Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust Form DEF 14A January 25, 2013

### UNITED STATES

### SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, DC 20549

## SCHEDULE 14A

### (Rule 14a-101)

### INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

### SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the

Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant [X]

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant [ ]

Check the appropriate box:

- [ ] Preliminary Proxy Statement
- [ ] Confidential, For Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

[X] Definitive Proxy Statement

- [ ] Definitive Additional Materials
- [ ] Soliciting Material Pursuant to Section 240.14a-12

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

\_\_\_\_\_

(Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if Other Than the Registrant)

| Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust - Form DEF 14A   |
|---|
| Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):  |
| [X] No fee required.  |
| [ ] Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i) (1) and 0-11.   |
| (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:   |
| (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:  |
| (3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):   |
| (4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:  |
| (5) Total fee paid:   |
| [] Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.  |
| <ul> <li>[] Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.</li> <li>(1) Amount previously paid:</li> </ul> |
|   |
| (2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:   |
| (3) Filing Party:   |
| (4) Date Filed:   |

Two International Place

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

January 25, 2013

Dear Shareholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust (the "Fund"), which will be held at the principal office of the Fund, Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, on Friday, March 22, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. (Eastern Time).

At this meeting you will be asked to consider the election of Trustees. The enclosed proxy statement contains additional information.

We hope that you will be able to attend the meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend and regardless of the number of shares you own, it is important that your shares be represented. I urge you to complete, sign and date the enclosed proxy card and return it in the enclosed postage-paid envelope as soon as possible to assure that your shares are represented at the meeting.

Sincerely,

### /s/ Scott H. Page

Scott H. Page

President

### YOUR VOTE IS IMPORTANT - PLEASE RETURN YOUR PROXY CARD PROMPTLY.

It is important that your shares be represented at the Annual Meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend in person, you are requested to complete, sign and return the enclosed proxy card as soon as possible. You may withdraw your proxy if you attend the Annual Meeting and desire to vote in person.

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS

Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be Held on Friday, March 22, 2013: The Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders, Proxy Statement, Proxy Card and Shareholder Report are available on the Eaton Vance website at www.eatonvance.com, by selecting Individual Investors followed by Resources and then Closed-End Funds.

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust, a Massachusetts business trust (the Fund ), will be held at the principal office of the Fund, Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, on Friday, March 22, 2013 at 2:30 p.m. (Eastern Time), for the following purposes:

(1)

To elect three Class III Trustees of the Fund, one of whom shall be elected solely by the holder of the Fund's Variable Rate Term Preferred Shares.

(2)

To consider and act upon any other matters that may properly come before the meeting and any adjourned or postponed session thereof.

The Board of Trustees has fixed the close of business on January 10, 2013 as the record date for the determination of the shareholders of the Fund entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof.

By Order of the Board of Trustees

/s/ Maureen A. Gemma

Maureen A. Gemma

Secretary

January 25, 2013

Boston, Massachusetts

### IMPORTANT

Shareholders can help the Board of Trustees of the Fund avoid the necessity and additional expense to the Fund of further solicitations by promptly returning the enclosed proxy. The enclosed addressed envelope requires no postage if mailed in the United States and is intended for your convenience.

Two International Place

Boston, Massachusetts 02110

### PROXY STATEMENT

A proxy is enclosed with the foregoing Notice of the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust (the "Fund"), to be held March 22, 2013, for the benefit of shareholders who do not expect to be present at the meeting. This proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Trustees of the Fund, and is revocable by the person giving it prior to exercise by a signed writing filed with the Fund s Secretary, or by executing and delivering a later dated proxy, or by attending the meeting and voting the shares in person. If you attend the meeting in person, please be prepared to present photo identification. Each proxy will be voted in accordance with its instructions; if no instruction is given, an executed proxy will authorize the persons named as attorneys, or any of them, to vote in favor of the election of each Trustee. This proxy material is being mailed to shareholders on or about January 25, 2013.

The Board of Trustees of the Fund has fixed the close of business on January 10, 2013 as the record date for the determination of the shareholders entitled to notice of and to vote at the meeting and any adjournments or postponements thereof. Shareholders at the close of business on the record date will be entitled to one vote for each share held. As of January 10, 2013, there were 37,562,005 Common Shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value per share ( Common Shares ) and 800 Variable Rate Term Preferred Shares, \$0.01 par value per share, liquidation preference \$100,000 per share ( VRTPS ), of the Fund outstanding. Also as of January 10, 2013, the Fund received notice of filings on Schedule 13G dated August 31, 2012 indicating that the following shareholders owned more than 5% of the Fund's shares as of such date: First Trust Portfolios L.P., First Trust Advisors L.P. and The Charger Corporation, 120 East Liberty Drive, Suite 400, Wheaton, IL 60187, in the aggregate owned 4,586,632 shares with shared dispositive power, which amounted to 12.2% of the Fund. As of January 10, 2013, to the Fund s knowledge, (i) no other shareholder beneficially owned more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the Fund; and (ii) the Trustees and executive officers of the Fund, individually and as a group, beneficially owned less than 1% of the outstanding shares of the Fund.

