

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund
Form N-2
January 31, 2019

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 31, 2019

1933 Act File No. 333- _____

1940 Act File No. 811-21832

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM N-2

REGISTRATION STATEMENT	
UNDER	x
THE SECURITIES ACT of 1933	
PRE-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO.	..
POST-EFFECTIVE AMENDMENT NO.	..
and/or	
REGISTRATION STATEMENT	
UNDER	o
THE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT OF 1940	
AMENDMENT NO. 3	x

EATON VANCE TAX-MANAGED DIVERSIFIED EQUITY INCOME FUND

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Charter)

Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110

(Address of Principal Executive Offices)

(617) 482-8260

(Registrant's Telephone Number)

Maureen A. Gemma

Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110

(Name and Address of Agent for Service)

Approximate Date of Proposed Public Offering: As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Registration Statement.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis in reliance on Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, other than securities offered in connection with a dividend reinvestment plan, check the following box. **x**

It is proposed that this filing will become effective (check appropriate box):

.. When declared effective pursuant to Section 8(c)

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Title of Securities Being Registered	Amount Being Registered ⁽¹⁾	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Unit ⁽¹⁾	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price ⁽¹⁾	Amount of Registration Fees ⁽¹⁾⁽²⁾
Common Shares \$0.01 par value	1,000 Shares	\$10.87	\$10,870	\$1.32

Estimated solely for the purpose of calculating the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act of 1933 based on the average of the high and low sales prices of the shares of beneficial interest on January 29, 2019 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange.

(2)

Transmitted prior to filing.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such dates as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

PRELIMINARY PROSPECTUS SUBJECT TO COMPLETION [____], 2019

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. These securities may not be sold until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting an offer to buy these securities in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale would be prohibited.

(EATON VANCE LOGO)

Up to [_____] Shares

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund

Common Shares

Important Note. Beginning on January 1, 2021, as permitted by regulations adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, paper copies of the Fund's annual and semi-annual shareholder reports will no longer be sent by mail unless you specifically request paper copies of the reports. Instead, the reports will be made available on the Fund's website (funds.eatonvance.com/closed-end-fund-and-term-trust-documents.php), and you will be notified by mail each time a report is posted and provided with a website address to access the report.

If you already elected to receive shareholder reports electronically, you will not be affected by this change and you need not take any action. If you hold shares at the Fund's transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST"), you may elect to receive shareholder reports and other communications from the Fund electronically by contacting AST. If you own your shares through a financial intermediary (such as a broker-dealer or bank), you must contact your financial intermediary to sign up.

You may elect to receive all future Fund shareholder reports in paper free of charge. If you hold shares at AST, you can inform AST that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of your shareholder reports by calling 1-866-439-6787. If you own these shares through a financial intermediary, you must contact your financial intermediary or follow instructions included with this disclosure, if applicable, to elect to continue to receive paper copies of your shareholder reports. Your election to receive reports in paper will apply to all funds held with AST or to all funds held through your financial intermediary, as applicable.

Investment objectives and policies. Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund (the "Fund") is a diversified, closed-end management investment company, which commenced operations on November 27, 2006. The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide current income and gains, with a secondary objective of capital appreciation. In pursuing its investment objectives, the Fund will evaluate returns on an after-tax basis, seeking to minimize and defer shareholder federal income taxes.

Portfolio management strategies. Under normal market conditions, the Fund's investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. The Fund will seek to earn high levels of tax-advantaged income and gains by (1) emphasizing investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for favorable federal income tax treatment and (2) writing (selling) stock index call options with respect to a portion of its common stock portfolio value.

Call options on broad-based stock indices generally qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts," as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, on which capital gains and losses are generally treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of holding period.

Investment Adviser. The Fund's investment adviser is Eaton Vance Management ("Eaton Vance" or the "Adviser"). As of December 31, 2018, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$423.1 billion of fund and separate

account assets on behalf of clients, including approximately \$108.9 billion in equity assets.

The Offering. The Fund may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings (each, an “Offering”), the Fund’s common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value (“Common Shares”). Common Shares may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more supplements to this Prospectus (each, a “Prospectus Supplement”). You should read this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement carefully before you invest in Common Shares. Common Shares may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by us, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Fund and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale. The Fund may not sell any Common Shares through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a Prospectus Supplement describing the method and terms of the particular Offering of the Common Shares.

The Common Shares have traded both at a premium and a discount to net asset value (“NAV”). The Fund cannot predict whether Common Shares will trade in the future at a premium or discount to its NAV. The provisions of the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”) generally require that the public offering price of common shares (less any underwriting commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the NAV per share of a company’s common stock (calculated within 48 hours of pricing). The Fund’s issuance of Common Shares may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for the Fund’s Common Shares by increasing the number of Common Shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for the Fund’s Common Shares. Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from NAV, which may increase investors’ risk of loss.

Investing in shares involves certain risks. See “Investment Objectives, Policies and Risks” beginning at page [____].

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this Prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

Portfolio contents. Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a combination of (1) dividend-paying common stocks and (2) common stocks the value of which is subject to covered written index call options. The Fund invests primarily in common stocks of United States issuers, but may invest up to 40% of its assets in common stocks of foreign issuers, including up to 5% of its total assets in securities of issuers located in emerging markets. The Fund may not invest 25% or more of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any single industry. The Fund emphasizes investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains, and will seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund sells a stock on or shortly after the stock’s ex-dividend date and uses the sale proceeds to purchase one or more other stocks that are expected to pay dividends before the next dividend payment on the stock being sold. Through this practice, the Fund may receive more dividend payments over a given time period than if it held a single stock. By complying with applicable holding period and other requirements while engaging in dividend capture trading, the Fund may enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives. The use of dividend capture trading strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and potentially higher short-term gain or loss. The Fund may use derivatives to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading. The Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts for this purpose, but may also engage in other types of derivatives to manage such exposures.

The Fund writes call options on one or more broad-based stock indices that the Adviser believes collectively approximate the characteristics of its common stock portfolio (or that portion of its portfolio against which options are written) and that present attractive opportunities to earn options premiums. The Fund writes call options on the S&P 500 Index, and may also write call options on other domestic and foreign stock indices. Over time, the indices on which the Fund writes call options may vary as a result of changes in the availability and liquidity of various listed index options, changes in stock portfolio holdings, the Adviser’s evaluation of equity market conditions and other factors. Writing index call options involves a tradeoff between the option premiums received and reduced participation in potential future stock price appreciation. Due to tax considerations, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. The Fund’s stock holdings will normally include stocks not included in the indices on which it writes call options.

The Fund seeks to generate current earnings from dividends on stocks held and from option premiums. The Fund employs a variety of tax-management techniques and strategies as described herein, seeking in part to minimize the

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

Fund's ordinary income (other than qualified dividend income) and net realized short-term capital gains in excess of net realized long-term capital losses and Fund expenses. To the extent that the Fund's ordinary income (other than qualified dividend income) and net realized short-term gains over net realized long-term losses exceed Fund expenses, dividends with respect to such amounts when paid to Common Shareholders (as defined below) will be taxable as ordinary income.

