Exempt Fund of California/R/*		20

	1,000	
The Tax-Exempt Fund of Maryland/R/*		24
	1,000	
The Tax-Exempt Fund of Virginia/R/*		25
	1,000	
U.S. Government Securities Fund/sm/\$		22
	1,000	
MONEY MARKET FUNDS		
The Cash Management Trust of America/R/		09
	2,500	
The Tax-Exempt Money Fund of America/sm/		39
	2,500	
The U.S. Treasury Money Fund of America/sm/		49
	2,500	

*Available only in certain states.

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For retirement plan investments, the minimum is \$250, except that the money market funds have a minimum of \$1,000 for individual retirement accounts (IRAs). Minimums are reduced to \$50 for purchases through "Automatic Investment Plans" (except for the money market funds) or to \$25 for purchases by retirement plans through payroll deductions and may be reduced or waived for shareholders of other funds in The American Funds Group. TAX-EXEMPT FUNDS SHOULD NOT SERVE AS RETIREMENT PLAN INVESTMENTS. The minimum is \$50 for additional investments (except as noted above).

SALES CHARGES- The sales charges you pay when purchasing the stock, stock/bond, and bond funds of The American Funds Group are set forth below. The money market funds of The American Funds Group are offered at net asset value. (See "Investment Minimums and Fund Numbers" for a listing of the funds.)

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
AMOUNT OF PURCHASE AT THE OFFERING PRICE	SALES CHARGE AS PERCENTAGE OF THE:	OFFERING PRICE	DEALER CONCESSION AS PERCENTAGE OF THE OFFERING PRICE

	NET AMOUNT INVESTED	OFFERING PRICE	
STOCK AND STOCK/BOND FUNDS			
Less than \$50,000.....	6.10%	5.75%	5.00%
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000.....	4.71	4.50	3.75
BOND FUNDS			
Less than \$25,000.....	4.99	4.75	4.00
\$25,000 but less than \$50,000.....	4.71	4.50	3.75
\$50,000 but less than \$100,000.....	4.17	4.00	3.25
STOCK, STOCK/BOND, AND BOND FUNDS			
\$100,000 but less than \$250,000.....	3.63	3.50	2.75
\$250,000 but less than \$500,000.....	2.56	2.50	2.00
\$500,000 but less than \$1,000,000.....	2.04	2.00	1.60

\$1,000,000 or more..... none
million or more are sold with no initial sales
certain redemptions by accounts that
year of purchase. A dealer concession of up
investments made with no initial sales charge.

(see below)
PURCHASES NOT SUBJECT TO SALES CHARGES -- Investment of \$1
charge. A 1% contingent deferred sales charge may be imposed on
invest with no sales charge, if redemptions are made within one
to 1% may be paid by the fund under its Plan of Distribution on

</TABLE>

In addition the stock, stock/bond and bond funds may sell shares at net asset value with no contingent deferred sales charge to:

- (1) current or retired directors, trustees, officers and advisory board members of the funds managed or advised by Capital Research and Management Company, employees of Washington Management Corporation, employees and partners of The Capital Group Companies, Inc. and its affiliated companies, certain family members of the above persons, and trusts or plans primarily for such persons;
 - (2) current registered representatives, retired registered representatives with respect to accounts established while active, or full-time employees (and their spouses, parents, and children) of dealers who have sales agreements with American Funds Distributors (or who clear transactions through such dealers) and plans for such persons or the dealers;
 - (3) companies exchanging securities with the fund through a merger, acquisition or exchange offer;
 - (4) trustees or other fiduciaries purchasing shares for certain retirement plans, foundations or endowments with assets of \$50 million or more;
 - (5) insurance company separate accounts;
 - (6) accounts managed by subsidiaries of The Capital Group Companies, Inc.; and
 - (7) The Capital Group Companies, Inc., its affiliated companies and Washington Management Corporation.
- Shares are offered at net asset value to these persons and organizations due to anticipated economies in sales effort and expense.

DEALER COMMISSIONS- Commissions of up to 1% will be paid to dealers who initiate and are responsible for purchases of \$1 million or more, for purchases by any employer-sponsored 403(b) plan or purchases by any defined contribution plan qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code including a "401(k)" plan with 100 or more eligible employees, and for purchases made at net asset value by certain retirement plans of organizations with collective retirement plan assets of \$50 million or more: 1.00% on amounts of \$1 million to \$4 million, 0.50% on amounts over \$4 million to \$10 million and 0.25% on amounts over \$10 million.

OTHER COMPENSATION TO DEALERS - American Funds Distributors, at its expense (from a designated percentage of its income) currently provides additional compensation to dealers. Currently these payments are limited to the top one hundred dealers who have sold shares of the fund or other funds in The American Funds Group. These payments will be based on a pro rata share of a qualifying dealer's sales. American Funds Distributors will, on an annual basis, determine the advisability of continuing these payments.

Qualified dealers currently are paid a continuing service fee not to exceed 0.25% of average net assets (0.15% in the case of the money market funds) annually in order to promote selling efforts and to compensate them for providing certain services. These services include processing purchase and redemption transactions, establishing shareholder accounts and providing certain information and assistance with respect to the fund.

STATEMENT OF INTENTION -- You may enter into a non-binding commitment to purchase shares of a fund(s) over a 13-month period and receive the same sales charge as if all shares had been purchased at once. This includes purchases made during the previous 90 days, but does not include appreciation of your investment or reinvested distributions. The reduced sales charges and offering prices set forth in the Prospectus apply to purchases of \$50,000 or more made within a 13-month period subject to the following statement of intention (the "Statement") terms. The Statement is not a binding obligation to purchase the indicated amount. When a shareholder elects to utilize a Statement in order to qualify for a reduced sales charge, shares equal to 5% of the dollar amount specified in the Statement will be held in escrow in the shareholder's account out of the initial purchase (or subsequent purchases, if necessary) by American Funds Service Company. All dividends and any capital gain distributions on shares held in escrow will be credited to the shareholder's account in shares (or paid in cash, if requested). If the intended investment is not completed within the specified 13-month period, the purchaser will remit to the Principal Underwriter the difference between the sales charge actually paid and the sales

charge which would have been paid if the total of such purchases had been made at a single time. If the difference is not paid by the close of the period the appropriate number of shares held in escrow will be redeemed to pay such difference. If the proceeds from this redemption are inadequate, the purchaser will be liable to the Principal Underwriter for the balance still outstanding. The Statement may be revised upward at any time during the 13-month period, and such a revision will be treated as a new Statement, except that the 13-month period during which the purchase must be made will remain unchanged. Existing holdings eligible for rights of accumulation (see the account application) and any individual investments in American Legacy products (American Legacy, American Legacy II and American Legacy III variable annuities, American Legacy Life, American Legacy Variable Life, and American Legacy Estate Builder) may be credited toward satisfying the Statement. During the Statement period, reinvested dividends and capital gain distributions, investments in money market funds and investments made under a right of reinstatement will not be credited toward satisfying the Statement.

When the trustees of certain retirement plans purchase shares by payroll deduction, the sales charge for the investments made during the 13-month period will be handled as follows: The regular monthly payroll deduction investment will be multiplied by 13 and then multiplied by 1.5. The current value of existing American Funds investments (other than money market fund investments), and any rollovers or transfers reasonably anticipated to be invested in non-money market American Funds during the 13-month period, and any individual investments in American Legacy products are added to the figure determined above. The sum is the Statement amount and applicable breakpoint level. On the first investment and all other investments made pursuant to the Statement, a sales charge will be assessed according to the sales charge breakpoint thus determined.

Shareholders purchasing shares at a reduced sales charge under a Statement indicate their acceptance of these terms with their first purchase.