On December 18, 2012, the Fund issued 800 Series C-1 VRTPS. The Fund used the net proceeds of the offering to redeem and repurchase all of its outstanding Auction Preferred Shares (APS), which it completed on or prior to January 4, 2013. The VRTPS are a form of preferred shares with a mandatory redemption date of December 18, 2015, unless extended. The VRTPS were issued to a commercial paper conduit sponsored by a large financial institution. The Fund s leverage amount did not change materially as a result of the VRTPS issuance and the APS redemption.

The Board of Trustees of the Fund knows of no business other than that mentioned in Item 1 of the Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders which will be presented for consideration. If any other matters are properly presented, it is the intention of the persons named as attorneys in the enclosed proxy to vote the proxies in accordance with their judgment on such matters.

### PROPOSAL 1. ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust provides that a majority of the Trustees shall fix the number of the entire Board and that such number shall be at least two and no greater than fifteen. The Board will fix the appropriate number of Trustees from time to time. The Fund s Agreement and Declaration of Trust further provides that the Board

of Trustees shall be divided into three classes. The term of office of the Class III Trustees expires on the date of the 2013 Annual Meeting, and the term of office of the Class I and Class II Trustees will expire one and two years thereafter, respectively. Accordingly, only nominees for Class III Trustee are currently proposed for election. Class III Trustees chosen to succeed the Trustees whose terms are expiring will be elected for a three-year term. An effect of staggered terms is to limit the ability of entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund.

Proxies will be voted for the election of the following Class III Trustee nominees: Helen Frame Peters, Lynn A. Stout and Ralph F. Verni. Mr. Verni will be elected solely by the holder of the Fund's VRTPS. Each nominee is currently serving as a Trustee and has consented to continue to so serve. In the event that a nominee is unable to serve for any reason (which is not now expected) when the election occurs, the accompanying Proxy will be voted for such other person or persons as the Board of Trustees may recommend. No nominee is a party adverse to the Fund or any of its affiliates in any material pending legal proceeding, nor does any nominee have an interest materially adverse to the Fund.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

1

The Class I Trustees serving until the 2014 Annual Meeting are Scott E. Eston, Benjamin C. Esty, Thomas E. Faust Jr. and Allen R. Freedman. The Class II Trustees serving until the 2015 Annual Meeting are William H. Park, Ronald A. Pearlman and Harriett Tee Taggart.

The nominees for Class III Trustee and the Fund's current Class I and Class II Trustees and their principal occupations for at least the last five years are as follows:

### TRUSTEES

| Name and Year of Birth <sup>(1)</sup>                      | Position(s)<br>with<br>the Fund<br>CL | Length of<br>Service   | Principal Occupation(s) During<br>Past Five Years<br>and Other Relevant Experience<br>STEES NOMINATED FOR ELECT   | Number of<br>Portfolios<br>in Fund<br>Complex<br>Overseen By<br>Trustee <sup>(2)</sup><br>ION | Other<br>Directorships<br>Held<br>During Last Five<br>Years <sup>(3)</sup>   |
|--|---------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Noninterested<br>Trustees<br>HELEN FRAME<br>PETERS<br>1948 | Class III<br>Trustee                  | Until 2013.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2008.                | Professor of Finance, Carroll<br>School of Management, Boston<br>College. Formerly, Dean, Carroll<br>School of Management, Boston<br>College (2000-2002). Formerly,<br>Chief Investment Officer, Fixed<br>Income, Scudder Kemper<br>Investments (investment<br>management firm) (1998-1999).<br>Formerly, Chief Investment<br>Officer, Equity and Fixed Income,<br>Colonial Management Associates<br>(investment management firm)<br>(1991-1998). | 189   | Formerly,<br>Director of BJ s<br>Wholesale Club,<br>Inc. (wholesale<br>club retailer)<br>(2004-2011).<br>Formerly, Trustee<br>of SPDR Index<br>Shares Funds and<br>SPDR Series<br>Trust (exchange<br>traded funds)<br>(2000-2009).<br>Formerly,<br>Director of<br>Federal Home<br>Loan Bank of<br>Boston (a bank for<br>banks)<br>(2007-2009). |
| LYNN A. STOUT<br>1957<br>RALPH F. VERNI                    | Class III<br>Trustee<br>Chairman      | Until 2013.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2004.<br>Until 2013. | Distinguished Professor of<br>Corporate and Business Law, Jack<br>G. Clarke Business Law Institute,<br>Cornell University Law School.<br>Formerly, Paul Hastings Professor<br>of Corporate and Securities Law<br>(2006-2012) and Professor of Law<br>(2001-2006), University of<br>California at Los Angeles School<br>of Law.<br>Consultant and private investor.  | 189   | None   |
| 1943   | of the                                | 3 years.   | Formerly, Chief Investment Officer  |   |  |

| Board and<br>Class III<br>VRTPS<br>Trustee | Chairman<br>of the<br>Board since<br>2007 and<br>Trustee<br>since 2005. | (1982-1992), Chief Financial<br>Officer (1988-1990) and Director<br>(1982-1992), New England Life.<br>Formerly, Chairperson, New<br>England Mutual Funds<br>(1982-1992). Formerly, President<br>and Chief Executive Officer, State<br>Street Management & Research<br>(1992-2000). Formerly,<br>Chairperson, State Street Research<br>Mutual Funds (1992-2000).<br>Formerly, Director, W.P. Carey,<br>LLC (1998-2004) and First Pioneer<br>Farm Credit Corp. (2002-2006). |
|--|---|---|
|--|---|---|

