

# Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds Total Bond Market Index Portfolio

April 28, 2023

Prospectus

This prospectus contains financial data for the Portfolio through the fiscal year ended

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## Portfolio Summary

## **Investment Objective**

The Portfolio seeks to track the performance of a broad, market-weighted bond index.

#### Fees and Expenses

The following table describes the fees and expenses you may pay if you buy, hold, and sell shares of the Portfolio. The expenses shown in the table and in the example that follows do not reflect additional fees and expenses associated with the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. If those additional fees and expenses were included, overall expenses would be higher.

#### Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses

(Expenses that you pay each year as a percentage of the value of your investment)

Management Fees	0.13%
12b-1 Distribution Fee	None
Other Expenses	0.01%
Total Annual Portfolio Operating Expenses	0.14%

#### Example

rates, resulting in a decline in the Portfolio's income. Such prepayments and subsequent reinvestments would also increase the Portfolio's turnover rate. Prepayment risk should be moderate for the Portfolio.

• Extension risk, which is the chance that during periods of rising interest rates, certain debt securities will be paid off substantially more slowly than originally anticipated, and the value of those securities may fall. For funds that invest in

those of the Portfolio. The Portfolio's returns are net of its expenses, but do not reflect additional fees and expenses that are deducted by the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. If such fees and expenses were

#### Tax Information

The Portfolio normally distributes its net investment income and net realized capital gains, if any, to its shareholders, which are the insurance company separate accounts that sponsor your variable annuity or variable life insurance contract. The tax consequences to you of your investment in the Portfolio depend on the provisions of the annuity or life insurance contract through which you invest. For more information on taxes, please refer to the prospectus of the annuity or life insurance contract through which Portfolio shares are offered.

## Payments to Financial Intermediaries

The Portfolio and its investment advisor do not pay financial intermediaries for sales of Portfolio shares.

#### More on the Portfolio

This prospectus describes the principal risks you would face as an investor in this Portfolio. It is important to keep in mind one of the main principles of investing: generally, the higher the risk of losing money, the higher the potential reward. The reverse, also, is generally true: the lower the risk, the lower the potential reward. As you consider an investment in any mutual fund, you should take into account your personal tolerance for fluctuations in the securities markets. Look for this symbol throughout the prospectus. It is used to mark detailed information about the more significant risks that you would confront as a Portfolio investor. To highlight terms and concepts important to mutual fund investors, we have provided Plain Talk® explanations along the way. Reading the prospectus will help you decide whether the Portfolio is the right investment for you. We suggest that you keep this prospectus for future reference.

#### A Note About Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds

The Total Bond Market Index Portfolio of Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds is a mutual fund used solely as an investment option for annuity or life insurance contracts offered by insurance companies. This means that you cannot purchase shares of the Portfolio directly, but only through a contract offered by an insurance company.

The Total Bond Market Index Portfolio is separate from other Vanguard mutual funds, even when the Portfolio and a fund have the same investment objective and advisor. The Portfolio's investment performance will differ from the performance of other Vanguard funds because of differences in the securities held and because of administrative and insurance costs associated with the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest.

## Plain Talk About Costs of Investing

Costs are an important consideration in choosing a mutual fund. That is because you, as a contract owner, pay a proportionate share of the costs of operating a fund and any transaction costs incurred when the fund buys or sells securities. These costs can erode a substantial portion of the gross income or the capital appreciation a fund achieves. Even seemingly small differences in expenses can, over time, have a dramatic effect on a fund's performance.

The following sections explain the principal investment strategies and policies that the Portfolio uses in pursuit of its investment objective. The board of trustees of Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds (the Board), which oversees the Portfolio's management, may change investment strategies or policies in the

interest of shareholders without a shareholder vote, unless those strategies or policies are designated as fundamental. The Portfolio may change its policy of investing at least 80% of its assets in bonds that are part of its target index only upon 60 days' notice to shareholders.

#### Market Exposure

The Portfolio invests in public, investment-grade, taxable, fixed income securities in the United States, as well as mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities.