During unusual market conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objectives, principal strategies and other policies.

Exchange listing. As of [____], 2019, the Fund had [____] Common Shares outstanding. The Fund's Common Shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange ("NYSE") under the symbol "ETY." As of [____], 2019, the last reported sale price of a Common Share of the Fund on the NYSE was \$[____]. Common Shares offered and sold pursuant to this Registration Statement will also be listed on the NYSE and trade under this symbol.

Eaton Vance believes that the Fund may be appropriate for investors seeking an investment vehicle that combines regular distributions and the potential for capital appreciation. The Fund may be particularly well suited for taxpaying investors who can benefit from the minimization and deferral of federal income taxes that the Fund seeks to provide.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 2Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The Fund's NAV and distribution rate will vary and may be affected by numerous factors, including changes in stock prices, option premiums, market interest rates, dividend rates and other factors. An investment in the Fund may not be appropriate for all investors. There is no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.

This Prospectus, together with any applicable Prospectus Supplement, sets forth concisely information you should know before investing in the shares of the Fund. Please read and retain this Prospectus for future reference. A Statement of Additional Information dated [____], 2019, has been filed with the SEC and can be obtained without charge by calling 1-800-262-1122 or by writing to the Fund. A table of contents to the Statement of Additional Information is located at page [____] of this Prospectus. This Prospectus incorporates by reference the entire Statement of Additional Information. The Statement of Additional Information is available along with shareholder reports and other Fund-related materials: at the SEC's public reference room in Washington, DC (call 1-202-551-8090 for information on the operation of the reference room); from the EDGAR database on the SEC's internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>); upon payment of copying fees by writing to the SEC's public reference section, Washington, DC 20549-1520; or by electronic mail at publicinfo@sec.gov. The Fund's address is Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110, and its telephone number is 1-800-262-1122.

The Fund's shares do not represent a deposit or obligation of, and are not guaranteed or endorsed by, any bank or other insured depository institution, and are not federally insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Federal Reserve Board or any other government agency.

The Fund is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by any index sponsor. No index sponsor has passed on the legality or suitability of, or the accuracy or adequacy of, descriptions and disclosures relating to the Fund. No index sponsor has made any representation or warranty, express or implied, to the Common Shareholders of the Fund or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Fund particularly, or the ability of any index to track general stock market performance. The indices are determined, composed and calculated by the respective index sponsors without regard to the Fund or its use of the indices for option writing. The index sponsors have no obligation to take the needs of the Fund or its Common Shareholders into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the indices. No index sponsor is responsible for or has participated in the determination of the timing of, price of, or number of Common Shares of the Fund to be issued. No index sponsor has any liability in connection with the management, administration, marketing or trading of the Fund.

The index sponsors do not guarantee the accuracy and/or uninterrupted calculation of the indices or any data included therein. The index sponsors make no warranty, express or implied, as to results to be obtained by the Fund, the Common Shareholders or any other person or entity from the use of the indices in the Fund's options writing program. In publishing the indices, the index sponsors make no express or implied warranties, and expressly disclaim all warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or use with respect to the indices or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall an index sponsor have any liability for any lost profits or special, incidental, punitive, indirect or consequential damages, even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

You should rely only on the information contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus. The Fund has not authorized anyone to provide you with different information. The Fund is not making an offer of these securities in any state where the offer is not permitted. You should not assume that the information contained in this Prospectus is accurate as of any date other than the date on the front of this Prospectus.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 3 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Table of Contents

Prospectus Summary	6
Summary of Fund Expenses	18
Financial Highlights and Investment Performance	19
The Fund	22
Use of Proceeds	22
Investment Objectives, Policies and Risks	22
Management of the Fund	36
Plan of Distribution	37
Distributions	38
Federal Income Tax Matters	39
Dividend Reinvestment Plan	42
Description of Capital Structure	43
Custodian and Transfer Agent	47
Legal Opinions	47
Reports to Shareholders	47
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	47
Additional Information	47
Table of Contents for the Statement of Additional Information	48
The Fund's Privacy Policy	49
Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund	4 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

CAUTIONARY NOTICE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Prospectus, any accompanying Prospectus Supplement and the Statement of Additional Information contain “forward-looking statements.” Forward-looking statements can be identified by the words “may,” “will,” “intend,” “expect,” “estimate,” “continue,” “plan,” “anticipate,” and similar terms and the negative of such terms. Such forward-looking statements may be contained in this Prospectus as well as in any accompanying Prospectus Supplement. By their nature, all forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties, and actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements. Several factors that could materially affect our actual results are the performance of the portfolio of securities we hold, the price at which our shares will trade in the public markets and other factors discussed in our periodic filings with the SEC.

Although we believe that the expectations expressed in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, actual results could differ materially from those projected or assumed in our forward-looking statements. Our future financial condition and results of operations, as well as any forward-looking statements, are subject to change and are subject to inherent risks and uncertainties, such as those disclosed in the “Investment objectives, policies and risks” section of this Prospectus. All forward-looking statements contained or incorporated by reference in this Prospectus or any accompanying Prospectus Supplement are made as of the date of this Prospectus or the accompanying Prospectus Supplement, as the case may be. Except for our ongoing obligations under the federal securities laws, we do not intend, and we undertake no obligation, to update any forward-looking statement. The forward-looking statements contained in this Prospectus, any accompanying prospectus supplement and the statement of additional information are excluded from the safe harbor protection provided by section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “1933 Act”).

Currently known risk factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to, the factors described in the “Investment Objectives, Policies and Risks” section of this Prospectus. We urge you to review carefully that section for a more detailed discussion of the risks of an investment in our securities.

Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 5 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Prospectus Summary

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the more detailed information included elsewhere in this Prospectus, in any related Prospectus Supplement, and in the Statement of Additional Information.

THE FUND

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund (the “Fund”) is a diversified, closed-end management investment company, which commenced operations on November 27, 2006. The Fund seeks to provide current income and gains, with a secondary objective of capital appreciation. Investments are based on Eaton Vance Management’s (“Eaton Vance” or the “Adviser”) internal research and management. An investment in the Fund may not be appropriate for all investors.

THE OFFERING

The Fund may offer, from time to time, in one or more offerings (each, an “Offering”), up to [_____] of the Fund’s common shares of beneficial interest, \$0.01 par value (“Common Shares”), on terms to be determined at the time of the Offering. The Common Shares may be offered at prices and on terms to be set forth in one or more Prospectus Supplements. You should read this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement carefully before you invest in Common Shares. Common Shares may be offered directly to one or more purchasers, through agents designated from time to time by the Fund, or to or through underwriters or dealers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Fund and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale. See “Plan of Distribution.” The Fund may not sell any of Common Shares through agents, underwriters or dealers without delivery of a Prospectus Supplement describing the method and terms of the particular Offering of Common Shares.