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

2

| Name and Year of<br>Birth(1)  | Position(s)<br>with<br>the Fund | Term of<br>Office and<br>Length of<br>Service<br>CLAS | Principal Occupation(s) During<br>Past Five Years<br>and Other Relevant Experience<br>S I AND CLASS II TRUSTEES  | Number of<br>Portfolios<br>in Fund<br>Complex<br>Overseen By<br>Trustee(2) | Other<br>Directorships<br>Held<br>During Last Five<br>Years(3)     |
|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|--|
| Interested Trustee<br>THOMAS E.<br>FAUST JR.<br>1958<br>Noninterested | Class I<br>Trustee              | Until 2014.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2008.     | Chairman, Chief Executive Officer<br>and President of Eaton Vance Corp.<br>( EVC ), Director and President of<br>Eaton Vance, Inc. ( EV ), Chief<br>Executive Officer and President of<br>Eaton Vance Management ( EVM<br>Eaton Vance ) and Boston<br>Management and Research ( BMR<br>and Director of Eaton Vance<br>Distributors, Inc. ( EVD ). Trustee<br>and/or officer of 189 registered<br>investment companies managed by<br>Eaton Vance or BMR.  | ),   | Director of EVC<br>and Hexavest Inc.                               |
| Trustees<br>SCOTT E. ESTON<br>1956                                    | Class I<br>Trustee              | Until 2014.<br>2 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2011.     | Private investor. Formerly held<br>various positions at Grantham,<br>Mayo, Van Otterloo and Co., L.L.C.<br>(investment management firm)<br>(1997-2009), including Chief<br>Operating Officer (2002-2009),<br>Chief Financial Officer (1997-2009)<br>and Chairman of the Executive<br>Committee (2002-2008); President<br>and Principal Executive Officer,<br>GMO Trust (open-end registered<br>investment company) (2006-2009).<br>Former Partner, Coopers and<br>Lybrand L.L.P. (now<br>PricewaterhouseCoopers) (public |  | None   |
| BENJAMIN C.<br>ESTY<br>1963   | Class I<br>VRTPS<br>Trustee     | Until 2014.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2005.     | accounting firm) (1987-1997).<br>Roy and Elizabeth Simmons<br>Professor of Business<br>Administration and Finance Unit<br>Head, Harvard University Graduate  | 189  | None   |
| ALLEN R.<br>FREEDMAN<br>1940  | Class I<br>Trustee              | Until 2014.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2007.     | School of Business Administration.<br>Private Investor. Former Chairman<br>(2002-2004) and a Director<br>(1983-2004) of Systems &<br>Computer Technology Corp.   | 189  | Director of<br>Stonemor Partners<br>L.P. (owner and<br>operator of |

| (provider of software to higher     |
|-------------------------------------|
| education). Formerly, a Director of |
| Loring Ward International (fund     |
| distributor) (2005-2007). Former    |
| Chairman and a Director of Indus    |
| International, Inc. (provider of    |
| enterprise management software to   |
| the power generating industry)      |
| (2005-2007). Former Chief           |
| Executive Officer of Assurant, Inc. |
| (insurance provider) (1979-2000).   |

cemeteries). Formerly, Director of Assurant, Inc. (insurance provider) (1979-2011).

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

3

| Name and Year of<br>Birth <sup>(1)</sup><br>WILLIAM H.<br>PARK<br>1947 | Position(s)<br>with<br>the Fund<br>Class II<br>Trustee | Term of<br>Office and<br>Length of<br>Service<br>Until 2015.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2004. | Formerly, Chief Financial Officer,<br>Aveon Group, L.P. (investment  | Number of<br>Portfolios<br>in Fund<br>Complex<br>Overseen By<br>Trustee <sup>(2)</sup><br>189 | Other<br>Directorships<br>Held<br>During Last Five<br>Years <sup>(3)</sup><br>None  |
|--|--|--|--|---|---|
| RONALD A.<br>PEARLMAN<br>1940  | Class II<br>Trustee                                    | 3 years.<br>Trustee  | Professor of Law, Georgetown<br>University Law Center. Formerly,<br>Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax<br>Policy) and Assistant Secretary (Tax<br>Policy), U.S. Department of the<br>Treasury (1983-1985). Formerly,<br>Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on<br>Taxation, U.S. Congress<br>(1988-1990). | 189   | None  |
| HARRIETT TEE<br>TAGGART<br>1948  | Class II<br>Trustee                                    | Until 2015.<br>3 years.<br>Trustee<br>since 2011.  | Managing Director, Taggart<br>Associates (a professional practice<br>firm); formerly, Partner and Senior   | 189   | Director of<br>Albemarle<br>Corporation<br>(chemicals<br>manufacturer)<br>(since 2007) and<br>The Hanover<br>Group (specialty<br>property and<br>casualty insurance |

property and casualty insurance company) (since 2009). Formerly, Director of

Lubrizol Corporation (specialty chemicals) (2007-2011).

(1)

The business address of each Trustee is Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

(2)

Includes both master and feeder funds in a master-feeder structure.

(3)

During their respective tenures, the Trustees (except for Mr. Eston and Ms. Taggart) also served as trustees of one or more of the following Eaton Vance funds (which operated in the years noted): Eaton Vance Credit Opportunities Fund (launched in 2005 and terminated in 2010); Eaton Vance Insured Florida Plus Municipal Bond Fund (launched in 2002 and terminated in 2009); and Eaton Vance National Municipal Income Trust (launched in 1998 and terminated in 2009).