#### Plain Talk About Types of Bonds

Bonds are issued (sold) by many sources: Corporations issue corporate bonds; the federal government issues U.S. Treasury bonds; agencies of the federal government issue agency bonds; financial institutions issue asset-backed bonds; and mortgage holders issue "mortgage-backed" pass-through certificates. Each issuer is responsible for paying back the bond's initial value as well as for making periodic interest payments. Many bonds issued by government agencies and entities are neither guaranteed nor insured by the U.S. government.



The Portfolio is subject to interest rate risk, which is the chance that bond prices overall will decline because of rising interest rates.

#### Plain Talk About Bonds and Interest Rates

As a rule, when interest rates rise, bond prices fall. The opposite is also true: Bond prices go up when interest rates fall. Why do bond prices and interest rates move in opposite directions? Let's assume that you hold a bond offering a 4% yield. A year later, interest rates are on the rise and bonds of comparable quality and maturity are offered with a 5% yield. With higher-yielding bonds available, you would have trouble selling your 4% bond for the price you paid—you would probably have to lower your asking price. On the other hand, if interest rates were falling and 3% bonds were being offered, you should be able to sell your 4% bond for more than you paid.

How mortgage-backed securities are different: In general, declining interest rates will not lift the prices of mortgage-backed securities—such as those guaranteed by the Government National Mortgage Association—as much as the prices of comparable bonds. Why? Because when interest rates fall, the bond market tends to discount the prices of mortgage-backed securities for prepayment risk—the possibility that homeowners will refinance their mortgages at lower rates and cause the bonds to be paid off prior to maturity. In part to compensate for this prepayment possibility, mortgage-backed securities tend to offer higher yields than other bonds of comparable credit quality and maturity. In contrast, when interest rates rise, prepayments tend to slow down, subjecting mortgage-backed securities to extension risk—the possibility that homeowners will repay their mortgages at slower rates. This will lengthen the duration or average life of mortgage-backed securities held by a fund and delay the fund's ability to reinvest proceeds at higher interest rates, making the fund more sensitive to changes in interest rates.

In general, interest rate fluctuations widen as a bond portfolio's average maturity lengthens. The Portfolio is expected to have a moderate level of interest rate risk because its holdings have an intermediate-term average maturity.



The Portfolio is subject to income risk, which is the chance that the Portfolio's income will decline because of falling interest rates. A portfolio's income declines when interest rates fall because the portfolio then must invest new cash flow and cash from maturing bonds in lower-yielding bonds.

In general, income risk is higher for short-term bond funds and lower for long-term bond funds. Accordingly, the Portfolio should have a moderate level of income risk.

ا	Plain Talk About Bond Maturities	



The Portfolio is subject to liquidity risk, which is the chance that the Portfolio may not be able to sell a security in a timely manner at a desired price.

Corporate bonds are traded among dealers and brokers that connect buyers with sellers. Liquidity in the corporate bond market may be challenged depending on overall economic conditions and credit tightening. There may be little trading in the secondary market for particular bonds and other debt securities, which may make them more difficult to value or sell.

Market disruptions can adversely affect local and global markets as well as normal market conditions and operations. Any such disruptions could have an adverse impact on the value of the Portfolio's investments and Portfolio performance.

#### **Security Selection**

Because it would be very expensive and inefficient to buy and sell *all* securities held in its target index, the Total Bond Market Index Portfolio uses index "sampling" techniques to select securities. Using computer programs, the Portfolio's advisor generally selects a representative sample of securities that approximates the full target index in terms of key risk factors and other characteristics. These factors include duration, cash flow, quality, and callability of the underlying bonds. In addition, the Portfolio keeps industry sector and subsector exposure within tight boundaries relative to its target index. Because the Portfolio does *not* hold all of the securities included in its target index, some of the securities (and issuers) that are held will likely be overweighted (or underweighted) compared with the target index. The maximum overweight (or underweight) is constrained at the issuer level with the goal of producing well-diversified credit exposure in the Portfolio.



The Portfolio is subject to index sampling risk, which is the chance that the securities selected for the Portfolio, in the aggregate, will not provide investment performance matching that of the Portfolio's target index. Index sampling risk for the Portfolio is expected to be low.