AGGREGATION - Sales charge discounts are available for certain aggregated investments. Qualifying investments include those by you, your spouse and your children under the age of 21, if all parties are purchasing shares for their own accounts and/or:

- employee benefit plan(s), such as an IRA, individual-type 403(b) plan, or single-participant Keogh-type plan;

- business accounts solely controlled by these individuals (for example, the individuals own the entire business);

- trust accounts established by the above individuals. However, if the person(s) who established the trust is deceased, the trust account may be aggregated with accounts of the person who is the primary beneficiary of the trust.

Individual purchases by a trustee(s) or other fiduciary(ies) may also be aggregated if the investments are:

- for a single trust estate or fiduciary account, including an employee benefit plan other than those described above;

- made for two or more employee benefit plans of a single employer or of affiliated employers as defined in the 1940 Act, again excluding employee benefit plans described above; or

- for a diversified common trust fund or other diversified pooled account not specifically formed for the purpose of accumulating fund shares. Purchases made for nominee or street name accounts (securities held in the name of an investment dealer or another nominee such as a bank trust department instead of the customer) may not be aggregated with those made for other accounts and may not be aggregated with other nominee or street name accounts unless otherwise qualified as described above.

CONCURRENT PURCHASES -- You may combine purchases of two or more funds in The American Funds Group, except direct purchases of the money market funds. Shares of money market funds purchased through an exchange, reinvestment or cross-reinvestment from a fund having a sales charge do qualify.

RIGHT OF ACCUMULATION -- You may take into account the current value of your existing holdings in The American Funds Group, as well as your holdings in Endowments (shares of which may be owned only by tax-exempt organizations), to determine your sales charge on investments in accounts eligible to be aggregated, or when making a gift to an individual or charity. When determining your sales charge, you may also take into account the value of your individual holdings, as of the end of the week prior to your investment, in various American Legacy products (American Legacy, American Legacy II and American Legacy III variable annuities, American Legacy Life, American Legacy Variable Life, and American Legacy Estate Builder). Direct purchases of the money market funds are excluded.

PRICE OF SHARES - Purchases of shares are made at the offering price next determined after the purchase order is received by the fund or American Funds

Service Company; this offering price is effective for orders received prior to the time of determination of the net asset value and, in the case of orders placed with dealers, accepted by the Principal Underwriter prior to its close of business. In case of orders sent directly to the fund or American Funds Service Company, an investment dealer MUST be indicated. The dealer is responsible for promptly transmitting purchase orders to the Principal Underwriter. Orders received by the investment dealer, the Transfer Agent, or the fund after the time of the determination of the net asset value will be entered at the next calculated offering price. Prices which appear in the newspaper are not always indicative of prices at which you will be purchasing and redeeming shares of the fund, since such prices generally reflect the previous day's closing price whereas purchases and redemptions are made at the next calculated price.

The price you pay for shares, the public offering price, is based on the net asset value per share which is calculated once daily at the close of regular trading (currently 4:00 p.m., New York Time) each day the New York Stock Exchange is open. For example, if the Exchange closes at 1:00 p.m. on one day and at 4:00 p.m. on the next, the fund's share price would be determined as of 4:00 p.m. New York time on both days. The New York Stock Exchange is currently closed on weekends and on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Presidents' Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas.

All portfolio securities of funds managed by Capital Research and Management Company (other than money market funds) are valued, and the net asset value per share is determined, as follows:

1. Equity securities, including depositary receipts, are valued at the last reported sale price on the exchange or market on which such securities are traded, as of the close of business on the day the securities are being valued or, lacking any sales, at the last available bid price. In cases where equity securities are traded on more than one exchange, the securities are valued on the exchange or market determined by the Investment Adviser to be the broadest and most representative market, which may be either a securities exchange or the over-the-counter market. Fixed-income securities are valued at prices obtained from a pricing service, when such prices are available; however, in circumstances where the Investment Adviser deems it appropriate to do so, such securities will be valued at the mean quoted bid and asked prices or at prices for securities of comparable maturity, quality and type. Securities with original maturities of one year or less having 60 days or less to maturity are amortized to maturity based on their cost if acquired within 60 days of maturity or, if already held on the 60th day, based on the value determined on the 61st day. Forward currency contracts are valued at the mean of representative quoted bid and asked prices.

Assets or liabilities initially expressed in terms of foreign currencies are translated prior to the next determination of the net asset value of the fund's shares into U.S. dollars at the prevailing market rates.

Securities and assets for which representative market quotations are not readily available are valued at fair value as determined in good faith under policies approved by the fund's Board; The fair value of all other assets is added to the value of securities at the total assets;

2. Liabilities, including accruals of taxes and other expense items, are deducted from total assets; and

3. Net assets so obtained are then divided by the total number of shares outstanding, and the result, rounded to the nearer cent, is the net asset value per share.

Any purchase order may be rejected by the Principal Underwriter or by the Trust. The Trust will not knowingly sell fund shares (other than for the reinvestment of dividends or capital gain distributions) directly or indirectly or through a unit investment trust to any other investment company, person or entity, where, after the sale, such investment company, person, or entity would own beneficially directly, indirectly, or through a unit investment trust more than 4.5% of the outstanding shares of the fund without the consent of a majority of the Board of Trustees.

SELLING SHARES

Shares are sold at the net asset value next determined after your request is received in good order by American Funds Service Company. You may sell (redeem) shares in your account in any of the following ways:

THROUGH YOUR DEALER (certain charges may apply)

- Shares held for you in your dealer's street name must be sold through the dealer.

WRITING TO AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE COMPANY

- Requests must be signed by the registered shareholder(s)

- A signature guarantee is required if the redemption is:

-- Over \$50,000;

-- Made payable to someone other than the registered shareholder(s); or

-- Sent to an address other than the address of record, or an address of record which has been changed within the last 10 days.

Your signature may be guaranteed by a domestic stock exchange or the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc., bank, savings association or credit union that is an eligible guarantor institution.

- Additional documentation may be required for sales of shares held in corporate, partnership or fiduciary accounts.
- You must include any shares you wish to sell that are in certificate form.
TELEPHONING OR FAXING AMERICAN FUNDS SERVICE COMPANY, OR BY USING AMERICAN FUNDSLIME OR AMERICAN FUNDSLIME ONLINE

- Redemptions by telephone or fax (including American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine) are limited to \$50,000 per shareholder each day.
- Checks must be made payable to the registered shareholder(s).
- Checks must be mailed to an address of record that has been used with the account for at least 10 days.

MONEY MARKET FUNDS

- You may have redemptions of \$1,000 or more wired to your bank by writing American Funds Service Company.
- You may establish check writing privileges (use the money market funds application)
-- If you request check writing privileges, you will be provided with checks that you may use to draw against your account. These checks may be made payable to anyone you designate and must be signed by the authorized number or registered shareholders exactly as indicated on your checking account signature card.

Redemption proceeds will not be mailed until sufficient time has passed to provide reasonable assurance that checks or drafts (including certified or cashier's checks) for shares purchased have cleared (which may take up to 15 calendar days from the purchase date). Except for delays relating to clearance of checks for share purchases or in extraordinary circumstances (and as permissible under the Investment Company Act of 1940), sale proceeds will be paid on or before the seventh day following receipt and acceptance of an order. Interest will not accrue or be paid on amounts that represent uncashed distribution or redemption checks.

You may reinvest proceeds from a redemption or a dividend or capital gain distribution without a sales charge (any contingent deferred sales charge paid will be credited to your account) in any fund in The American Funds Group within 90 days after the date of the redemption or distribution. Redemption proceeds of shares representing direct purchases in the money market funds are excluded. Proceeds will be reinvested at the next calculated net asset value after your request is received and accepted by American Funds Service Company.