### Interested Trustee

Mr. Faust is an interested person (as defined in the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the 1940 Act )) by reason of his affiliation with EVM, the Fund s investment adviser, and EVC, a publicly-held holding company, which owns all the outstanding shares of EVM and of EVM s trustee, EV. (EVM, EVC, and their affiliates are sometimes referred to collectively as the Eaton Vance Organization .) Mr. Faust holds positions with other Eaton Vance affiliates that are comparable to his position with Eaton Vance listed above.

Election of Trustees by Preferred and Common Shares

Under the terms of the Fund s By-Laws, as amended (the By-Laws ), the holder(s) of the VRTPS are entitled as a class, to the exclusion of the holders of the Common Shares, to elect two Trustees of the Fund. Simply stated, the VRTPS Trustees are only elected by the holder(s) of the Fund's VRTPS. Holders of Common Shares do not vote on the election of VRTPS Trustees. Mr. Verni has been nominated for election by the holder of the VRTPS at this meeting. The By-Laws further provide for the election of the nominees named above by the holders of the Common Shares and the VRTPS, voting as a single class. Election of Trustees is non-cumulative. Shareholders do not have appraisal rights in connection with the proposal in this proxy statement. The Trustees of the Fund shall be elected by the affirmative vote of a plurality of the shares of the Fund entitled to vote.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

4

### **Board Meetings and Committees**

The Board of Trustees has general oversight responsibility with respect to the business and affairs of the Fund. The Board has engaged an investment adviser and (if applicable) a sub-adviser (collectively the adviser ) to manage the Fund and an administrator to administer the Fund and is responsible for overseeing such adviser and administrator and other service providers to the Fund. The Board is currently composed of ten Trustees, including nine Trustees who are not interested persons of the Fund, as that term is defined in the 1940 Act (each a noninterested Trustee ). In addition to eight regularly scheduled meetings per year, the Board holds special meetings or informal conference calls to discuss specific matters that may require action prior to the next regular meeting. As discussed below, the Board has established five committees to assist the Board in performing its oversight responsibilities.

The Board has appointed a noninterested Trustee to serve in the role of Chairman. The Chairman s primary role is to participate in the preparation of the agenda for meetings of the Board and the identification of information to be presented to the Board with respect to matters to be acted upon by the Board. The Chairman also presides at all meetings of the Board and acts as a liaison with service providers, officers, attorneys, and other Trustees generally between meetings. The Chairman may perform such other functions as may be requested by the Board from time to time. Except for any duties specified herein or pursuant to the Fund s Declaration of Trust or By-laws, the designation of Chairman does not impose on such noninterested Trustee any duties, obligations or liability that is greater than the duties, obligations or liability imposed on such person as a member of the Board, generally.

The Fund is subject to a number of risks, including, among others, investment, compliance, operational, and valuation risks. Risk oversight is part of the Board s general oversight of the Fund and is addressed as part of various activities of the Board of Trustees and its Committees. As part of its oversight of the Fund, the Board directly, or through a Committee, relies on and reviews reports from, among others, Fund management, the adviser, the administrator, the principal underwriter, the Chief Compliance Officer (the CCO), and other Fund service providers responsible for day-to-day oversight of Fund investments, operations and compliance to assist the Board in identifying and understanding the nature and extent of risks and determining whether, and to what extent, such risks can be mitigated. The Board also interacts with the CCO and with senior personnel of the adviser, the administrator, the principal underwriter and other Fund service providers and provides input on risk management issues during meetings of the Board and its Committees. Each of the adviser, the administrator, the principal underwriter and the other Fund service providers and responsibilities in risk management, and its policies and methods for carrying out risk management functions will depend, in part, on its individual priorities, resources and controls. It is not possible to identify all of the risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls to eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects. Moreover, it is necessary to bear certain risks (such as investment-related risks) to achieve the Fund s goals.

The Board, with the assistance of management and with input from the Board s various committees, reviews investment policies and risks in connection with its review of Fund performance. The Board has appointed a Fund CCO who oversees the implementation and testing of the Fund compliance program and reports to the Board regarding compliance matters for the Fund and its principal service providers. In addition, as part of the Board s periodic review of the advisory, subadvisory (if applicable), distribution and other service provider agreements, the Board may consider risk management aspects of their operations and the functions for which they are responsible. With respect to valuation, the Board approves and periodically reviews valuation policies and procedures applicable to valuing the Fund s shares. The administrator and the adviser are responsible for the implementation and day-to-day administration of these valuation policies and procedures and provides reports periodically to the Board regarding these and related matters. In addition, the Board or the Audit Committee of the Board receives reports periodically from the independent public accounting firm for the Fund regarding tests performed by such firm on the valuation of all securities, as well as with respect to other risks associated with mutual funds. Reports received from service providers, legal counsel and the independent public accounting firm assist the Board in performing its oversight function.