The Bloomberg U.S. Aggregate Float Adjusted Index measures the performance of a wide spectrum of public, investment-grade, taxable, fixed income securities in the United States—including government, corporate, and international



mortgage-backed securities and have the potential to enhance the Portfolio's returns and reduce its administrative burdens, compared with holding mortgage-backed securities directly. These transactions may increase the Portfolio's turnover rate. Mortgage dollar rolls will be used only to the extent that they are consistent with the Portfolio's investment objective and risk profile.

#### Plain Talk About U.S. Government-Sponsored Enterprises

A variety of U.S. government-sponsored enterprises (GSEs), such as the Federal Home Loan Mortgage Corporation (FHLMC), the Federal National Mortgage Association (FNMA), and the Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLBs), issue debt and mortgage-backed securities. Although GSEs may be chartered or sponsored by acts of Congress, they are not funded by congressional appropriations. In September of 2008, the U.S. Treasury placed FNMA and FHLMC under conservatorship and appointed the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) to manage their daily operations. In addition, the U.S. Treasury entered into purchase agreements with FNMA and FHLMC to provide them with capital in exchange for senior preferred stock. Generally, a GSE's securities are neither issued nor guaranteed by the U.S. Treasury and are not backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. In most cases, these securities are supported only by the credit of the GSE, standing alone. In some cases, a GSE's securities may be supported by the ability of the GSE to borrow from the U.S. Treasury or may be supported by the U.S. government in some other way. Securities issued by the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA), however, are backed by the full faith and credit of the U.S. government.

#### Other Investment Policies and Risks

The Portfolio reserves the right to substitute a different index for the index it currently tracks if the current index is discontinued, if the Portfolio's agreement with the sponsor of its target index is terminated, or for any other reason determined in good faith by the Board. In any such instance, the substitute index would represent the same market segment as the current index.

The Portfolio may invest in international U.S. dollar-denominated bonds issued by

the bond's value is designated in dollars rather than in the currency of the issuer's country, the Portfolio is not exposed to currency risk; rather, the issuer assumes the risk, usually to attract U.S. investors.

The Portfolio may also invest in relatively conservative classes of collateralized mortgage obligations (CMOs), which offer a high degree of cash-flow predictability and a low level of vulnerability to mortgage prepayment risk. To reduce credit risk, these less-risky classes of CMOs are purchased only if they

#### Plain Talk About Derivatives

Derivatives can take many forms. Some forms of derivatives—such as exchange-traded futures and options on securities, commodities, or indexes—have been trading on regulated exchanges for decades. These types of derivatives are standardized contracts that can easily be bought and sold and whose market values are determined and published daily. On the other hand, non-exchange-traded derivatives—such as certain swap agreements—tend to be more specialized or complex and may be more difficult to accurately value.

The Portfolio may invest a small portion of its assets in fixed income futures, which are a type of derivative, and/or shares of exchange-traded funds (ETFs). These fixed income futures and ETFs typically provide returns similar to those of the bonds listed in the index, or in a subset of the index, the Portfolio seeks to track. The Portfolio may purchase futures or ETFs when doing so will reduce the Portfolio's transaction costs, facilitate cash management, mitigate risk, or have the potential to add value because the instruments are favorably priced. Vanguard receives no additional revenue from Portfolio assets invested in ETF Shares of other Vanguard funds. Portfolio assets invested in ETF Shares are excluded when allocating to the Portfolio its share of the costs of Vanguard operations.

## Cash Management

The Portfolio's daily cash balance may be invested in Vanguard Market Liquidity Fund and/or Vanguard Municipal Cash Management Fund (each, a CMT Fund), which are low-cost money market funds. When investing in a CMT Fund, the Portfolio bears its proportionate share of the expenses of the CMT Fund in which it invests. Vanguard receives no additional revenue from Portfolio assets invested in a CMT Fund.

## **Temporary Investment Measures**

The Portfolio may temporarily depart from its normal investment policies and strategies when the advisor believes that doing so is in the Portfolio's best interest, so long as the strategy or policy employed is consistent with the Portfolio's investment objective. For instance, the Portfolio may invest beyond its normal limits in derivatives or exchange-traded funds that are consistent with the Portfolio's investment objective when those instruments are more favorably priced or provide needed liquidity, as might be the case when the Portfolio receives large cash flows that it cannot prudently invest immediately.