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES, POLICIES AND RISKS

The Fund’s primary investment objective is to provide current income and gains, with a secondary objective of capital appreciation. In pursuing its investment objectives, the Fund will evaluate returns on an after-tax basis, seeking to minimize and defer shareholder federal income taxes. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund’s investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. The Fund seeks to earn high levels of tax-advantaged income and gains by (1) emphasizing investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for favorable federal income tax treatment and (2) writing (selling) stock index call options with respect to a portion of its common stock portfolio value. Call options on broad-based stock indices generally will qualify for treatment as “section 1256 contracts” as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”), on which capital gains and losses are generally treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of holding period.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a combination of (1) dividend-paying common stocks and (2) common stocks the value of which is subject to covered written index call options. The Fund will emphasize investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains, and will seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund sells a stock on or shortly after the stock’s ex-dividend date and uses the sale proceeds to purchase one or more other stocks that are expected to pay dividends before the next dividend payment on the stock being sold. Through this practice, the Fund may receive

more dividend payments over a given time period than if it held a single stock. By complying with applicable holding period and other requirements while engaging in dividend capture trading, the Fund may enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives. The use of dividend capture trading strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and potentially higher short-term gain or loss. The Fund may use derivatives to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading. The Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts for this purpose, but may also engage in other types of derivatives to manage such exposures.

Typically, the Fund invests in common stocks of United States issuers. The Fund may invest up to 40% of its total assets in securities of foreign issuers, including securities evidenced by American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) and European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”). The Fund may invest up to 5% of its total assets in securities of emerging market issuers. The Fund expects that its assets will normally be invested across a broad range of industries and market sectors. The Fund may not invest 25% or more of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any single industry. The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in stocks of mid-capitalization companies. Eaton Vance generally considers mid-capitalization companies to be those companies having market capitalizations within the range of capitalizations for the S&P MidCap 400 Index (the “S&P MidCap 400”). As of December 31, 2018, the median market capitalization of companies in the S&P MidCap 400 was approximately \$3.5 billion.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 6Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The Fund writes call options on one or more broad-based stock indices that the Adviser believes collectively approximate the characteristics of its common stock portfolio (or that portion of its portfolio against which options are written) and that present attractive opportunities to earn options premiums. The Fund writes call options on the S&P 500 Index (the "S&P 500"), and may also write call options on other domestic and foreign stock indices. Over time, the indices on which the Fund writes call options may vary as a result of changes in the availability and liquidity of various listed index options, changes in stock portfolio holdings, the Adviser's evaluation of equity market conditions and other factors. Writing index call options involves a tradeoff between the option premiums received and reduced participation in potential future stock price appreciation. Due to tax considerations, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. The Fund's stock holdings will normally include stocks not included in the indices on which it writes call options.

The Fund generally sells index call options that are exchange-listed and "European style," meaning that the options may be exercised only on the expiration date of the option. Index options differ from options on individual securities in that index options (i) typically are settled in cash rather than by delivery of securities and (ii) reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segments of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

As the seller of index call options, the Fund will receive cash (the premiums) from option purchasers. The purchaser of an index call option has the right to any appreciation in the value of the applicable index over a fixed price (the exercise price) as of a specified date in the future (the option valuation date). Generally, the Fund sells call options that are slightly "out-of-the-money" (i.e., the exercise price generally will be slightly above the current level of the applicable index when the option is sold). The Fund may also sell index options that are more substantially "out-of-the-money." Such options that are more substantially "out-of-the-money" provide greater potential for the Fund to realize capital appreciation, but generally would pay a lower premium than options that are slightly "out-of-the-money." In writing index options, the Fund will, in effect, sell the potential appreciation in the value of the applicable index above the exercise price in exchange for the option premium received. If, at expiration, an index call option sold by the Fund is exercised, the Fund will pay the purchaser the difference between the cash value of the applicable index and the exercise price of the option. The premium, the exercise price and the market value of the applicable index will determine the gain or loss realized by the Fund as the seller of the index call option.

The Fund's policy that, under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a combination of (1) dividend-paying common stocks and (2) common stocks the value of which is subject to covered written index call options is a non-fundamental policy that may be changed by the Fund's Board of Trustees (the "Board") without Common Shareholder approval following the provision of 60 days' prior written notice to Common Shareholders.

In implementing the Fund's investment strategy, the Adviser employs a variety of techniques and strategies designed to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by Common Shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund as described below.

During unusual market conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objectives, principal strategies and other policies.

The S&P 500 is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks maintained and published by S&P Global Ratings ("S&P") that is market-capitalization weighted and generally representative of the performance of larger stocks traded in the United States.

The Fund is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by any index sponsor. No index sponsor has passed on the legality or suitability of, or the accuracy or adequacy of descriptions and disclosures relating to the Fund. No index

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

sponsor has made any representation or warranty, express or implied, to the Common Shareholders of the Fund or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Fund particularly, or the ability of any index to track general stock market performance. The indices are determined, composed and calculated by the respective index sponsors without regard to the Fund or its use of the indices for option writing. The index sponsors have no obligation to take the needs of the Fund or its Common Shareholders into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the indices. No index sponsor is responsible for or has participated in the determination of the timing of, price of, or number of Common Shares of the Fund to be issued. No index sponsor has any liability in connection with the management, administration, marketing or trading of the Fund.

The index sponsors do not guarantee the accuracy and/or uninterrupted calculation of the indices or any data included therein. The index sponsors make no warranty, express or implied, as to results to be obtained by the Fund, the Common Shareholders or any other person or entity from the use of the indices in the Fund's options writing program. In publishing the indices, the index sponsors make no express or implied warranties, and expressly disclaim all warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or use with respect to the indices or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall an index sponsor have any liability for any lost profits or special, incidental, punitive, indirect or consequential damages, even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 7Prospectus dated [____], 2019

INVESTMENT STRATEGIES

Eaton Vance is responsible for the Fund's overall investment program, structuring and managing the Fund's common stock portfolio, including dividend capture trading, tax-loss harvesting (i.e., periodically selling positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund) and other tax-management techniques. The Fund's investments are actively managed, and securities may be bought or sold on a daily basis.

A team of Eaton Vance investment professionals is responsible for the overall management of the Fund's investments, including decisions about asset allocation and securities selection. The portfolio manager utilizes information provided by, and the expertise of, the Adviser's research staff in making investment decisions. Investment decisions are made primarily on the basis of fundamental research, which involves consideration of the various company-specific and general business, economic and market factors that may influence the future performance of individual companies and equity investments therein. The Adviser will also consider a variety of other factors in constructing and maintaining the Fund's stock portfolio, including, but not limited to, stock dividend yields and payment schedules, overlap between the Fund's stock holdings and the indices on which it has outstanding options positions, realization of tax-loss harvesting (i.e., periodically selling positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund) opportunities and other tax management considerations.

The Adviser believes that a strategy of owning a portfolio of common stocks and selling covered call options (a "buy-write strategy") with respect to a portion thereof can provide current income and gains and attractive risk-adjusted returns. The Fund will sell only "covered" call options. An index call option is considered covered if the Fund maintains assets determined to be liquid (in accordance with procedures established by the Board) in an amount at least equal to the contract value of the index. An index call option also is covered if the Fund holds a call on the same index as the call written where the exercise price of the call held is (i) equal to or less than the exercise price of the call written, or (ii) greater than the exercise price of the call written, provided the difference is maintained by the Fund in soft segregated assets determined to be liquid (in accordance with procedures established by the Board). Compared to selling call options on individual stocks, the Adviser believes that selling index call options can achieve better tax and transactional efficiency because listed options on broad-based securities indices generally qualify as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code subject to specialized tax treatment and because the markets for index options are generally deeper and more liquid than options on individual stocks. Although the Fund generally writes stock index call options with respect to only a portion of its common stock portfolio value, the Fund may in market circumstances deemed appropriate by the Adviser write covered index call options on up to 100% of the value of its assets.