5

The Fund's Declaration of Trust does not set forth any specific qualifications to serve as a Trustee. The Charter of the Governance Committee also does not set forth any specific qualifications, but does set forth certain factors that the Committee may take into account in considering noninterested Trustee candidates. In general, no one factor is decisive in the selection of an individual to join the Board. Among the factors the Board considers when concluding that an individual should serve on the Board are the following: (i) knowledge in matters relating to the mutual fund industry; (ii) experience as a director or senior officer of public companies; (iii) educational background; (iv) reputation for high ethical standards and professional integrity; (v) specific financial, technical or other expertise, and the extent to which such expertise would complement the Board of Trustees existing mix of skills, core competencies and qualifications; (vi) perceived ability to contribute to the ongoing functions of the Board of Trustees, including the ability and commitment to attend meetings regularly and work collaboratively with other members of the Board of Trustees; (vii) the ability to qualify as a noninterested Trustee for purposes of the 1940 Act and any other actual or potential conflicts of interest involving the individual and the Fund; and (viii) such other factors as the Board determines to be relevant in light of the existing composition of the Board of Trustees.

Among the attributes or skills common to all Trustees are their ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the other Trustees, management, sub-advisers, other service providers, counsel and independent registered public accounting firms, and to exercise effective and independent business judgment in the performance of their duties as Trustees. Each Trustee s ability to perform his or her duties effectively has been attained through the Trustee s business, consulting, public service and/or academic positions and through experience from service as a Board member in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds (and/or in other capacities, including for any predecessor funds), public companies, or non-profit entities or other organizations as set forth below. Each Trustee s ability to perform his or her duties effectively also has been enhanced by his or her educational background, professional training, and/or other life experiences.

In respect of each current Trustee, the individual s substantial professional accomplishments and experience, including in fields related to the operations of the Eaton Vance Group of Funds, were a significant factor in the determination that the individual should serve as a Trustee. The following is a summary of each Trustee s particular professional experience and additional considerations that contributed to the Board s conclusion that he or she should serve as a Trustee:

*Scott E. Eston.* Mr. Eston has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2011. He currently serves on the investment and advisory board of the BAC Seed Fund, a real estate investment firm. From 1997 through 2009, Mr. Eston served in several capacities at Grantham, Mayo, Van Otterloo and Co. (GMO), including as Chairman of the Executive Committee and Chief Operating and Chief Financial Officer, and also as the President and Principal Executive officer of GMO Trust, an affiliated open-end registered investment company. From 1978 through 1997, Mr. Eston was employed at Coopers & Lybrand L.L.P. (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) (since 1987 as a Partner).

*Benjamin C. Esty.* Mr. Esty has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2005 and is the Chairperson of the Portfolio Management Committee. He is the Roy and Elizabeth Simmons Professor of Business Administration and Finance Unit Head at the Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration.

*Thomas E. Faust Jr.* Mr. Faust has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2007. He is currently Chairman, Chief Executive Officer and President of EVC, Director and President of EV, Chief Executive Officer and President of Eaton Vance and BMR, and Director of EVD. Mr. Faust has served as a Director of Hexavest Inc. since 2012. Mr. Faust previously served as an equity analyst, portfolio manager, Director of Equity Research and Management and Chief Investment Officer of Eaton Vance (1985-2007). He holds B.S. degrees in Mechanical Engineering and Economics from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an MBA from Harvard Business School. Mr. Faust has been a Chartered Financial Analyst since 1988.

*Allen R. Freedman.* Mr. Freedman has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2007. Mr. Freedman also serves as a Director of Stonemor Partners L.P. where he also serves as the Chair of the Audit

Committee and a member of the Trust and Compliance Committee. Mr. Freedman was previously a Director of Assurant, Inc. from 1979-2011, a Director of Systems & Computer Technology Corp. from 1983-2004 and Chairman from 2002-2004, a Director of Loring Ward International from 2005-2007 and Chairman and a Director of Indus International, Inc. from 2005-2007. Mr. Freedman was formerly the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Fortis, Inc. (predecessor to Assurant, Inc.), a specialty insurance company from which he retired in 2000. Mr. Freedman also served as a Director of the Fortis Mutual Funds and First Fortis Life Insurance Company. Mr. Freedman is a founding director of the Association of Audit Committee Members, Inc.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

6

*William H. Park.* Mr. Park has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2003 and is the Chairperson of the Audit Committee. Mr. Park was formerly the Chief Financial Officer of Aveon Group, L.P. from 2010-2011. Mr. Park also served as Vice Chairman of Commercial Industrial Finance Corp. from 2006-2010, as President and Chief Executive Officer of Prizm Capital Management, LLC from 2002-2005, as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of United Asset Management Corporation from 1982-2001 and as Senior Manager of Price Waterhouse (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) from 1972-1981.

*Ronald A. Pearlman.* Mr. Pearlman has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2003 and is the Chairperson of the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee. He is a Professor of Law at Georgetown University Law Center. Previously, Mr. Pearlman was Deputy Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy) and Assistant Secretary (Tax Policy), U.S. Department of the Treasury from 1983-1985 and served as Chief of Staff, Joint Committee on Taxation, U.S. Congress from 1988-1990. Mr. Pearlman was engaged in the private practice of law from 1969-2000, with the exception of the periods of government service. He represented large domestic and multinational businesses in connection with the tax aspects of complex transactions and high net worth individuals in connection with tax and business planning.