CONTINGENT DEFERRED SALES CHARGE - A contingent deferred sales charge of 1% applies to certain redemptions made within twelve months of purchase on investments of \$1 million or more (other than redemptions by employer-sponsored retirement plans). The charge is 1% of the lesser of the value of the shares redeemed (exclusive of reinvested dividends and capital gain distributions) or the total cost of such shares. Shares held for the longest period are assumed to be redeemed first for purposes of calculating this charge. The charge is waived for exchanges (except if shares acquired by exchange were then redeemed within 12 months of the initial purchase); for distributions from 403(b) plans or IRAs due to death, disability or attainment of age 59½; for tax-free returns of excess contributions to IRAs; and for redemptions through certain automatic withdrawals not exceeding 10% of the amount that would otherwise be subject to the charge.

REDEMPTION OF SHARES - The Transfer Agent may redeem the shares of any shareholder if the shares owned by such shareholder through redemptions, market decline or otherwise, have a value of less than the minimum initial investment amount required of new shareholders, (determined, for this purpose only as the greater of the shareholder's cost or current net asset value of the shares, including any shares acquired through reinvestment of income dividends and capital gains distributions). Prior notice of at least 60 days will be given to a shareholder before the involuntary redemption provision is made effective with respect to the shareholder's account. The shareholder will have not less than 30 days from the date of such notice within which to bring the account up to the minimum determined as set forth above.

SHAREHOLDER ACCOUNT SERVICES AND PRIVILEGES

AUTOMATIC INVESTMENT PLAN - The automatic investment plan enables shareholders to make regular investments monthly or quarterly in shares through automatic charges to their bank accounts. With shareholder authorization and bank approval, the Transfer Agent will automatically charge the bank account for the amount specified (\$50 minimum) and the date on which you would like your reinvestments to occur. The plan will begin within 30 days after your account application is received. Your bank account will be debited on the day or a few days before investments are credited, depending on the bank's capabilities. If your bank account cannot be charged due to insufficient funds, a stop-payment order or closing of the account, the plan may be terminated and the related

investment reversed. You may change the amount of the investment or discontinue the plan at any time by writing to the Transfer Agent.

AUTOMATIC REINVESTMENT - Dividends and capital gain distributions are reinvested in additional shares at no sales charge unless you indicate otherwise on the account application. You also may elect to have dividends and/or capital gain distributions paid in cash by informing the fund, American Funds Service Company or your investment dealer.

CROSS-REINVESTMENT OF DIVIDENDS AND DISTRIBUTIONS -- You may cross-reinvest dividends and capital gains ("distributions") into any other fund in The American Funds Group at net asset value, subject to the following conditions:

- (a) The aggregate value of your account(s) in the fund(s) paying distributions equals or exceeds \$5,000 (this is waived if the value of the account in the fund receiving the distributions equals or exceeds that fund's minimum initial investment requirement),
- (b) If the value of the account of the fund receiving distributions is below the minimum initial investment requirement, distributions must be automatically reinvested,
- (c) If you discontinue the cross-reinvestment of distributions, the value of the account of the fund receiving distribution must equal or exceed the minimum initial investment requirement. If you do not meet this requirement within 90 days of notification, the fund has the right to automatically redeem the account.

EXCHANGE PRIVILEGE - You may exchange shares into other funds in The American Funds Group. Exchange purchases are subject to the minimum investment requirements of the fund purchased and no sales charge generally applies. However, exchanges of shares from the money market funds are subject to applicable sales charges on the fund being purchased, unless the money market fund shares were acquired by an exchange from a fund having a sales charge, or by reinvestment or cross-reinvestment of dividends or capital gain distributions.

You may exchange shares by writing to American Funds Service Company (see "Selling Shares"), by contacting your investment dealer, by using American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine (see "American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine" below), or by telephoning 800/421-0180 toll-free, faxing (see "Principal Underwriter and Transfer Agent" in the prospectus for the appropriate fax numbers) or telegraphing American Funds Service Company. (See "Telephone and Computer Purchases, Redemptions and Exchanges" below.) Shares held in corporate-type retirement plans for which Capital Guardian Trust Company serves as trustee may not be exchanged by telephone, computer, fax or telegraph. Exchange redemptions and purchases are processed simultaneously at the share prices next determined after the exchange order is received. (See "Purchase of Shares--Price of Shares.") THESE TRANSACTIONS HAVE THE SAME TAX CONSEQUENCES AS ORDINARY SALES AND PURCHASES.

AUTOMATIC EXCHANGES - You may automatically exchange shares (in amounts of \$50 or more) among any of the funds in The American Funds Group on any day (or preceding business day if the day falls on a non-business day) of each month you designate. You must either (a) meet the minimum initial investment requirement for the receiving fund OR (b) the originating fund's balance must be at least \$5,000 and the receiving fund's minimum must be met within one year.

AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWALS - Withdrawal payments are not to be considered as dividends, yield or income. Automatic investments may not be made into a shareholder account from which there are automatic withdrawals. Withdrawals of amounts exceeding reinvested dividends and distributions and increases in share value would reduce the aggregate value of the shareholder's account. The Transfer Agent arranges for the redemption by the Fund of sufficient shares, deposited by the shareholder with the Transfer Agent, to provide the withdrawal payment specified.

ACCOUNT STATEMENTS - Your account is opened in accordance with your registration instructions. Transactions in the account, such as additional investments and dividend reinvestments, will be reflected on regular confirmation statements from American Funds Service Company. Purchases through automatic investment plans and certain retirement plans will be confirmed at least quarterly.

AMERICAN FUNDSLINE AND AMERICAN FUNDSLINE ONLINE- You may check your share balance, the price of your shares, or your most recent account transaction, sell shares (up to \$50,000 per shareholder, per day), or exchange shares around the clock with American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine. To use this service, call 800/325-3590 from a TouchTonet telephone or access the American Funds Web site on the Internet at www.americanfunds.com. Redemptions and exchanges through American FundsLineR and American FundsLine OnLine are subject to the conditions noted above and in "Telephone and Computer Redemptions and Exchanges" below. You will need your fund number (see the list of funds in The American Funds Group under "Purchase of Shares--Investment Minimums and Fund Numbers"), personal identification number (the last four digits of your Social Security number or other tax identification number associated with your account) and account number.

TELEPHONE AND COMPUTER PURCHASES, REDEMPTIONS AND EXCHANGES - By using the telephone (including American FundsLine and American FundsLine OnLine), fax or telegraph redemption and/or exchange options, you agree to hold the fund, American Funds Service Company, any of its affiliates or mutual funds managed by such affiliates, the Fund's Business Manager and each of their respective directors, trustees, officers, employees and agents harmless from any losses, expenses, costs or liability (including attorney fees) which may be incurred in connection with the exercise of these privileges. Generally, all shareholders are automatically eligible to use these options. However, you may elect to opt out of these options by writing American Funds Service Company (you may also reinstate them at any time by writing American Funds Service Company). If American Funds Service Company does not employ reasonable procedures to confirm that the instructions received from any person with appropriate account information are genuine, it and/or the fund may be liable for losses due to unauthorized or fraudulent instructions. In the event that shareholders are unable to reach the fund by telephone because of technical difficulties, market conditions, or a natural disaster, redemption and exchange requests may be made in writing only.

SHARE CERTIFICATES - Shares are credited to your account and certificates are not issued unless you request them by writing to the Transfer Agent.

EXECUTION OF PORTFOLIO TRANSACTIONS

Orders for the fund's portfolio securities transactions are placed by the Investment Adviser. The Investment Adviser strives to obtain the best available prices in its portfolio transactions taking into account the costs and promptness of executions. When, in the opinion of the Investment Adviser, two or more brokers (either directly or through their correspondent clearing agents) are in a position to obtain the best price and execution, preference may be given to brokers who have sold shares of the fund or who have provided investment research, statistical, or other related services to the Investment Adviser. The fund does not consider that it has an obligation to obtain the lowest available commission rate to the exclusion of price, service and qualitative considerations.