### Frequent Trading or Market-Timing

Background. Some investors try to profit from strategies involving frequent trading of mutual fund shares, such as market-timing. For funds holding foreign securities, investors may try to take advantage of an anticipated difference between the price of the fund's shares and price movements in overseas markets, a practice also known as time-zone arbitrage. Investors also may try to engage in frequent trading of funds holding investments such as small-cap stocks and high-yield bonds. As money is shifted into and out of a fund by an investor engaging in frequent trading, the fund incurs costs for buying and selling securities, resulting in increased brokerage and administrative costs. These costs are borne by *all* fund investors, including the long-term investors who do not generate the costs. In addition, frequent trading may interfere with an advisor's ability to efficiently manage the fund.

Policies to address frequent trading. The Vanguard funds (other than money market funds and short-term bond funds, but including Vanguard Short-Term Inflation-Protected Securities Index Fund) do not knowingly accommodate frequent trading. The board of trustees of each Vanguard fund (other than money market funds and short-term bond funds, but including Vanguard Short-Term Inflation-Protected Securities Index Fund) has adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to detect and discourage frequent trading and, in some cases, to compensate the fund for the costs associated with it. These policies and procedures do not apply to ETF Shares because frequent trading in ETF Shares generally does not disrupt portfolio management or otherwise harm fund investors. Although there is no assurance that Vanguard will be able to detect or prevent frequent trading or market-timing in all circumstances, the following policies have been adopted to address these issues:

- Each Vanguard fund reserves the right to reject any purchase request—including exchanges from other Vanguard funds—without notice and regardless of size. For example, a purchase request could be rejected because the investor has a history of frequent trading or if Vanguard determines that such purchase may negatively affect a fund's operation or performance.
- Certain Vanguard funds charge investors purchase and/or redemption fees on transactions.

You may purchase or sell Portfolio shares through a contract offered by an insurance company. When insurance companies establish omnibus accounts in the Portfolio for their clients, we cannot monitor the individual clients' trading activity. However, we review trading activity at the omnibus account level, and we look for activity that may indicate potential frequent trading or market-timing. If we detect suspicious trading activity, we will seek the assistance of the insurance company to investigate that trading activity and take appropriate

action, including prohibiting additional purchases of Portfolio shares by a client. Insurance companies may apply frequent-trading policies that differ from one another. Please read the insurance company contract and program materials carefully to learn of any rules or fees that may apply.

See the accompanying prospectus for the annuity or insurance program through which Portfolio shares are offered for further details on transaction policies.

The Portfolio, in determining its net asset value, will use fair-value pricing when appropriate, as described in the *Share Price* section. Fair-value pricing may reduce or eliminate the profitability of certain frequent-trading strategies.

Do not invest with Vanguard if you are a market-timer.

A precautionary note to investment companies: The Portfolio's shares are issued by a registered investment company, and therefore the acquisition of such shares by other investment companies and private funds is subject to the restrictions of Section 12(d)(1) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 (the 1940 Act). SEC Rule 12d1-4 under the 1940 Act permits registered investment companies to invest in other registered investment companies beyond the limits in Section 12(d)(1), subject to certain conditions, including that funds with different investment advisors must enter into a fund of funds investment agreement.

#### **Turnover Rate**

A mutual fund's turnover rate is a measure of its trading activity. Generally, an index fund sells securities in response to redemption requests or to changes in the composition of its target index, or to manage the fund's duration. The Portfolio manage the fagreement.

## The Portfolio and Vanguard

The Portfolio is a member of The Vanguard Group, Inc. (Vanguard), a family of over 200 funds. All of the funds that are members of Vanguard (other than funds of funds) share in the expenses associated with administrative services and business operations, such as personnel, office space, and equipment.

Vanguard Marketing Corporation provides marketing services to the funds. Although fund shareholders do not pay sales commissions or 12b-1 distribution fees, each fund (other than a fund of funds) or each share class of a fund (in the case of a fund with multiple share classes) pays its allocated share of the Vanguard funds' marketing costs.