*Helen Frame Peters*. Ms. Peters has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2008. She is currently a Professor of Finance at Carroll School of Management, Boston College and was formerly Dean of Carroll School of Management from 2000-2002. Ms. Peters was previously a Director of BJ s Wholesale Club, Inc. from 2004-2011. In addition, Ms. Peters was the Chief Investment Officer, Fixed Income at Scudder Kemper Investments from 1998-1999 and Chief Investment Officer, Equity and Fixed Income at Colonial Management Associates from 1991-1998. Ms. Peters also served as a Trustee of SPDR Index Shares Funds and SPDR Series Trust from 2000-2009 and as a Director of the Federal Home Loan Bank of Boston from 2007-2009.

*Lynn A. Stout.* Ms. Stout has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 1998 and is the Chairperson of the Governance Committee. She has been a Distinguished Professor of Corporate and Business Law at the Cornell University Law School since 2012. Previously, Ms. Stout was the Paul Hastings Professor of Corporate and Securities Law from 2006-2012 and Professor of Law from 2001-2006 at the University of California at Los Angeles School of Law.

*Harriett Tee Taggart*. Ms. Taggart has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2011. She currently manages a professional practice, Taggart Associates. Since 2007, Ms. Taggart has been a Director of Albermarle Corporation, a specialty chemical company where she serves as a member of the Audit Committee and of the Nomination and Governance Committee. Since 2009 she has served as a Director of the Hanover Insurance Group, Inc. where she also serves as member of the Audit Committee. Ms. Taggart is also a trustee or member of several major non-profit boards, advisory committees and endowment investment companies. From 1983 through 2006, Ms. Taggart served in several capacities at Wellington Management Company, LLP, an investment management firm, including as a Partner, Senior Vice President and chemical industry sector portfolio manager. Ms. Taggart also served as a Director of the Lubrizol Corporation, a specialty chemicals manufacturer from 2007-2011.

*Ralph F. Verni*. Mr. Verni has served as a Trustee in the Eaton Vance Group of Funds since 2005 and is the Independent Chairperson of the Board and the Chairperson of the Contract Review Committee. Mr. Verni was formerly the Chief Investment Officer (from 1982-1992), Chief Financial Officer (from 1988-1990) and Director (from 1982-1992) of New England Life. Mr. Verni was also the Chairperson of the New England Mutual Funds from 1982-1992; President and Chief Executive Officer of State Street Management & Research from 1992-2000; Chairperson of the State Street Research Mutual Funds from 1992-2000; Director of W.P. Carey, LLC from 1998-2004; and Director of First Pioneer Farm Credit Corp. from 2002-2006. Mr. Verni has been a Chartered Financial Analyst since 1977.

During the fiscal year ended May 31, 2012, the Trustees of the Fund met eight times. The Board of Trustees has several formal standing Committees, including an Audit Committee, a Contract Review Committee, a Governance

Committee, a Portfolio Management Committee, and a Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee. The Audit Committee met twenty times, the Contract Review Committee met ten times, the Governance Committee met seven times, the Portfolio Management Committee met eight times and the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee met fourteen times during such period. Each Trustee attended at least 75% of the Board and Committee meetings on which he or she serves. None of the Trustees attended the Fund s 2012 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. Each Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Fund is comprised of only noninterested Trustees.

Each Committee of the Board of Trustees of the Fund is comprised of only noninterested Trustees. The respective duties and responsibilities of these Committees remain under the continuing review of the Governance Committee and the Board.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

7

Messrs. Park (Chair), Eston and Verni, and Mmes. Peters and Stout are members of the Audit Committee. The Board of Trustees of the Fund has designated Mr. Park, a noninterested Trustee, as the Fund s Audit Committee financial expert. Each Audit Committee member is independent under applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. The purposes of the Audit Committee are to (i) oversee the Fund s accounting and financial reporting processes, its internal control over financial reporting, and, as appropriate, the internal control over financial reporting of certain service providers; (ii) oversee or, as appropriate, assist Board oversight of the quality and integrity of the Fund s financial statements and the independent audit thereof; (iii) oversee, or, as appropriate, assist Board oversight of, the Fund s compliance with legal and regulatory requirements that relate to the Fund s accounting and financial reporting, internal control over financial reporting and independent audits; (iv) approve, prior to appointment, the engagement and, when appropriate, replacement of the independent auditors, and, if applicable, nominate independent auditors to be proposed for shareholder ratification in any proxy statement of the Fund; (v) evaluate the qualifications, independence and performance of the independent auditors and the audit partner in charge of leading the audit; and (vi) prepare, as necessary, such Audit Committee reports consistent with the requirements of applicable Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and stock exchange rules for inclusion in the proxy statement for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of the Fund. The Fund s Board of Trustees has adopted a written charter for its Audit Committee, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit A. The written charter is also available on the Eaton Vance website, www.eatonvance.com, by selecting Individual Investors followed by Resources and then Fund Corporate Governance The Audit Committee s Report is set forth below under Additional Information .

Messrs. Verni (Chair), Esty, Freedman, Park and Pearlman, and Mmes. Peters and Taggart are members of the Contract Review Committee. The purposes of the Contract Review Committee are to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees concerning the following matters: (i) contractual arrangements with each service provider to the Fund, including advisory, sub-advisory, transfer agency, custodial and fund accounting, distribution services (if any) and administrative services; (ii) any and all other matters in which any of the Fund s service providers (including Eaton Vance or any affiliated entity thereof) has an actual or potential conflict of interest with the interests of the Fund or its shareholders; and (iii) any other matter appropriate for review by the noninterested Trustees, unless the matter is within the responsibilities of other Committees of the Board of Trustees.