To avoid being subject to the "straddle rules" under federal income tax law, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. Under the "straddle rules," "offsetting positions with respect to personal property" generally are considered to be straddles. In general, investment positions will be offsetting if there is a substantial diminution in the risk of loss from holding one position by reason of holding one or more other positions. The Fund expects that the index call options it writes will not be considered straddles because its stock holdings will be sufficiently dissimilar from the components of each index on which it has open call options positions under applicable guidance established by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"). Under certain circumstances, however, the Fund may enter into options transactions or certain other investments that may constitute positions in a straddle. See "Federal Income Tax Matters."

The Fund's index option strategy is designed to produce current cash flow from options premiums and to moderate the volatility of the Fund's returns. This index option strategy is of a hedging nature, and is not designed to speculate on equity market performance. The Adviser believes that the Fund's index option strategy will moderate the volatility of

the Fund's returns because the option premiums received will help to mitigate the impact of downward price movements in the stocks held by the Fund, while the Fund's obligations under index calls written will constrain the Fund's ability to participate in upward price movements in portfolio stocks.

The Fund expects normally to sell index call options on a portion of its common stock portfolio value. The Adviser does not intend to sell index call options representing amounts greater than the value of the Fund's common stock portfolio (i.e., take a "naked" position). The Adviser generally sells index call options that are exchange-listed and "European style," meaning that the options may only be exercised on the expiration date of the option. Exchange-traded index options are typically settled in cash and provide that the holder of the option has the right to receive an amount of cash determined by the excess of the exercise-settlement value of the index over the exercise price of the option. The exercise-settlement value is calculated based on opening sales prices of the component index stocks on the option valuation date, which is the last business day before the expiration date. Generally, the Adviser sells index call options that are slightly "out-of-the-money," meaning that option exercise prices generally are slightly above the current level of the index at the time the

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 8 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

options are written. The Fund may also sell index options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money.” Such options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money” provide greater potential for the Fund to realize capital appreciation on its portfolio stocks but generally would pay a lower premium than options that are slightly “out-of-the-money.” The Adviser expects to follow a primary options strategy of selling index call options with a remaining maturity of between approximately one and three months and maintaining its short call options positions until approximately their option valuation date, at which time replacement call option positions with a remaining maturity within this range are written.

In implementing the Fund’s investment strategy, the Adviser employs a variety of techniques and strategies designed to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by Common Shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund. These include: (1) investing in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains and complying with the holding period and other requirements for favorable tax treatment; (2) selling index call options that qualify for treatment as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code on which capital gains and losses are generally treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of holding period; (3) limiting the overlap between the Fund’s stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis so that the Fund’s stock holdings and index call options are not subject to the “straddle rules;” (4) engaging in a systematic program of tax-loss harvesting in the Fund’s stock portfolio, periodically selling stock positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund; and (5) managing the sale of appreciated stock positions so as to minimize the Fund’s net realized short-term capital gains in excess of net realized long-term capital losses. When an appreciated security is sold, the Fund intends to select for sale the share lots resulting in the most favorable tax treatment, generally those with holding periods sufficient to qualify for long-term capital gains treatment that have the highest cost basis.

The Fund intends to emphasize investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains. The qualified dividend income of individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers is taxed at long-term capital gain tax rates if certain holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividends are dividends from domestic corporations and dividends from foreign corporations that meet certain specified criteria. The Fund generally can pass the tax treatment of qualified dividend income it receives through to Common Shareholders. For dividends the Fund receives to qualify for tax-advantaged treatment, the Fund must hold stock paying qualified dividends for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date (or more than 90 days during the associated 181-day period, in the case of certain preferred stocks). In addition, the Fund cannot be obligated to make related payments (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) with respect to positions in any security that is substantially similar or related property with respect to such stock. Similar provisions apply to each Common Shareholder’s investment in the Fund. In order for qualified dividend income paid by the Fund to a Common Shareholder to be taxable at long-term capital gains rates, the Common Shareholder must hold his or her Fund shares for more than 60 days during the 121-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date. The Fund’s investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code and future changes in tax laws and regulations.

The Fund may seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund sells a stock on or shortly after the stock’s ex-dividend date and uses the sale proceeds to purchase one or more other stocks that are expected to pay dividends before the next dividend payment on the stock being sold. Through this practice, the Fund may receive more dividend payments over a given time period than if it held a single stock. In order for dividends received by the Fund to qualify for favorable tax treatment, the Fund must comply with the holding period and other requirements set forth in the preceding paragraph. By complying with applicable holding period and other requirements while engaging in dividend capture trading, the Fund may be able to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives because it will receive more dividend payments qualifying for favorable treatment during the same time period than if it simply held its portfolio stocks. The use of dividend capture trading strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and

potentially higher short-term gain or loss. The Fund may use derivatives to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading. The Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts for this purpose, but may also engage in other types of derivatives to manage such exposures.

Options on broad-based equity indices that trade on a national securities exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”) or a domestic board of trade designated as a contract market by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission generally qualify for treatment as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Options on broad-based equity indices that trade on other exchanges, boards of trade or markets designated by the United States Secretary of Treasury also qualify for treatment as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Because only a small number of exchanges, boards and markets outside the United States have to date received the necessary designation, most foreign-traded stock index options do not currently qualify for treatment as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. To the extent that the Fund writes options on indices based upon foreign stocks, the Fund generally sells options on broad-based foreign country and/or regional stock indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Options on foreign indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code may trade in substantially lower volumes

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 9Prospectus dated [____], 2019

and with substantially wider bid-ask spreads than other options contracts on the same or similar indices that trade on other markets outside the United States. To implement its options program most effectively, the Fund may sell index options that do not qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Gain or loss on index options not qualifying as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code would be realized upon disposition, lapse or settlement of the positions, and would generally be treated as short-term gain or loss.

The foregoing policies relating to investments in common stocks and options writing are the Fund’s primary investment policies. In addition to its primary investment policies, the Fund may invest to a limited extent in other types of securities and engage in certain other investment practices. In addition to writing index call options, the Fund may write call options on up to 20% of the value of its total assets on futures contracts based upon broad-based securities indices. The Fund’s use of such options on index futures would be substantially similar to its use of options directly on indices. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed an investment in these instruments. To seek to protect against price declines in securities holdings with large accumulated gains, the Fund may use various hedging techniques (such as the purchase and sale of futures contracts on stocks and stock indices and options thereon, equity swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks and the purchase and sale of forward currency exchange contracts and currency futures). By using these techniques rather than selling appreciated securities, the Fund can, within certain limitations, reduce its exposure to price declines in the securities without currently realizing substantial capital gains under current federal tax law. The Fund may also use derivatives for other purposes, such as hedging, to enhance return, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. Other permitted derivatives include futures contracts on securities, non-equity indices and currencies, options on futures contracts, equity and interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, and forward currency exchange contracts. The Fund may invest in derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. Dividends received on securities with respect to which the Fund is obligated to make related payments (pursuant to short sales or otherwise) are treated as fully taxable ordinary income (i.e., income other than tax-advantaged dividends). In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify for favorable tax treatment. See “Federal Income Tax Matters” and “Investment objectives and policies.”