There are occasions on which portfolio transactions for the fund may be executed as part of concurrent authorizations to purchase or sell the same security for other funds served by the Investment Adviser, or for trusts or other accounts served by affiliated companies of the Investment Adviser. Although such concurrent authorizations potentially could be either advantageous or disadvantageous to the fund, they are effected only when the Investment Adviser believes that to do so is in the interest of the fund. When such concurrent authorizations occur, the objective is to allocate the executions in an equitable manner. The fund will not pay a mark-up for research in principal transactions.

Substantially all portfolio transactions are effected on a principal basis and ordinarily include a mark-up or mark-down, but no stated commission. Brokerage commissions paid on portfolio transactions, including dealer concessions on underwritings, for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1999 equaled \$XX,000 for the Maryland Fund and \$xxx,000 for the Virginia Fund, respectively.

Johnston, Lemon & Co. Incorporated, which together with the Business Manager is wholly owned by The Johnston-Lemon Group, Incorporated, may serve as broker for the fund in effecting certain portfolio transactions, and may retain commissions, in accordance with certain regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

GENERAL INFORMATION

CUSTODIAN OF ASSETS - Securities and cash owned by the fund, including proceeds from the sale of shares of the fund and of securities in the fund's portfolio, are held by The Chase Manhattan Bank, Three Metrotech Center, Brooklyn, NY 11245, as Custodian.

TRANSFER AGENT - American Funds Service Company, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Investment Adviser, maintains the record of each shareholder's account, processes purchases and redemptions of the fund's shares, acts as dividend and capital gain distribution disbursing agent, and performs other related shareholder service functions. American Funds Service Company was paid a fee of \$38,000 and \$41,000, for the Maryland Fund and the Virginia Fund, respectively, for the fiscal year ended July 31, 1999.

INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS - PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, 400 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071, has served as the Trust's independent accountants since its inception, providing audit services, preparation of tax returns and review of certain documents to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Financial Statements included in this Statement of Additional Information have been so included in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP given on the authority of that firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

REPORTS TO SHAREHOLDERS - The Trust's fiscal year ends on July 31. Shareholders are provided, at least semiannually, with reports showing the investment portfolio and financial statements audited annually by the Trust's independent accountants, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, whose selection is determined annually

by the Trustees. In an effort to reduce the volume of mail shareholders receive from the fund when a household owns more than one account, the Transfer Agent has taken steps to eliminate duplicate mailings of shareholder reports. To receive additional copies of a report shareholders should contact the Transfer Agent.

YEAR 2000 - The fund and its shareholders depend on the proper functioning of computer systems maintained by the Investment Adviser and its affiliates and other key service providers. Many computer systems in use today will require reprogramming or replacement prior to the year 2000 because of the way they store dates and make date-related calculations. The fund understands that these service providers are taking steps to address the "Year 2000 problem". However, there can be no assurance that these steps will be sufficient to avoid any adverse impact on the fund. In addition, the fund's investments could be adversely affected by the Year 2000 problem. For example, the markets for securities in which the fund invests could experience settlement problems and liquidity issues. Corporate and government data processing errors may cause losses for individual companies and overall economic uncertainties. Earnings of individual issuers are likely to be affected by the costs of addressing the problem, which may be substantial and may be reported inconsistently.

PERSONAL INVESTING POLICY - Capital Research and Management Company and its affiliated companies have adopted a personal investing policy consistent with Investment Company Institute guidelines. This policy includes: a ban on acquisitions of securities pursuant to an initial public offering; restrictions on acquisitions of private placement securities; pre-clearance and reporting requirements; review of duplicate confirmation statements; annual recertification of compliance with codes of ethics; disclosure of personal holdings by certain investment personnel prior to recommendation for purchase for the fund; blackout periods for personal investing for certain investment personnel; ban on short-term trading profits for investment personnel; limitations on service as a director of publicly traded companies; and disclosure of personal securities transactions. You may obtain a summary of the personal investing policy of the fund's investment adviser by contacting the Secretary of the fund.

The financial statements including the investment portfolio and the report of Independent Accountants contained in the Annual Report are included in this Statement of Additional Information. The following information is not included in the Annual Report:

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE, REDEMPTION PRICE AND
MAXIMUM OFFERING PRICE PER SHARE -- JULY 31, 1999

<TABLE>
<CAPTION>

	THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF MARYLAND	THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF VIRGINIA
<S>	<C>	<C>
Net asset value and redemption price per share (Net assets divided by shares outstanding)	\$15.57	\$15.82
Maximum Offering price per share (100/95.25 of net asset value per share, which takes into account the fund's current maximum sales charge)	\$16.35	\$16.61

</TABLE>

SHAREHOLDER AND TRUSTEE RESPONSIBILITY - Under the laws of certain states, including Massachusetts, where the Trust was organized, shareholders of a Massachusetts business trust may, under certain circumstances, be held personally liable as partners for the obligations of the Trust. However, the risk of a shareholder incurring any financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which the Trust itself would be unable to meet its obligations. The Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability for acts or obligations of the Trust and provides that notice of the disclaimer may be given in any agreement, obligation, or instrument which is entered into or executed by the Trust or Trustees. The Declaration of Trust provides for indemnification out of Trust property of any shareholder held personally liable for the obligations of the Trust and also provides for the Trust to reimburse such shareholder for all legal and other expenses reasonably incurred in connection with any such claim or liability.

Under the Declaration of Trust, the Trustees or officers are not liable for actions or failure to act; however, they are not protected from liability by reason of their willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of their office. The Trust will provide indemnification to its Trustees and officers as authorized by its By-Laws and by the 1940 Act and the rules and regulations thereunder.

SHAREHOLDER VOTING RIGHTS - As permitted by Massachusetts law, there will normally be no meetings of shareholders for the purpose of electing Trustees unless and until such time as less than a majority of the Trustees holding office have been elected by shareholders. At that time, the Trustees then in

office will call a shareholders' meeting for the election of Trustees. The Trustees must call a meeting of shareholders for the purpose of voting upon the question of removal of any Trustee when requested to do so by the record holders of 10% of the outstanding shares of the Trust. At such a meeting, a Trustee may be removed after the holders of record of not less than a majority of the outstanding shares of the Trust have declared that the Trustee be removed either by declaration in writing or by votes cast in person or by proxy. Except as set forth above, the Trustees will continue to hold office and may appoint successor Trustees. The shares do not have cumulative voting rights, which means that the holders of a majority of the shares of the Trust voting for the election of Trustees can elect all the Trustees. No amendment may be made to the Declaration of Trust without the affirmative vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Trust except that amendments to change the name of the Trust, to correct any ambiguous, defective or inconsistent provision of, or to supply any omission to, the Declaration of Trust, to establish new funds, or to reduce or eliminate the payment of taxes by the Trust may be made by the Trustees without the vote or consent of Shareholders. If not terminated by the vote or written consent of a majority of the outstanding shares, the Trust will continue indefinitely. The fund currently issues shares in two series and the Board of Trustees may establish additional series of shares in the future. Each "series" of shares represents interests in a separate portfolio and has its own investment objective and policies. When more than one series of shares is outstanding, shares of all series will vote together for a single set of Trustees, and on other matters affecting the entire Trust, with each share entitled to a single vote. On matters affecting only one series, only the shareholders of that series shall be entitled to vote. On matters relating to more than one series but affecting the series differently, separate votes by series are required.