## Plain Talk About Vanguard's Unique Corporate Structure

Vanguard is owned jointly by the funds it oversees and thus indirectly by the shareholders in those funds. Most other mutual funds are operated by management companies that are owned by third parties—either public or private stockholders—and not by the funds they serve.

#### Investment Advisor

The Vanguard Group, Inc., P.O. Box 2600, Valley Forge, PA 19482, which began operations in 1975, provides investment advisory services to the Portfolio through its Fixed Income Group pursuant to the Funds' Service Agreement and

the board of trustees that an advisor be hired, terminated, or replaced or that the terms of an existing advisory agreement be revised. Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds has filed an application seeking a similar SEC exemption with respect to investment advisors that are wholly owned subsidiaries of Vanguard. If the exemption is granted, the Portfolio may rely on the new SEC relief.

For a discussion of why the Board approved the Portfolio's investment advisory arrangement, see the most recent semiannual report to shareholders covering the fiscal period ended June 30.

The managers primarily responsible for the day-to-day management of the Portfolio are:

Joshua C. Barrickman, CFA, Principal of Vanguard and co-head of Vanguard's Fixed Income Indexing Americas. He has been with Vanguard since 1998, has worked in investment management since 1999, has managed investment portfolios since 2005, and has managed the Portfolio since 2013. Education:

The Portfolio intends to operate in such a manner that a separate account investing only in Portfolio shares will result in the variable annuity and variable life insurance contracts supported by that account receiving favorable tax treatment. This favorable treatment means that you generally will not be taxed on Portfolio distributions or proceeds on dispositions of Portfolio shares received by the separate account funding your contract. In order to qualify for this favorable treatment, the insurance company separate accounts that invest in the Portfolio must satisfy certain requirements. If a Portfolio funding your contract does not meet such requirements, your contract could lose its favorable tax treatment and income and gain allocable to your contract could be taxable to you. Also, if the IRS were to determine that contract holders have an impermissible level of control over the investments funding their contracts, your contract could lose its favorable tax treatment and income and gain allocable to your contract could be taxable currently to you. Please see the Portfolio's *Statement of Additional Information* for more information.

#### Share Price

Share price, also known as *net asset value* (NAV), is calculated as of the close of regular trading on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time, on each day that the NYSE is open for business (a business day). In the rare event the NYSE experiences unanticipated disruptions and is unavailable at the close of the trading day, NAVs will be calculated as of the close of regular trading on the Nasdaq (or another alternate exchange if the Nasdaq is unavailable, as determined at Vanguard's discretion), generally 4 p.m., Eastern time. The NAV per share is computed by dividing the total assets, minus liabilities, of the Portfolio by the number of Portfolio shares outstanding. On U.S. holidays or other days when the NYSE is closed, the NAV is not calculated, and the Portfolio does not sell or redeem shares. However, on those days the value of the Portfolio's assets may be affected to the extent that the Portfolio holds securities that change in value on those days (such as foreign securities that trade on foreign markets that are open).

Debt securities held by a Vanguard portfolio are valued based on information furnished by an independent pricing service or market quotations. When a portfolio determines that pricing-service information or market quotations either are not readily available or do not accurately reflect the value of a security, the security is priced at its *fair value* (the amount that the owner might reasonably expect to receive upon the current sale of the security).

The values of any foreign securities held by a portfolio are converted into U.S. dollars using an exchange rate obtained from an independent third party as of the close of regular trading on the NYSE. The values of any mutual fund shares, including institutional money market fund shares, held by a portfolio are based on the NAVs of the shares. The values of any ETF shares or closed-end fund shares held by a portfolio are based on the market value of the shares.

A portfolio also may use fair-value pricing on bond market holidays when the portfolio is open for business (such as Columbus Day and Veterans Day). Fair-value prices are determined by Vanguard according to procedures adopted by the board of trustees. When fair-value pricing is employed, the prices of securities used by a portfolio to calculate the NAV may differ from quoted or published prices for the same securities.

The Portfolio has authorized certain financial intermediaries and their designees, and may, from time to time, authorize certain fund of funds for which Vanguard serves as the investment advisor (Vanguard Funds of Funds), to accept orders to buy or sell fund shares on its behalf. The Portfolio will be deemed to receive an order when accepted by the financial intermediary, its designee, or one of the Vanguard Funds of Funds, and the order will receive the NAV next computed by the Portfolio after such acceptance.