LISTING

As of [____], 2019, The Fund had [____] Common Shares outstanding. The Fund’s Common Shares are traded on the New York Stock Exchange (“NYSE”) under the symbol “ETY.” As of [____], 2019, the last reported sale price of a Common Share of the Fund on the NYSE was \$[____]. Common Shares offered and sold pursuant to this Registration Statement will also be listed on the NYSE and trade under this symbol.

INVESTMENT ADVISER AND ADMINISTRATOR

Eaton Vance, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Eaton Vance Corp., is the Fund’s investment adviser and administrator. As of December 31, 2018, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$423.1 billion of fund and separate account assets on behalf of clients, including approximately \$108.9 billion in equity assets.

PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The Fund may sell the Common Shares being offered under this Prospectus in any one or more of the following ways: (i) directly to purchasers; (ii) through agents; (iii) to or through underwriters; or (iv) through dealers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Fund and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

The Fund may distribute Common Shares from time to time in one or more transactions at: (i) a fixed price or prices that may be changed; (ii) market prices prevailing at the time of sale; (iii) prices related to prevailing market prices; or (iv) negotiated prices; provided, however, that in each case the offering price per Common Share (less any underwriting commission or discount) must equal or exceed the NAV per Common Share.

The Fund from time to time may offer its Common Shares through or to certain broker-dealers, including UBS Securities LLC, that have entered into selected dealer agreements relating to at-the-market offerings.

The Fund may directly solicit offers to purchase Common Shares, or the Fund may designate agents to solicit such offers. The Fund will, in a Prospectus Supplement relating to such Offering, name any agent that could be viewed as an underwriter under the 1933 Act, and describe any commissions the Fund must pay to such agent(s). Any such agent will be acting on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment or, if indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials, on a firm commitment basis. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for the Fund in the ordinary course of business.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 10Prospectus dated [____], 2019

If any underwriters or agents are used in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered, the Fund will enter into an underwriting agreement or other agreement with them at the time of sale to them, and the Fund will set forth in the Prospectus Supplement relating to such Offering their names and the terms of the Fund's agreement with them.

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered, the Fund will sell such Common Shares to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell such Common Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealer at the time of resale.

The Fund may engage in at-the-market offerings to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the 1933 Act. An at-the-market offering may be through an underwriter or underwriters acting as principal or agent for the Fund.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements which they may enter into with the Fund to indemnification by the Fund against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for the Fund in the ordinary course of business.

In order to facilitate the Offering of Common Shares, any underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of Common Shares or any other Common Shares the prices of which may be used to determine payments on the Common Shares. Specifically, any underwriters may over-allot in connection with the Offering, creating a short position for their own accounts. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of Common Shares or of any such other Common Shares, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, Common Shares or any such other Common Shares in the open market. Finally, in any Offering of Common Shares through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing Common Shares in the Offering if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed Common Shares in transactions to cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of Common Shares above independent market levels. Any such underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

The Fund may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell Common Shares not covered by this Prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable Prospectus Supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell Common Shares covered by this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third parties may use Common Shares pledged by the Fund or borrowed from the Fund or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of securities, and may use Common Shares received from the Fund in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of securities. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this Prospectus, will be identified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials (or a post-effective amendment).

The maximum amount of compensation to be received by any member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. will not exceed 8% of the initial gross proceeds from the sale of any security being sold with respect to each particular Offering of Common Shares made under a single Prospectus Supplement.

Any underwriter, agent or dealer utilized in the Offering of Common Shares will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer.

DISTRIBUTIONS

Pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Order"), the Fund is authorized to distribute long-term capital gains to shareholders more frequently than once per year. Pursuant to the Order, the Fund's

Board of Trustees approved a Managed Distribution Plan (“MDP”) pursuant to which the Fund makes monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders, stated in terms of a fixed amount per common share. Shareholders should not draw any conclusions about the Fund’s investment performance from the amount of these distributions or from the terms of the MDP. The MDP is subject to regular periodic review by the Fund’s Board of Trustees and the Board may amend or terminate the MDP at any time without prior notice to Fund shareholders. However, at this time there are no reasonably foreseeable circumstances that might cause the termination of the MDP. The Fund may distribute more than its net investment income and net realized capital gains and, therefore, a distribution may include a return of capital. A return of capital is treated as a non-dividend distribution for tax purposes and is not subject to current tax. A return of capital reduces a shareholder’s tax cost basis in fund shares. A return of capital distribution does not necessarily reflect the Fund’s investment performance and should not be confused with “yield” or “income.” With each distribution, the Fund will issue a notice to shareholders and a press release containing information about the amount and sources of the distribution and other related information. The amounts and sources of distributions contained in the notice and press release are only estimates and are not provided for tax purposes. The amounts and sources of the Fund’s distributions for tax purposes are reported to shareholders on Form 1099-DIV for each calendar year.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 11 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Subject to its MDP, the Fund makes monthly distributions to Common Shareholders sourced from the Fund's cash available for distribution. "Cash available for distribution" consists of the Fund's dividends and interest income after payment of Fund expenses, net option premiums and net realized and unrealized gains on stock investments. The Fund intends to distribute all or substantially all of its net realized capital gains. Distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from U.S. GAAP. As required by U.S. GAAP, only distributions in excess of tax basis earnings and profits are reported in the financial statements as a return of capital. Permanent differences between book and tax accounting relating to distributions are reclassified to paid-in capital. For tax purposes, distributions from short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. Distributions in any year may include a substantial return of capital component. The Fund's distribution rate may be adjusted from time-to-time. The Board may modify this distribution policy at any time without obtaining the approval of Common Shareholders.

Common Shareholders will automatically have distributions reinvested in additional Common Shares under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan unless they elect otherwise through their investment dealer. See "Distributions" and "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

DIVIDEND REINVESTMENT PLAN

The Fund has established a dividend reinvestment plan (the "Plan"). Under the Plan, unless a Common Shareholder elects to receive distributions in cash, all distributions will be automatically reinvested in additional Common Shares. American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST" or the "Plan Agent") serves as agent for the Common Shareholders in administering the Plan. Common Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Plan will receive all Fund distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to the Common Shareholder of record (or, if the Common Shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to the nominee) by AST, as disbursing agent. Participation in the Plan is completely voluntary and may be terminated or resumed at any time without penalty by written notice if received by the Plan Agent prior to any distribution record date. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

CLOSED-END STRUCTURE

Closed-end funds differ from open-end management investment companies (commonly referred to as mutual funds) in that closed-end funds generally list their shares for trading on a securities exchange and do not redeem their shares at the option of the shareholder. By comparison, mutual funds issue securities redeemable at NAV at the option of the shareholder and typically engage in a continuous offering of their shares. Mutual funds are subject to continuous asset in-flows and out-flows that can complicate portfolio management, whereas closed-end funds generally can stay more fully invested in securities consistent with the closed-end fund's investment objectives and policies. In addition, in comparison to open-end funds, closed-end funds have greater flexibility in the employment of financial leverage and in the ability to make certain types of investments, including investments in illiquid securities.