INVESTMENT RESULTS

The Maryland Fund yield was 3.86% and the Virginia Fund yield was 4.02% based on a 30-day (or one month) period ended July 31, 1999, computed by dividing the net investment income per share earned during the period by the maximum offering price per share on the last day of the period, according to the following formula:

$$\text{YIELD} = 2[(a-b/cd) + 1]/6 - 1]$$

Where: a = dividends and interest earned during the period.

b = expenses accrued for the period (net of reimbursements).

c = the average daily number of shares outstanding during the period that were entitled to receive dividends.

d = the maximum offering price per share on the last day of the period.

The fund may also calculate a tax equivalent yield based on a 30-day (or one month) period ended no later than the date of the most recent balance sheet included in the registration statement, computed by dividing that portion of the yield (as computed by the formula stated above) which is tax-exempt by one minus a stated income tax rate and adding the product to that portion, if any, of the yield that is not tax-exempt. The Maryland Fund's tax-equivalent yield based on the maximum combined effective federal/state/county tax rate of 44.1% for the 30-day (or one month) period ended July 31, 1999 was 6.91%. For the Virginia Fund investors with the maximum combined effective federal/state tax rate of 43.1%, the tax-equivalent yield was 7.07% for the period ended July 31, 1999.

The Maryland Fund average annual total return for the one-year, five-year and ten-year periods ending on July 31, 1999 was -2.58%, +5.19% and +6.00%, respectively. The Virginia Fund average annual total return for the same time periods was -2.67%, +4.83% and +5.95%, respectively. The average annual total return ("T") is computed by equating the value at the end of the period ("ERV") with a hypothetical initial investment of \$1,000 ("P") over a period of years ("n") according to the following formula as required by the Securities and Exchange Commission:

$$P(1+T)/n = \text{ERV.}$$

The following assumptions will be reflected in computations made in accordance with the formula stated above: (1) deduction of the maximum sales load of 4.75% from the \$1,000 initial investment; (2) reinvestment of dividends and distributions at net asset value on the reinvestment date determined by the Board; and (3) a complete redemption at the end of any period illustrated. The fund will calculate total return for ten-year periods after such a period has elapsed. In addition, the fund will provide lifetime average total return figures.

The funds may also calculate distribution rates on a taxable and tax equivalent basis. The distribution rates are computed by annualizing the current month's dividend and dividing by the average net asset value or maximum offering price for the month. The distribution rates may differ from the yields.

SEE THE DIFFERENCE TIME CAN MAKE IN AN INVESTMENT PROGRAM
....and taken all

distributions in shares,
 If you had invested your investment would
 \$10,000 in the fund have been worth this
 this many years ago... much at July 31, 1999

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

Number of Years	Periods 8/1-7/31	Maryland Value**	Virginia Value**
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>
1	1998-1999	\$9,742	\$ 9,733
2	1997-1999	\$10,316	\$10,228
3	1996-1999	\$11,297	\$11,158
4	1995-1999	11,973	11,768
5	1994-1999	12,877	12,662
6	1993-1999	13,065	12,879
7	1992-1999	14,033	13,822
8	1991-1999	15,822	15,584
9	1990-1999	17,000	16,840
10	1989-1999	17,903	17,820
11	1988-1999	20,017	19,895
12	1987-1999	21,450	21,145
13	8/14/86-1999	21,265	21,746

</TABLE>

ILLUSTRATION OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF MARYLAND
 WITH DIVIDENDS REINVESTED
 (For the lifetime of the fund August 14, 1986 - July 31, 1999)

COST OF SHARES

VALUE OF SHARES**

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

Fiscal Year End July 31	Annual Dividends	Dividends (cumulative)	Total Investment Cost	From Initial Investment	From Capital Gains Reinvested	From Dividends Reinvested	Total Value
<S>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>	<C>
1987*	\$ 493	\$ 493	\$ 10,493	\$ 8,973	\$0	\$ 471	\$ 9,444
1988	617	1,110	11,110	9,020	1	1,101	10,122
1989	653	1,763	11,763	9,480	1	1,832	11,313
1990	681	2,444	12,444	9,413	1	2,504	11,918
1991	736	3,180	13,180	9,527	1	3,276	12,804
1992	764	3,944	13,944	10,147	1	4,285	14,433
1993	765	4,709	14,709	10,353	1	5,154	15,508
1994	773	5,482	15,482	10,000	1	5,727	15,728
1995	860	6,342	16,342	10,193	1	6,726	16,920
1996	901	7,243	17,243	10,260	1	7,666	17,927
1997	945	8,188	18,188	10,680	1	8,953	19,634
1998	985	9,173	19,173	10,693	147	9,951	20,791
1999	990	10,164	20,104	10,380	263	10,662	21,265

</TABLE>

The dollar amount of capital gain distributions during the fund's lifetime was \$270.

ILLUSTRATION OF A \$10,000 INVESTMENT IN THE TAX-EXEMPT FUND OF VIRGINIA
 WITH DIVIDENDS REINVESTED
 (For the lifetime of the fund August 14, 1986 - July 31, 1999)

COST OF SHARES

VALUE OF SHARES**

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

Fiscal Year End July 31	Annual Dividends	Dividends (cumulative)	Total Investment Cost	From Initial Investment	From Capital Gains Reinvested	From Dividends Reinvestment	Total Value
1987*	\$ 545	\$ 545	\$ 10,545	\$ 9,273	\$0	\$ 525	\$ 9,798
1988	640	1,185	11,185	9,240	1	1,171	10,412
1989	671	1,856	11,856	9,700	1	1,919	11,620
1990	716	2,572	12,572	9,667	1	2,634	12,302
1991	760	3,332	13,332	9,833	1	3,454	13,288
1992	791	4,123	14,123	10,480	1	4,508	14,989
1993	800	4,923	14,923	10,673	1	5,407	16,081
1994	826	5,749	15,749	10,327	1	6,032	16,360
1995	892	6,641	16,641	10,527	1	7,069	17,597
1996	928	7,569	17,569	10,513	63	7,982	18,558
1997	955	8,524	18,524	10,913	65	9,269	20,247
1998	990	9,514	19,514	10,907	114	10,255	21,276
1999	975	10,489	20,489	10,547	338	10,861	21,746

</TABLE>

The dollar amount of capital gain distributions during the fund's lifetime was \$348.

* From inception on August 14, 1986.

** Results assume deduction of the maximum sales charge of 4.75% from the initial purchase payment.

Note that past results are not an indication of future investment results. The fund may include information on its investment results and/or comparisons of its investment results to various unmanged indices or results of other mutual funds or investment or savings vehicles in advertisements or in reports furnished to present or perspective shareholders. The fund may also combine its results with those of other funds in The American Funds Group for purposes of illustrating investment strategies involving multiple funds.

The fund may also refer to results compiled by organizations such as CDA Investment Services, Ibbotson Associates, Lipper Analytical Services, Morningstar, Inc., Weisenberger Investment Company Services and the U.S. Department of Commerce. Additionally, the fund may, from time to time, refer to results published in various newspapers or periodicals, including "Barrons", Forbes, Fortune, Institutional Investor, Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine, Money, U.S. News and World Report and "The Wall Street Journal."

DESCRIPTION OF RATINGS FOR DEBT SECURITIES

The ratings of Moody's Investors Service, Inc. and Standard & Poor's Corporation represent their opinions as to the quality of the municipal bonds which they undertake to rate. It should be emphasized, however, that ratings are general and are not absolute standards of quality. Consequently, municipal bonds with the same maturity, coupon and rating may have different yields, while municipal bonds of the same maturity and coupon with different ratings may have the same yield.

