

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549**

SCHEDULE 14A

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934
(Amendment No. __)**

Filed by the Registrant 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))
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.
- (1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:
-
- (2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:
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- (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):
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- Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.
- 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.
- (1) Amount Previously Paid:
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SEC 1913 (11-01)

Persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.

***** Exercise Your *Right to Vote* *****
**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the
Shareholder Meeting to Be Held on May 7, 2018.**

ELI LILLY AND COMPANY



ELI LILLY AND COMPANY
C/O BROADRIDGE FINANCIAL SOLUTIONS, INC.
51 MERCEDES WAY, EDGEWOOD, NY 11717

Meeting Information

Meeting Type: Annual
For holders as of: March 12, 2018
Date: May 7, 2018 **Time:** 11:00 a.m. EDT
Location: Lilly Corporate Center
Indianapolis, IN 46285

You are receiving this communication because you hold shares in the company named above.

This is not a ballot. You cannot use this notice to vote these shares. This communication presents only an overview of the more complete proxy materials that are available to you online. You may view the proxy materials online at www.proxyvote.com or easily request a paper copy (see reverse side).

We encourage you to access and review all of the important information contained in the proxy materials before voting.

See the reverse side of this notice to obtain proxy materials and voting instructions.

— Before You Vote —
How to Access the Proxy Materials

Proxy Materials Available to VIEW or RECEIVE:

ANNUAL REPORT PROXY STATEMENT

How to View Online:

Have the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow →[XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX](#) (located on the following page) and visit: www.proxyvote.com.

How to Request and Receive a PAPER or E-MAIL Copy:

If you want to receive a paper or e-mail copy of these documents, you must request one. There is NO charge for requesting a copy. Please choose one of the following methods to make your request:

- 1) BY INTERNET: www.proxyvote.com
- 2) BY TELEPHONE: 1-800-579-1639
- 3) BY E-MAIL*: sendmaterial@proxyvote.com

* If requesting materials by e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the information that is printed in the box marked by the arrow →[XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX](#) (located on the following page) in the subject line.

Requests, instructions and other inquiries sent to this e-mail address will NOT be forwarded to your investment advisor. Please make the request as instructed above on or before April 23, 2018 to facilitate timely delivery.

— How To Vote —

Please Choose One of the Following Voting Methods

Vote In Person: Many shareholder meetings have attendance requirements including, but not limited to, the possession of an attendance ticket issued by the entity holding the meeting. Please check the meeting materials for any special requirements for meeting attendance. At the meeting, you will need to request a ballot to vote.

Vote Online: To vote online, go to www.proxyvote.com. Use the information printed in the box marked by the arrow →[XXXX XXXX XXXX XXXX](#) (located on the following page) and follow the instructions.

Vote By Mail: You can vote by mail by requesting a paper copy of the materials, which will include a proxy card.

Voting Items

The board of directors recommends you vote FOR items 1-6:

1. Election of directors, each for a three-year term.
 - 1a. K. Baicker
 - 1b. J. E. Fyrwald
 - 1c. J. Jackson
 - 1d. E. R. Marram
 - 1e. J. P. Tai
2. Approval, by non-binding vote, of the compensation paid to the company's named executive officers.
3. Ratification of Ernst & Young LLP as the principal independent auditor for 2018.
4. Approve amendments to the Articles of Incorporation to eliminate the classified board structure.
5. Approve amendments to the Articles of Incorporation to eliminate supermajority voting provisions.
6. Approve the Amended and Restated 2002 Lilly Stock Plan.

The board of directors recommends you vote AGAINST the shareholder proposals 7-10:

7. Shareholder proposal seeking support for the descheduling of cannabis.
8. Shareholder proposal requesting report regarding direct and indirect political contributions.
9. Shareholder proposal requesting report on policies and practices regarding contract animal laboratories.
10. Shareholder proposal requesting report on extent to which risks related to public concern over drug pricing strategies are integrated into incentive compensation arrangements.

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