However, common shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. Since inception, the market price of the Common Shares has fluctuated and at times traded below the Fund's NAV, and at times has traded above NAV. In recognition of this possibility that the Common Shares might trade at a discount to NAV and that any such discount may not be in the interest of Common Shareholders, the Fund's Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, from time to time may review possible actions to reduce any such discount. The Board might consider open market repurchases or tender offers for Common Shares at NAV. There can be no assurance that the Board will decide to undertake any of these actions or that, if undertaken, such actions would result in the Common Shares trading at a price equal to or close to NAV per Common Share. The Board might also consider the conversion of the Fund to an open-end mutual fund. The Board believes, however, that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Fund's investment objectives and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is highly unlikely that the Board would vote to convert the Fund to an open-end investment company.

SPECIAL RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in any investment company security involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or you may lose part or all of your investment.

Discount From or Premium to NAV. The Offering is conducted only when Common Shares of the Fund are trading at a price equal to or above the Fund's NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Fund's Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to NAV. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Fund's NAV may decrease.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 12Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Market Discount Risk. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Fund's Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to NAV. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Fund's NAV may decrease.

Secondary Market for the Common Shares. The issuance of Common Shares through the Offering may have an adverse effect on the secondary market for the Common Shares. The increase in the amount of the Fund's outstanding Common Shares resulting from the Offering may put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Fund. Common Shares will not be issued pursuant to the Offering at any time when Common Shares are trading at a price lower than a price equal to the Fund's NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions.

The Fund also issues Common Shares of the Fund through its dividend reinvestment plan. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan." Common Shares may be issued under the plan at a discount to the market price for such Common Shares, which may put downward pressure on the market price for Common Shares of the Fund.

When the Common Shares are trading at a premium, the Fund may also issue Common Shares of the Fund that are sold through transactions effected on the NYSE. The increase in the amount of the Fund's outstanding Common Shares resulting from that offering may also put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Fund.

The voting power of current shareholders is diluted to the extent that such shareholders do not purchase shares in any future Common Share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if the Adviser is unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, the Fund's per share distribution may decrease (or may consist of return of capital) and the Fund may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, which are generally traded on a securities exchange or in the over-the-counter markets. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Because the Fund normally sells stock index call options on a portion of its common stock portfolio value, the Fund's appreciation potential from equity market performance is more limited than if the Fund did not engage in selling stock index call options. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of distributions.

Market Risk. The value of investments held by the Fund may increase or decrease in response to economic, political and financial events (whether real, expected or perceived) in the U.S. and global markets. The frequency and magnitude of such changes in value cannot be predicted. Certain securities and other investments held by the Fund may experience increased volatility, illiquidity, or other potentially adverse effects in reaction to changing market conditions. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as decreases or increases in short-term interest rates, could cause high volatility in markets. No active trading market may exist for certain investments, which may impair the ability of the Fund to sell or to realize the current valuation of such investments in the event of the need to liquidate such assets. Fixed-income markets may experience periods of relatively high volatility in an environment where U.S. treasury yields are rising.

Issuer Risk. The value of securities held by the Fund may decline for a number of reasons that directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods and services.

Equity Risk .Under normal market conditions, the Fund’s investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. Therefore, a principal risk of investing in the Fund is equity risk. Equity risk is the risk that the value of securities held by the Fund will fluctuate or fall due to general market or economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, and the particular circumstances and performance of companies whose securities the Fund holds. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed-income securities over the long term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in returns. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of equity securities of an issuer held by the Fund; the price of common stock of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the stock market; or a drop in the stock market may depress the price of most or all of the common stocks held by the Fund. In addition, common stock of an issuer in the Fund’s portfolio may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments because, among other possible reasons, the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial condition. Common stocks in which the Fund invests are structurally subordinated to preferred stocks, bonds and other debt instruments in a company’s capital structure, in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore is subject to greater dividend risk than preferred stocks or debt instruments of such issuers. Finally, common stock prices may be sensitive to rising interest rates, as the costs of capital rise and borrowing costs increase.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 13Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Risks of Investing in Mid-Cap Companies. The Fund may make investments in stocks of companies whose market capitalization is considered middle sized or “mid-cap.” Mid-cap companies often are newer or less established companies than larger capitalization companies. Investments in mid-cap companies carry additional risks because earnings of these companies tend to be less predictable; they often have limited product lines, markets, distribution channels or financial resources; and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or a few key people. The market movements of equity securities of mid-cap companies may be more abrupt or erratic than the market movements of equity securities of larger, more established companies or the stock market in general. Historically, mid-cap companies have sometimes gone through extended periods when they did not perform as well as larger companies. In addition, equity securities of mid-cap companies generally are less liquid than those of larger companies. This means that the Fund could have greater difficulty selling such securities at the time and price that the Fund would like.

Risk of Selling Index Call Options. Under normal market conditions, a portion of the Fund’s common stock portfolio value is subject to written index call options. The purchaser of an index call option has the right to any appreciation in the value of the index over the exercise price of the call option as of the valuation date of the option. Because their exercise is settled in cash, sellers of index call options such as the Fund cannot provide in advance for their potential settlement obligations by acquiring and holding the underlying securities. The Fund intends to mitigate the risks of its options activities by writing options on one or more broad-based stock indices that the Adviser believes collectively approximate the characteristics of the Fund’s common stock portfolio (or that portion of its portfolio against which options are written). The Fund will not, however, hold stocks that fully replicate the indices on which it writes call options. Due to tax considerations, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. The Fund’s stock holdings will normally include stocks not included in the indices on which it writes call options. Consequently, the Fund bears the risk that the performance of its stock portfolio will vary from the performance of the indices on which it writes call options. For example, the Fund will suffer a loss if the S&P 500 appreciates above the exercise price of S&P 500 call options written by the Fund while the securities held by the Fund in the aggregate fail to appreciate as much or decline in value over the life of the written option. Index options written by the Fund is priced on a daily basis. Their value is affected primarily by changes in the prices and dividend rates of the underlying common stocks in such index, changes in actual or perceived volatility of such index and the remaining time to the options’ expiration. The trading price of index call options will also be affected by liquidity considerations and the balance of purchase and sale orders.

A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived and well-executed options program may be adversely affected by market behavior or unexpected events. As the writer of index call options, the Fund will forgo, during the option’s life, the opportunity to profit from increases in the value of the applicable index above the sum of the option premium received and the exercise price of the call option, but retains the risk of loss, minus the option premium received, should the value of the applicable index decline. When a call option is exercised, the Fund is required to deliver an amount of cash determined by the excess of the value of the applicable index at contract termination over the exercise price of the option. Thus, the exercise of index call options sold by the Fund may require the Fund to sell portfolio securities to generate cash at inopportune times or for unattractive prices.