Moody's Investors Service, Inc. rates the long-term debt securities issued by various entities from "Aaa" to "C." Moody's applies the numerical modifiers 1, 2, and 3 in each generic rating classification from Aa through B in its corporate bond rating system. The modifier 1 indicates that the security ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates that the issue ranks in the lower end of its generic rating category. Ratings are described as follows:

BONDS --

"Bonds which are rated Aaa are judged to be of the best quality. They carry the smallest degree of investment risk and are generally referred to as 'gilt edge.' Interest payments are protected by a large or by an exceptionally

stable margin, and principal is secure. While the various protective elements are likely to change, such changes as can be visualized are most unlikely to impair the fundamentally strong position of such issues."

"Bonds which are rated Aa are judged to be of high quality by all standards. Together with the Aaa group, they comprise what are generally known as high-grade bonds. They are rated lower than the best bonds because margins of protection may not be as large as in Aaa securities, or fluctuation of protective elements may be of greater amplitude, or there may be other elements present which make the long-term risks appear somewhat larger than the Aaa securities."

"Bonds which are rated A possess many favorable investment attributes and are to be considered as upper medium grade obligations. Factors giving security to principal and interest are considered adequate, but elements may be present which suggest a susceptibility to impairment sometime in the future."

"Bonds which are rated Baa are considered as medium grade obligations, i.e., they are neither highly protected nor poorly secured. Interest payments and principal security appear adequate for the present but certain protective elements may be lacking or may be characteristically unreliable over any great length of time. Such bonds lack outstanding investment characteristics and, in fact, have speculative characteristics as well."

"Bonds which are rated Ba are judged to have speculative elements; their future cannot be considered as well assured. Often the protection of interest and principal payments may be very moderate and thereby not well safeguarded during both good and bad times over the future. Uncertainty of position characterizes bonds in this class."

"Bonds which are rated B generally lack characteristics of the desirable investment. Assurance of interest and principal payments or of maintenance of other terms of the contract over any long period of time may be small."

"Bonds which are rated Caa are of poor standing. Such issues may be in default or there may be present elements of danger with respect to principal or interest."

"Bonds which are rated Ca represent obligations which are speculative in a high degree. Such issues are often in default or having other marked shortcomings."

"Bonds which are rated C are the lowest rated class of bonds, and issues so rated can be regarded as having extremely poor prospects of ever attaining any real investment standing."

NOTES --

"The MIG 1 designation denotes best quality. There is present strong protection by established cash flows, superior liquidity support or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing."

"The MIG 2 designation denotes high quality. Margins of protection are ample although not as large as in the preceding group."

COMMERCIAL PAPER --

"Issuers rated Prime-1 (or related supporting institutions) have a superior capacity for repayment of short-term promissory obligations. Prime-1 repayment capacity will normally be evidenced by the following characteristics:

- Leading market positions in well established industries.
- High rates of return on funds employed.
- Conservative capitalization structures with moderate reliance on debt and ample asset protection.
- Broad margins in earnings coverage of fixed financial charges and high internal cash generation.
- Well established access to a range of financial markets and assured sources of alternate liquidity.

Issuers rated Prime-2 (or related supporting institutions) have a strong capacity for repayment of short-term promissory obligations. This will normally be evidenced by many of the characteristics cited above but to a lesser degree. Earnings trends and coverage ratios, while sound, will be more subject to variation. Capitalization characteristics, while appropriate, maybe more affected by external conditions. Ample alternate liquidity is maintained."

Standard & Poor's Corporation rates the long-term securities debt of various entities in categories ranging from "AAA" to "D" according to quality. The ratings from "AA" to "CCC" may be modified by the addition of a plus (+) or minus (-) sign to show relative standing within the major rating categories. Ratings are described as follows:

BONDS --

"Debt rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by Standard & Poor's.

Capacity to pay interest and repay principal is extremely strong."

"Debt rated 'AA' has a very strong capacity to pay interest and repay principal and differs from the higher rated issues only in small degree."

"Debt rated 'A' has a strong capacity to pay interest and repay principal although it is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than debt in higher rated categories."

"Debt rated 'BBB' is regarded as having an adequate capacity to pay interest and repay principal. Whereas it normally exhibits adequate protection parameters, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity to pay interest and repay principal for debt in this category than in higher rated categories."

"BB, B, CCC, CC, C -- Regarded, on balance, as predominantly speculative with respect to capacity to pay interest and repay principal in accordance with the terms of the obligation. BB indicates the lowest degree of speculation and C The highest degree of speculation. While such debt will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these are outweighed by large uncertainties or major risk exposures to adverse conditions."

"The rating 'C1' is reserved for income bonds on which no interest is being paid."

"Debt rated 'D' is in payment default. The 'D' rating category is used when interest payments or principal payments are not made on the date due even if the applicable grace period has not expired, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made during such grace period. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition if debt service payments are jeopardized."

NOTES --

"The SP-1 rating denotes a very strong or strong capacity to pay principal and interest. Those issues determined to possess overwhelming safety characteristics will be given a plus (+) designation."

"The SP-2 rating denotes a satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest."

COMMERCIAL PAPER --

"The A-1 designation indicates that the degree of safety regarding timely payment is either overwhelming or very strong. Those issues determined to possess overwhelming safety characteristics are denoted with a plus (+) designation.

The A-2 designation indicates a capacity for timely payment on issues so designated is strong; however, the relative degree of safety is not as high as for issues designated A-1."

PART C
OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 23 EXHIBITS:

- (a). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (b). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (c). None.
- (d). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (e). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (f). None
- (g). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (h). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (i). Not applicable to this filing.
- (j). Consent of Independent Accountants - to be provided with 485(b) filing
- (k). None
- (l). Not applicable to this filing
- (m). On file (see SEC file nos. 811-4653 and 33-5270)
- (n). EX-27 Financial Data Schedule - to be provided with 485(b) filing
- (o). None

ITEM 24. PERSONS CONTROLLED BY OR UNDER COMMON CONTROL WITH REGISTRANT.
None.

ITEM 25. INDEMNIFICATION.

Registrant is a joint-insured under an Investment Advisor/Mutual Fund Errors and Omissions Policy written by American International Surplus Lines Insurance Company, Chubb Custom Insurance Company, and ICI Mutual which insures its officers and trustees against certain liabilities.

Article VI of the Trust's By-Laws states:

(a) The Trust shall indemnify any Trustee or officer of the Trust who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than action by or in the right of the Trust) by reason

of the fact that such person is or was such Trustee or officer or an employee or agent of the Trust, or is or was serving at the request of the Trust as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Trust, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe such person's conduct was unlawful. The termination of any action, suit or proceeding by judgment, order, settlement, conviction or upon a plea of nolo contendere or its equivalent, shall not, of itself, create a presumption that the person reasonably believed to be opposed to the best interests of the Trust, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had reasonable cause to believe that such person's conduct was unlawful.

(b) The Trust shall indemnify any Trustee or officer of the Trust who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by or in the right of the Trust to procure a judgment in its favor by reason of the fact that such person is or was such Trustee or officer or an employee or agent of the Trust, or is or was serving at the request of the Trust as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with the defense or settlement of such action or suit if such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Trust, except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of such person's duty to the Trust unless and only to the extent that the court in which such action or suit was brought, or any other court having jurisdiction in the premises, shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all circumstances of the case,

ITEM 25. INDEMNIFICATION (CONT.)

such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses which such court shall deem proper.

(c) To the extent that a Trustee or officer of the Trust has been successful on the merits in defense of any action, suit or proceeding referred to in subparagraphs (a) or (b) above or in defense of any claim, issue or matter therein, such person shall be indemnified against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection therewith, without the necessity for the determination as to the standard of conduct as provided in subparagraph (d).

(d) Any indemnification under subparagraph (a) or (b) (unless ordered by a court) shall be made by the Trust only as authorized in the specific case upon a determination that indemnification of the Trustee or officer is proper under the standard of conduct set forth in subparagraph (a) or (b). Such determination shall be made (i) by the Board by a majority vote of a quorum consisting of Trustees who were not parties to such action, suit or proceeding, and are disinterested Trustees or (ii) if such a quorum of disinterested Trustees so directs, by independent legal counsel in a written opinion.