The Portfolio's NAV is used to determine the unit value for the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. For more information on unit values, please refer to the accompanying prospectus of the insurance company that offers your annuity or life insurance program.

## Financial Highlights

Financial highlights information is intended to help you understand a fund's performance for the past five years (or, if shorter, its period of operations). Certain information reflects financial results for a single fund share. Total return represents the rate that an investor would have earned or lost each period on an investment in a fund or share class (assuming reinvestment of all distributions). This information has been obtained from the financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm, whose report, along with fund financial statements, is included in a fund's most recent annual report to shareholders. You may obtain a free copy of a fund's latest annual or semiannual report, which is available upon request.

Yields and total returns presented for the Portfolio are net of the Portfolio's operating expenses, but they do not take into account charges and expenses attributable to the annuity or life insurance program through which you invest. The expenses of the annuity or life insurance program reduce the returns and yields you ultimately receive, so you should bear those expenses in mind when evaluating the performance of the Portfolio and when comparing the yields and returns of the Portfolio with those of other mutual funds.

### General Information

This Portfolio of Vanguard Variable Insurance Funds offers its shares to insurance companies to fund both annuity and life insurance contracts. Because of differences in tax treatment or other considerations, the best interests of various contract owners participating in the Portfolio might at some time be in conflict. The Board will monitor for any material conflicts and determine what action, if any, should be taken.

If the Board determines that continued offering of shares would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's shareholders, the Portfolio may suspend the offering of shares for a period of time. If the Board determines that a specific purchase acceptance would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's shareholders (for example, because of the size of the purchase request or a history of frequent trading by the investor), the Portfolio may reject such a purchase request.

If you wish to redeem money from the Portfolio, please refer to the instructions provided in the accompanying prospectus for the annuity or life insurance program. Shares of the Portfolio may be redeemed on any business day that the NYSE is open for trading. The redemption price of shares will be at the next-determined NAV per share. Redemption proceeds generally will be wired to

The Portfolio may suspend the redemption right or postpone payment at times when the NYSE is closed or during any emergency circumstances, as determined by the SEC.

The exchange privilege (your ability to redeem shares from one Portfolio to purchase shares of another Portfolio) may be available to you through your contract. Although we make every effort to maintain the exchange privilege, Vanguard reserves the right to revise or terminate this privilege, limit the amount of an exchange, or reject any exchange, at any time, without notice.

The Portfolio may pay redemption proceeds, in whole or in part, by an in-kind distribution of readily marketable securities if Vanguard determines that it would be detrimental to the best interests of the Portfolio's remaining shareholders to pay redemption proceeds in cash.

For certain categories of investors, the Portfolio has authorized one or more brokers to accept on its behalf purchase and redemption orders. The brokers are authorized to designate other intermediaries to accept purchase and redemption orders on the Portfolio's behalf. The Portfolio will be deemed to have received a purchase or redemption order when an authorized broker, or a broker's authorized designee, accepts the order in accordance with the Portfolio's instructions. In most cases, for these categories of investors, a contract owner's properly transmitted order will be priced at the Portfolio's next-determined NAV after the order is accepted by the authorized broker or the broker's designee. The contract owner should review the authorized broker's policies relating to trading in the Vanguard funds.

Please consult the Portfolio's *Statement of Additional Information* or our website for a description of the policies and procedures that govern disclosure of the Portfolio's portfolio holdings.

The Portfolio's Bylaws require, unless the Trust otherwise consents in writing, that the U.S. Federal District Courts be the sole and exclusive forum for the resolution of complaints under the Securities Act of 1933. This provision may limit a shareholder's ability to bring a claim in a different forum and may result in increased shareholder costs in pursuing such a claim.purcdae Portfolio's 7.8(P)e(v)[pu

shares of the series or class to which the demand relates and to undertake to reimburse the Trust for the expense of any counsel or advisors used when considering the merits of the demand in the event that the board of trustees determines not to bring such action. In each case, these requirements do not apply to claims arising under the federal securities laws to the extent that any such federal securities laws, rules, or regulations do not permit such application.

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