To the extent that the Fund writes options on indices based upon foreign stocks, the Fund generally sells options on broad-based foreign country and/or regional stock indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Options on foreign indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code may trade in substantially lower volumes and with substantially wider bid-ask spreads than other options contracts on the same or similar indices that trade on other markets outside the United States. To implement its options program most effectively, the Fund may sell index options that do not qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code. Gain or loss on index options not qualifying as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code would be realized upon disposition, lapse or settlement of the

positions and would be treated as short-term gain or loss.

The trading price of options may be adversely affected if the market for such options becomes less liquid or smaller. The Fund may close out a call option by buying the option instead of letting it expire or be exercised. There can be no assurance that a liquid market will exist when the Fund seeks to close out a call option position by buying the option. Reasons for the absence of a liquid secondary market on an exchange include the following: (i) there may be insufficient trading interest in certain options; (ii) restrictions may be imposed by an exchange on opening transactions or closing transactions or both; (iii) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions may be imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options; (iv) unusual or unforeseen circumstances may interrupt normal operations on an exchange; (v) the facilities of an exchange or the Options Clearing Corporation (the "OCC") may not at all times be adequate to handle current trading volume; or (vi) one or more exchanges could, for economic or other reasons, decide or be compelled to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options) at some future date. If trading were discontinued, the secondary market on that exchange (or in that class or series of options) would cease to exist. However, outstanding options on that exchange that had been issued by the OCC as a result of trades on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 14Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The hours of trading for options may not conform to the hours during which common stocks held by the Fund are traded. To the extent that the options markets close before the markets for securities, significant price and rate movements can take place in the securities markets that would not be reflected concurrently in the options markets. Index call options are marked to market daily and their value is affected by changes in the value and dividend rates of the securities represented in the underlying index, changes in interest rates, changes in the actual or perceived volatility of the associated index and the remaining time to the options' expiration, as well as trading conditions in the options market.

Tax Risk. Reference is made to "Federal Income Tax Matters" for an explanation of the federal income tax consequences and attendant risks of investing in the Fund. Although the Fund seeks to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by Common Shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund, there can be no assurance that it will be successful in this regard. The tax treatment and characterization of the Fund's distributions may change over time due to changes in the Fund's mix of investment returns and changes in the federal tax laws, regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations. The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code and future changes in tax laws and regulations. Distributions paid on the Common Shares may be characterized variously as non-qualified dividends (taxable at ordinary income rates), qualified dividends (generally taxable at long-term capital gains rates), capital gains dividends (taxable at long-term capital gains rates) or return of capital (generally not currently taxable). The ultimate tax characterization of the Fund's distributions made in a calendar year may not finally be determined until after the end of that calendar year. Distributions to a Common Shareholder that are return of capital are tax free to the amount of the Common Shareholder's current tax basis in his or her Common Shares, with any distribution amounts exceeding such basis treated as capital gain on a deemed sale of Common Shares. Common Shareholders are required to reduce their tax basis in Common Shares by the amount of tax-free return of capital distributions received, thereby increasing the amount of capital gain (or decreasing the amount of capital loss) to be recognized upon a later disposition of the Common Shares. In order for Fund distributions of qualified dividend income to be taxable at favorable long-term capital gains rates, a Common Shareholder must meet certain prescribed holding period and other requirements with respect to his or her Common Shares. If positions held by the Fund were treated as "straddles" for federal income tax purposes, dividends on such positions would not constitute qualified dividend income subject to favorable income tax treatment. Gain or loss on positions in a straddle are subject to special (and generally disadvantageous) rules as described under "Federal Income Tax Matters."

Foreign Security Risk. The value of foreign securities is affected by changes in currency rates, foreign tax laws (including withholding tax), government policies (in this country or abroad), relations between nations and trading, settlement, custodial and other operational risks. In addition, the costs of investing abroad (such as foreign brokerage costs, custodial expenses and other fees) are generally higher than in the United States, and foreign securities markets may be less liquid, more volatile and less subject to governmental supervision than markets in the United States. Foreign investments also could be affected by other factors not present in the United States, including expropriation of assets, armed conflict, confiscatory taxation, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards, less publicly available financial and other information and potential difficulties in enforcing contractual obligations or repatriating capital invested in foreign countries, and the imposition of economic sanctions. Settlements of securities transactions in foreign countries are subject to risk of loss, may be delayed and are generally less frequent than in the United States, which could affect the liquidity of the Fund's assets. As an alternative to holding foreign-traded securities, the Fund may invest in dollar-denominated securities of foreign companies that trade on United States exchanges or in the United States over-the-counter market (including depositary receipts, which evidence ownership in underlying foreign securities). Since the Fund may invest in securities denominated or quoted in currencies other than the United States dollar, the Fund may be affected by changes in foreign currency exchange rates (and exchange control regulations) which affect the value of investments held by the Fund and the accrued income and appreciation or depreciation of the investments in United States dollars. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates relative to the United States dollar will affect the United States dollar value of the Fund's assets denominated in that currency and the Fund's return on

such assets as well as any temporary uninvested reserves in bank deposits in foreign currencies. In addition, the Fund will incur costs in connection with conversions between various currencies. Foreign securities may not be eligible for the reduced rate of taxation applicable to qualified dividend income.

Because foreign companies may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to United States companies, there may be less or less reliable publicly available information about a foreign company than about a domestic company. There is generally less government supervision and regulation of securities exchanges, broker-dealers and listed companies than in the United States. Mail service between the United States and foreign countries may be slower or less reliable than within the United States, thus increasing the risk of delayed settlements of portfolio transactions for, or loss of certificates of, portfolio securities. Payment for securities before delivery may be required. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments that could adversely affect investments in those countries. Moreover, individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Foreign securities markets, while growing in

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 15Prospectus dated [____], 2019

volume and sophistication, are generally not as developed as those in the United States, and securities of some foreign issuers (particularly those located in developing countries) may be less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable United States companies. The risks of foreign investments described above apply to an even greater extent to investments in emerging markets.

Emerging Market Security Risk. The risks of foreign investments described above apply to an even greater extent to investments in emerging markets. The securities markets of emerging countries are generally smaller, less developed, less liquid, and more volatile than the securities markets of the United States and developed foreign markets. Disclosure and regulatory standards in many respects are less stringent than in the United States and developed foreign markets. There also may be a lower level of monitoring and regulation of securities markets in emerging market countries and the activities of investors in such markets and enforcement of existing regulations may be limited. Many emerging countries have experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had and may continue to have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging countries. Economies in emerging markets generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values, and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. The economies of these countries also have been and may continue to be adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries in which they trade. The economies of countries with emerging markets may also be predominantly based on only a few industries or dependent on revenues from particular commodities. In addition, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in foreign markets may be more expensive in emerging markets than in many developed foreign markets, which could reduce the Fund's income from such securities.