(e) Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Trust in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, as authorized in the particular case, upon receipt of an undertaking and security by or on behalf of the Trustee or officer to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that such person is entitled to be indemnified by the Trust as authorized herein.

(f) Agents and employees of the Trust who are not Trustees or officers of the Trust may be indemnified under the same standards and procedures set forth above, in the discretion of the Board.

(g) Any indemnification pursuant to this Article shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those indemnified may be entitled and shall continue as to a person who has ceased to be Trustee or officer and shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such person.

(h) Nothing in the Declaration of Trust or in these By-Laws shall be deemed to protect any Trustee, officer, distributor, investment adviser or controlling shareholder of the Trust against any liability to the Trust or to its shareholders to which such person would otherwise be subject by reason of willful malfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of such person's office.

(i) The Trust shall have power to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person against any liability asserted against or incurred by such person, whether or not the Trust would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under the provisions of this Article. Nevertheless, insurance will not be purchased or maintained by the Trust if the purchase or maintenance of such insurance would result in the indemnification of any person in contravention of any rule or regulation of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Expenses incurred in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the Trust in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding, as authorized in the particular case, upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the Trustee or officer to repay such amount unless it shall ultimately be determined that such person is entitled to be indemnified by the Trust as authorized herein. Such determination must be made by disinterested Trustees or independent legal counsel.

Insofar as indemnification for liability arising under the Securities Act of

1933 may be permitted to Trustees, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the Registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the Registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a Trustee, officer of controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such Trustee, officer of controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the Registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

ITEM 26. BUSINESS AND OTHER CONNECTIONS OF INVESTMENT ADVISER.

None.

ITEM 27. PRINCIPAL UNDERWRITERS.

(a) American Funds Distributors, Inc. is also the Principal Underwriter of shares of: AMCAP Fund, Inc., American Balanced Fund, Inc., The American Funds Income Series, The American Funds Tax-Exempt Series I, The American Funds Tax-Exempt Series II, American High-Income Municipal Bond Fund, Inc., American High-Income Trust, American Mutual Fund, Inc., The Bond Fund of America, Inc., Capital Income Builder, Inc., Capital World Bond Fund, Inc., Capital World Growth and Income Fund, Inc., The Cash Management Trust of America, EuroPacific Growth Fund, Fundamental Investors, Inc., The Income Fund of America, Inc., Intermediate Bond Fund of America, The Investment Company of America, Limited Term Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America, The New Economy Fund, New Perspective Fund, Inc., New World Fund, SMALLCAP World Fund, Inc., The Tax-Exempt Bond Fund of America, Inc., The Tax-Exempt Money Fund of America, The U.S. Treasury Money Fund of America and Washington Mutual Investors Fund, Inc.

<TABLE>

<CAPTION>

(B)	(1)	(2)	(3)
	NAME AND PRINCIPAL BUSINESS ADDRESS	POSITIONS AND OFFICES WITH UNDERWRITER	POSITIONS AND OFFICES WITH REGISTRANT
<S>	<C> David L. Abzug 27304 Park Vista Road Agoura Hills, CA 91301	<C> Regional Vice President	<C> None
	John A. Agar 1501 N. University, Suite 227A Little Rock, AR 72207	Vice President	None
	Robert B. Aprison 2983 Bryn Wood Drive Madison, WI 53711	Vice President	None
L	William W. Bagnard Steven L. Barnes 5400 Mount Meeker Road Boulder, CO 80301	Vice President Senior Vice President	None None
B	Carl R. Bauer Michelle A. Bergeron 4160 Gateswalk Drive Smyrna, GA 30080	Assistant Vice President Vice President	None None

	Joseph T. Blair	Senior Vice President	None
	27 Drumlin Road		
	West Simsbury, CT 06092		
	John A. Blanchard	Vice President	None
	6421 Aberdeen Road		
	Mission Hills, KS 66208		
	Ian B. Bodell	Senior Vice President	None
	P.O. Box 1665		
	Brentwood, TN 37024-1665		
	Michael L. Brethower	Senior Vice President	None
	2320 North Austin Avenue		
	Georgetown, TX 78626		
	C. Alan Brown	Regional Vice President	None
4129	Laclede Avenue		
	St. Louis, MO 63108		
H	J. Peter Burns	Vice President	None
	Brian C. Casey	Regional Vice President	None
	8002 Greentree Road		
	Bethesda, MD 20817		
	Victor C. Cassato	Senior Vice President	None
	609 W. Littleton Blvd., Suite 310		
	Littleton, CO 80120		
	Christopher J. Cassin	Senior Vice President	None
	111 W. Chicago Avenue, Suite G3		
	Hinsdale, IL 60521		
	Denise M. Cassin	Vice President	None
	1301 Stoney Creek Drive		
	San Ramon, CA 94538		
L	Larry P. Clemmensen	Director	None
L	Kevin G. Clifford	Director, President and Co-Chief Executive Officer	None
	Ruth M. Collier	Senior Vice President	None

145 West 67th St., #12K

New York, NY 10023

S	David Coolbaugh	Assistant Vice President	None
	Thomas E. Cournoyer	Vice President	None
	2333 Granada Boulevard		
	Coral Gables, FL 33134		
	Douglas A. Critchell	Senior Vice President	None
	3521 Rittenhouse Street, N.W.		
	Washington, D.C. 20015		
L	Carl D. Cutting	Vice President	None
	Daniel J. Delianedis	Regional Vice President	None
	8689 Braxton Drive		
	Eden Prairie, MN 55347		
	Michael A. Dilella	Vice President	None
	P. O. Box 661		
	Ramsey, NJ 07446		
	G. Michael Dill	Senior Vice President	None
	505 E. Main Street		
	Jenks, OK 74037		
	Kirk D. Dodge	Senior Vice President	None
	633 Menlo Avenue, Suite 210		
	Menlo Park, CA 94025		
	Peter J. Doran	Senior Vice President	None
	1205 Franklin Avenue		
	Garden City, NY 11530		
L	Michael J. Downer	Secretary	None
	Robert W. Durbin	Vice President	None
	74 Sunny Lane		
	Tiffin, OH 44883		
I	Lloyd G. Edwards	Senior Vice President	None

L	Paul H. Fieberg	Senior Vice President	None
	John Fodor	Vice President	None
	15 Latisquama Road		
	Southborough, MA 01772		
	Clyde E. Gardner	Senior Vice President	None
	Route 2, Box 3162		
	Osage Beach, MO 65065		
B	Evelyn K. Glassford	Vice President	None
	Jeffrey J. Greiner	Vice President	None
	12210 Taylor Road		
	Plain City, OH 43064		
L	Paul G. Haaga, Jr.	Director	None
B	Mariellen Hamann	Assistant Vice President	None
	David E. Harper	Senior Vice President	None
	R.D. 1, Box 210, Rte 519		
	Frenchtown, NJ 08825		
	Ronald R. Hulsey	Vice President	None
	6744 Avalon		
	Dallas, TX 75214		
	Robert S. Irish	Regional Vice President	None
	1225 Vista Del Mar Drive		
	Delray Beach, FL 33483		
	Michael J. Johnston	Director	None
	630 Fifth Avenue, 36th Floor		
	New York, NY 10111		
B	Damien M. Jordan	Vice President	None
	Arthur J. Levine	Senior Vice President	None
	12558 Highlands Place		
	Fishers, IN 46038		
B	Karl A. Lewis	Assistant Vice President	None