Messrs. Esty (Chair) and Freedman, and Mmes. Peters and Taggart are currently members of the Portfolio Management Committee. The purposes of the Portfolio Management Committee are to: (i) assist the Board of Trustees in its oversight of the portfolio management process employed by the Fund and its investment adviser and sub-adviser(s), if applicable, relative to the Fund s stated objective(s), strategies and restrictions; (ii) assist the Board of Trustees in its oversight of the trading policies and procedures and risk management techniques applicable to the Fund; and (iii) assist the Board of Trustees in its monitoring of the performance results of all funds, giving special attention to the performance of certain funds that it or the Board of Trustees identifies from time to time.

Messrs. Pearlman (Chair) and Eston, and Ms. Stout are currently members of the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee. The purposes of the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee are to: (i) assist the Board of Trustees in its oversight role with respect to compliance issues and certain other regulatory matters affecting the Fund; (ii) serve as a liaison between the Board of Trustees and the Fund s CCO; and (iii) serve as a qualified legal compliance committee within the rules promulgated by the SEC.

Mmes. Stout (Chair), Peters and Taggart, and Messrs. Eston, Esty, Freedman, Park, Pearlman and Verni are members of the Governance Committee. Each Governance Committee member is independent under applicable listing standards of the New York Stock Exchange. The purpose of the Governance Committee is to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board of Trustees with respect to the structure, membership and operation of the Board of Trustees and the Committees thereof, including the nomination and selection of noninterested Trustees and a Chairperson of the Board and the compensation of such persons.

8

The Fund s Board of Trustees has adopted a written charter for its Governance Committee, a copy of which is available on the Eaton Vance website, www.eatonvance.com, by selecting Individual Investors followed by Resources and then Fund Corporate Governance . The Governance Committee identifies candidates by obtaining referrals from such sources as it deems appropriate, which may include current Trustees, management of the Fund, counsel and other advisors to the Trustees, and shareholders of the Fund who submit recommendations in accordance with the procedures described in the Committee s charter. In no event shall the Governance Committee consider as a candidate to fill any vacancy an individual recommended by management of the Fund, unless the Governance Committee has invited management to make such a recommendation. The Governance Committee will, when a vacancy exists or is anticipated, consider any nominee for noninterested Trustee recommended by a shareholder if such recommendation is submitted in writing to the Governance Committee, contains sufficient background information concerning the candidate, including evidence the candidate is willing to serve as a noninterested Trustee if selected for the position, and is received in a sufficiently timely manner. The Governance Committee s procedures to be followed by shareholders of the Fund wishing to recommend such candidates for consideration by the Governance Committee and the qualifications the Governance Committee will consider, are set forth in an appendix to the Committee s charter.

The Governance Committee does not have a formal policy to consider diversity when identifying candidates for the position of noninterested Trustee. Rather, as a matter of practice, the Committee considers the overall diversity of the Board's composition when identifying candidates. Specifically, the Committee considers how a particular candidate could be expected to contribute to overall diversity in the backgrounds, skills and experiences of the Board's members and thereby enhance the effectiveness of the Board. In addition, as part of its annual self-evaluation, the Board has an opportunity to consider the diversity of its members, including specifically whether the Board's members have the right mix of characteristics, experiences and skills. The results of the self-evaluation are considered by the Governance Committee in its decision-making process with respect to candidates for the position of noninterested Trustee.

Communications with the Board of Trustees

Shareholders wishing to communicate with the Board may do so by sending a written communication to the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees, the Chairperson of any Committee of the Board of Trustees or to the noninterested Trustees as a group, at the following address: Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, c/o the Secretary of the Fund.

Share Ownership By Trustee

The following table shows the dollar range of shares beneficially owned in the Fund and in all Eaton Vance funds by each Trustee.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

9

|            |  |                      | A ( D 11                |  |  |
|------------|--|----------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
|            |  |                      | Aggregate Dollar        |  |  |
|            |  |                      | Range of Equity         |  |  |
|            |  |                      | Securities in all Eaton |  |  |
|            |  |                      | Vance                   |  |  |
|            |  | Dollar Range of Fund | Funds Overseen by       |  |  |
|            | Name of Trustee  | Shares Held*         | Trustee*                |  |  |
| Interested | d Trustee  |                      |                         |  |  |
|            | Thomas E. Faust Jr.  | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
| Noninter   | ested Trustees   |                      |                         |  |  |
|            | Scott E. Eston   | None                 | over \$100,000**        |  |  |
|            | Benjamin C. Esty   | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | Allen R. Freedman  | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | William H. Park  | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | Ronald A. Pearlman   | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | Helen Frame Peters   | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | Lynn A. Stout  | None                 | over \$100,000**        |  |  |
|            | Harriett Tee Taggart   | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
|            | Ralph F. Verni   | None                 | over \$100,000          |  |  |
| *          | As of January 10, 2013.                                      |                      |                         |  |  |
| **         | Includes shares which may be deemed to be beneficially owned |                      |                         |  |  |
|            |  |                      |                         |  |  |

through the Trustee Deferred Compensation Plan.