	T. Blake Liberty 5506 East Mineral Lane Littleton, CO 80122	Regional Vice President	None
	Mark Lien 5570 Beechwood Terrace West Des Moines, IA 50266	Regional Vice President	None
L	Lorin E. Liesy	Assistant Vice President	None
L	Susan G. Lindgren	Vice President - Institutional Investment Services	None
LW	Robert W. Lovelace	Director	None
	Stephen A. Malbasa 13405 Lake Shore Blvd. Cleveland, OH 44110	Vice President	None
	Steven M. Markel 5241 South Race Street Littleton, CO 80121	Senior Vice President	None
L	J. Clifton Massar	Director, Senior Vice President	None
L	E. Lee McClennahan	Senior Vice President	None
L	Jamie R. McCrary	Assistant Vice President	None
S	John V. McLaughlin	Senior Vice President	None
	Terry W. McNabb 2002 Barrett Station Road St. Louis, MO 63131	Vice President	None
L	R. William Melinat	Vice President - Institutional Investment Services	None
	David R. Murray 60 Briant Drive Sudbury, MA 01776	Vice President	None
	Stephen S. Nelson P.O. Box 470528	Vice President	None

	William E. Noe	Regional Vice President	None
	304 River Oaks Road Brentwood, TN 37027		
	Peter A. Nyhus	Vice President	None
	3084 Wilds Ridge Court Prior Lake, MN 55372		
	Eric P. Olson	Vice President	None
	62 Park Drive Glenview, IL 60025		
	Fredric Phillips	Senior Vice President	None
	175 Highland Avenue, 4th Floor Needham, MA 02494		
B	Candance D. Pilgrim	Assistant Vice President	None
	Carl S. Platou	Vice President	None
	4021 96th Avenue, S.E. Mercer Island, WA 98040		
L	John O. Post	Vice President	None
S	Richard P. Prior	Assistant Vice President	None
	Steven J. Reitman	Senior Vice President	None
	212 The Lane Hinsdale, IL 60521		
	Brian A. Roberts	Vice President	None
	P.O. Box 472245 Charlotte, NC 28247		
	George S. Ross	Senior Vice President	None
	55 Madison Avenue Morristown, NJ 07962		
L	Julie D. Roth	Vice President	None
L	James F. Rothenberg	Director	None

	Douglas F. Rowe	Vice President	None
	30008 Oakland Hills Drive Georgetown, TX 78628		
	Christopher S. Rowey	Regional Vice President	None
	9417 Beverlywood Street Los Angeles, CA 90034		
	Dean B. Rydquist	Senior Vice President	None
	1080 Bay Pointe Crossing Alpharetta, GA 30005		
	Richard R. Samson	Senior Vice President	None
	4604 Glencoe Avenue, #4 Marina del Rey, CA 90292		
	Joseph D. Scarpitti	Vice President	None
	31465 St. Andrews Westlake, OH 44145		
L	R. Michael Shanahan	Director	None
	David W. Short	Director, Chairman of the Board and Co-Chief Executive Officer	None
	1000 RIDC Plaza, Suite 212 Pittsburgh, PA 15238		
	William P. Simon, Jr.	Senior Vice President	None
	912 Castlehill Lane Devon, PA 91333		
L	John C. Smith	Assistant Vice President - Institutional Investment Services	None
	Rodney G. Smith	Vice President	None
	100 N. Central Expressway Suite 1214 Richardson, TX 75080		
	Tony Soave	Regional Vice President	None
	8831 Morning Mist Drive Clarkston, MI 48348		
	Nicholas D. Spadaccini	Regional Vice President	None
	855 Markley Woods Way Cincinnati, OH 45230		
L	Kristen J. Spazafumo	Assistant Vice President	None

	Daniel S. Spradling	Senior Vice President	None
	181 Second Avenue Suite 228 San Mateo, CA 94401		
B	Max D. Stites	Vice President	None
	Thomas A. Stout	Regional Vice President	None
	3919 Whooping Crane Circle Virginia Beach, VA 23455		
	Craig R. Strauser	Vice President	None
	3 Dover Way Lake Oswego, OR 97034		
	Francis N. Strazzeri	Senior Vice President	None
	31641 Saddletree Drive Westlake Village, CA 91361		
L	Drew W. Taylor	Assistant Vice President	None
S	James P. Toomey	Vice President	None
I	Christopher E. Trede	Vice President	None
	George F. Truesdail	Vice President	None
	400 Abbotsford Court Charlotte, NC 28270		
	Scott W. Ursin-Smith	Vice President	None
	60 Reedland Woods Way Tiburon, CA 94920		
	Thomas E. Warren	Regional Vice President	None
	119 Faubel Street Sarasota, FL 34242		
L	J. Kelly Webb	Senior Vice President, Treasurer	None
	Gregory J. Weimer	Vice President	None
	206 Hardwood Drive Venetia, PA 15367		

B	Timothy W. Weiss	Director	None
	George Wenzel 3406 Shakespeare Drive Troy, MI 48084	Regional Vice President	None
	N. Dexter Williams P.O. Box 2200 Danville, CA 94526	Senior Vice President	None
	Timothy J. Wilson 113 Farmview Place Venetia, PA 15367	Vice President	None
B	Laura L. Wimberly	Vice President	None
H	Marshall D. Wingo	Director, Senior Vice President	None
L	Robert L. Winston	Director, Senior Vice President	None
	William R. Yost 9320 Overlook Trail Eden Prairie, MN 55347	Vice President	None
	Janet M. Young 1616 Vermont Houston, TX 77006	Regional Vice President	None
	Scott D. Zambon 320 Robinson Drive Tustin Ranch, CA 92782	Regional Vice President	None

</TABLE>

L Business Address, 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071
LW Business Address, 11100 Santa Monica Boulevard, 15th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90025
B Business Address, 135 South State College Boulevard, Brea, CA 92821
S Business Address, 3500 Wiseman Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78251
H Business Address, 5300 Robin Hood Road, Norfolk, VA 23513
I Business Address, 8332 Woodfield Crossing Blvd., Indianapolis, IN 46240
(c) None.

ITEM 28. LOCATION OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS.

Accounts, books and other records required by Rules 31a-1 and 31a-2 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended, are maintained and kept in the offices of the Trust, 1101 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005, and its investment adviser, Capital Research and Management Company (CRMC), 333 South Hope Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071. Certain accounting records are maintained and kept in the offices of CRMC's fund accounting department, 5300 Robin Hood Road, Norfolk, VA 23513.

Records covering shareholder accounts are maintained and kept by the transfer agent, American Funds Service Company, 135 South State College Blvd., Brea, CA 92821.

Records covering portfolio transactions are also maintained and kept by the

custodian, The Chase Manhattan Bank, One Chase Manhattan Plaza, New York, New York, 10081.

ITEM 29. MANAGEMENT SERVICES.
None.

ITEM 30. UNDERTAKINGS.
None.

SIGNATURE OF REGISTRANT

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the Registrant has duly caused this amended Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Washington, District of Columbia, on the 10th day of September, 1999.

THE AMERICAN FUNDS TAX-EXEMPT SERIES I

By

Harry J. Lister, President

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this amendment to registration statement has been signed below on September 10, 1999, by the following persons in the capacities indicated.

SIGNATURE TITLE

(1) Principal Executive Officer:

Harry J. Lister President

(2) Principal Financial Officer and

Principal Accounting Officer:

Howard L. Kitzmiller Senior Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer

(3) Trustees:

James H. Lemon, Jr.* Chairman of the Board

Stephen Hartwell* Chairman Emeritus and Trustee

Harry J. Lister* President and Trustee

Cyrus A. Ansary* Trustee

Jean Head Sisco* Trustee

T. Eugene Smith* Trustee

Stephen G. Yeonas* Trustee

*By

Howard L. Kitzmiller, Attorney-in-Fact