Remuneration of Trustees

Each noninterested Trustee is compensated for his or her services according to a fee schedule adopted by the Board of Trustees, and receives a fee that consists of an annual retainer and a committee service component. The Fund currently pays each noninterested Trustee a pro rata share, as described below of: (i) an annual retainer of \$195,000; (ii) an additional annual retainer of \$120,000 for serving as the Chair of the noninterested Trustees; (iii) an additional annual retainer of \$45,000 for Committee Service; (iv) an additional annual retainer of \$20,000 for serving as the Governance Committee Chair, the Audit Committee Chair, the Compliance Committee Chair or the Portfolio Management Committee Chair; (v) the Chairperson of an Ad Hoc Committee will receive \$5,000 for any six-month period the Ad Hoc Committee is in existence, with the six month periods being October 1 through March 31 and April 1 through September 30; and (vi) out-of-pocket expenses. The pro rata share paid by the Fund is based on the Fund s average net assets as a percentage of the average net assets of all the funds in the Eaton Vance Fund Complex. For the fiscal year ended May 31, 2012, the Trustees of the Fund earned the compensation set forth below in their capacities as Trustees of the funds in the Eaton Complex<sup>(1)</sup>:

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

10

| Name of Trustee      | Aggregate<br>Compensation<br>from Fund | Total Compensation<br>from Fund<br>and Fund Complex <sup>(1)</sup> |
|----------------------|--|--|
|                      | \$\$                                   |  |
| Scott E. Eston       | 1,865 <sup>(2)</sup>                   | 240,000 <sup>(3)</sup>   |
| Benjamin C. Esty     | 4,035                                  | 260,000  |
| Allen R. Freedman    | 3,802                                  | 245,000  |
| William H. Park      | 4,035                                  | 260,000  |
| Ronald A. Pearlman   | 4,035                                  | 260,000  |
| Helen Frame Peters   | 3,725                                  | 240,000  |
| Lynn A. Stout        | 4,035 <sup>(4)</sup>                   | 260,000 <sup>(5)</sup>   |
| Harriett Tee Taggart | 1,865                                  | 240,000  |
| Ralph F. Verni       | 5,587 <sup>(6)</sup>                   | 360,000 <sup>(7)</sup>   |

#### (1)

As of January 10, 2013, the Eaton Vance Fund Complex consisted of 189 registered investment companies or series thereof. The compensation schedule disclosed above reflects the current compensation schedule, but may not have been in place for the Fund s full fiscal year ended May 31, 2012 or for the full calendar year ended December 31, 2012. Amounts do not include expenses reimbursed to Trustees for attending Board meetings, which in the aggregate amounted to \$42,154 for the calendar year ended December 31, 2012.

(2)

Includes \$1,865 of deferred compensation.

(3)

Includes \$228,679 of deferred compensation.

(4)

Includes \$738 of deferred compensation.

(5)

Includes \$45,000 of deferred compensation.

(6)

Includes \$2,809 of deferred compensation.

(7)

Includes \$171,250 of deferred compensation.

Trustees of the Fund who are not affiliated with Eaton Vance may elect to defer receipt of all or a percentage of their annual fees in accordance with the terms of a Trustees Deferred Compensation Plan (the Trustees Plan ). Under the Trustees Plan, an eligible Trustee may elect to have his or her deferred fees invested by the Fund in the shares of one or more funds in the Eaton Vance Fund Complex, and the amount paid to the Trustees under the Trustees Plan will be determined based upon the performance of such investments. Deferral of Trustees fees in accordance with the Trustees Plan will have a negligible effect on the Fund s assets, liabilities, and net income per share, and will not obligate the Fund to retain the services of any Trustee or obligate the Fund to pay any particular level of compensation to the Trustee. The Fund does not have a retirement plan for its Trustees.

The Board of Trustees recommends that shareholders vote FOR the election of the three Class III Trustee nominees.

## NOTICE TO BANKS AND BROKER/DEALERS

The Fund has previously solicited all Nominee and Broker/Dealer accounts as to the number of additional proxy statements required to supply owners of shares. Should additional proxy material be required for beneficial owners, please call 1-866-439-6787, send an email to info@amstock.com or forward such requests to American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, 6201 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Audit Committee Report

The Audit Committee reviews and discusses the audited financial statements with Fund management. The Audit Committee also discusses with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed by SAS 61 (Communication with Audit Committees), as modified or supplemented. The Audit Committee receives the written disclosures and the letter from the independent registered public accounting firm required by Independence Standards Board Standard No. 1 (Independence Discussions with Audit Committees), as modified or supplemented, and discusses with the independent registered public accounting firm their independence.

Eaton Vance Floating-Rate Income Trust

11

Based on the review and discussions referred to above, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Trustees that the audited financial statements be included in the Fund s annual report to shareholders for the fiscal year ended May 31, 2012 for filing with the SEC. As mentioned, the Audit Committee is currently comprised of Messrs. Park (Chair), Eston and Verni, and Mmes. Peters and Stout.

Auditors, Audit Fees and All Other Fees

Deloitte & Touche LLP ( Deloitte ), 200 Berkeley Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116, serves as the independent registered public accounting firm of the Fund. Deloitte is not expected to be present at the Annual Meeting, but has been given the opportunity to make a statement if they desire to do so and will be available should any matter arise requiring their presence.

The following table presents the aggregate fees billed for the Fund for each of the two fiscal years ended May 31, 2012 and 2011 by the Fund s independent registered public accounting firm for professional services rendered for the audit of the Fund s annual financial statements and fees billed for other services rendered by the independent registered public accounting firm during these periods.