In many cases, governments of emerging countries continue to exercise significant control over their economies, and government actions relative to the economy, as well as economic developments generally, may affect the Fund's investments in those countries. In addition, there is a heightened possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding taxes on dividend and interest payments, or other similar developments that could affect investments in those countries. There can be no assurance that adverse political changes will not cause the Fund to suffer a loss of any or all of its investments.

Market Disruption. Instability in the Middle East, the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, geopolitical tensions elsewhere and terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world have resulted in market volatility and may have long-term effects on the United States and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund cannot predict the effects of significant future events on the global economy and securities markets. A disruption of the financial markets could impact interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to the Common Shares.

Interest Rate Risk. The premiums from writing index call options and amounts available for distribution from the Fund's options activity may decrease in declining interest rate environments. The value of the Fund's common stock investments may also be influenced by changes in interest rates. Higher yielding stocks and stocks of issuers whose businesses are substantially affected by changes in interest rates may be particularly sensitive to interest rate risk.

Derivatives Risk. In addition to writing index call options, the risks of which are described above, the Fund may also invest in other derivative for purposes, such as hedging, to enhance return, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. Other permitted derivatives include futures contracts on securities, non-equity indices and currencies, options on futures contracts, equity and interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, and forward currency exchange contracts. The Fund may invest in derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive. The use of derivatives can lead to losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the asset, index, rate or instrument underlying a derivative, due to failure of a counterparty or due to tax or regulatory constraints. Derivatives may create investment leverage in the Fund, which magnifies the Fund's exposure

to the underlying investment. Derivative risks may be more significant when they are used to enhance return or as a substitute for a position or security, rather than solely to hedge the risk of a position or security held by the Fund. Derivatives for hedging purposes may not reduce risk if they are not sufficiently correlated to the position being hedged. A decision as to whether, when and how to use derivatives involves the exercise of specialized skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected events. Changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index, and the Fund could lose more than the principal amount invested in derivatives. Derivative instruments traded in over-the-counter markets may be difficult to value, may be illiquid, and may be subject to wide swings in valuation caused by changes in the value of the underlying instrument. The loss on derivative transactions may substantially exceed the initial investment. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. Dividends received on securities with respect to which the Fund is obligated to make related payments (pursuant to short sales or otherwise) will not constitute tax-advantaged dividend income and will be taxable as ordinary income. In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify as tax-advantaged dividend income.

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Act and related regulations require many derivatives to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on counterparties, and impose other regulatory requirements that will continue to change derivative markets as regulations are implemented. Additional regulation of the derivatives markets may make the use of derivatives more costly, may limit the availability or reduce the liquidity of derivatives, and may impose limits or restrictions on the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions. The effects of future regulation cannot be predicted and may impair the effectiveness of the Fund's derivative transactions and its ability to achieve its investment objective(s).

Counterparty Risk. A financial institution or other counterparty with whom the Fund does business (such as trading or as a derivatives counterparty), or that underwrites, distributes or guarantees any instruments that the Fund owns or is otherwise exposed to, may decline in financial condition and become unable to honor its commitments. This could cause the value of Fund shares to decline or could delay the return or delivery of collateral or other assets to the Fund. Counterparty risk is increased for contracts with longer maturities.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 16Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Liquidity Risk. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its total assets in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or which are otherwise illiquid. The Fund may not be able to dispose readily of such investments at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell such investments if they were more widely traded and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. In addition, the limited liquidity could affect the market price of the investments, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's NAV and ability to make dividend distributions. Limited liquidity can also affect the market price of securities, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's net asset value and ability to make dividend distributions. The financial markets in general have in recent years experienced periods of extreme secondary market supply and demand imbalance, resulting in a loss of liquidity during which market prices were suddenly and substantially below traditional measures of intrinsic value. During such periods, some securities could be sold only at arbitrary prices and with substantial losses. Periods of such market dislocation may occur again at any time.

Inflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the purchasing power of assets or income from investments is worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline.

Market Price of Common Shares. The Fund's share price will fluctuate and, at the time of sale, shares may be worth more or less than the original investment or the Fund's then current NAV. The Fund cannot predict whether its shares will trade at a price at, above or below its NAV. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to their NAV.

Financial Leverage Risk. Although the Fund has no current intention to do so, the Fund is authorized and reserves the flexibility to utilize leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or borrowings, including the issuance of debt securities. In the event that the Fund determines in the future to utilize investment leverage, there can be no assurance that such a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed. Leverage creates risks for Common Shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares and the risk that fluctuations in distribution rates on any preferred shares or fluctuations in borrowing costs may affect the return to Common Shareholders. To the extent the returns derived from securities purchased with proceeds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Fund's distributions may be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the returns from the securities purchased with such proceeds are not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders will be less than if leverage had not been used. In the latter case, Eaton Vance, in its best judgment, may nevertheless determine to maintain the Fund's leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate. The costs of an offering of preferred shares and/or a borrowing program would be borne by Common Shareholders and consequently would result in a reduction of the NAV of Common Shares. In addition, the fee paid to Eaton Vance is calculated on the basis of the Fund's average daily gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares and/or borrowings, so the fee is higher when leverage is utilized, which may create an incentive for the Adviser to employ financial leverage. In this regard, holders of preferred shares do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds of the preferred shares offering.

Management Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is actively managed. Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager invest the assets of the Fund as they deem appropriate in implementing the Fund's investment strategy. Accordingly, the success of the Fund depends upon the investment skills and analytical abilities of Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager to develop and effectively implement strategies that achieve the Fund's investment objectives. There is no assurance that Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager will be successful in developing and implementing the Fund's investment strategy. Subjective decisions made by Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager may cause the Fund to incur losses or to miss profit opportunities.

Anti-Takeover Provisions. The Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other persons or entities to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of

its Board. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Fund, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Fund and interfering with the normal operation of the Fund. See “Description of Capital Structure - Certain Provisions of the Declaration of Trust -- Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust.”

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 17Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Summary of Fund Expenses

The purpose of the table below is to help you understand all fees and expenses that you, as a Common Shareholder, would bear directly or indirectly. The table shows Fund expenses as a percentage of net assets attributable to Common Shares⁽¹⁾ for the year ended October 31, 2018.

Common Shareholder Transaction Expenses	
Sales Load Paid By You (as a percentage of offering price)	-- ⁽¹⁾
Offering Expenses (as a percentage of offering price)	None ⁽²⁾
Dividend Reinvestment Plan Fees	None ⁽³⁾
	Percentage of Net Assets
Annual Expenses	Attributable to Common Shares ⁽⁴⁾
Investment Adviser Fee	1.00% ⁽⁵⁾
Other Expenses	<u>0.07%</u>
Total Annual Fund Operating Expenses	1.07%

EXAMPLE

The following Example illustrates the expenses that Common Shareholders would pay on a \$1,000 investment in Common Shares, assuming (i) total annual expenses of 1.07% of net assets attributable to Common Shares in years 1 through 10; (ii) a 5% annual return; and (iii) all distributions are reinvested at NAV:

1 Year 3 Years 5 Years 10 Years

\$11 \$34 \$59 \$131

The above table and example and the assumption in the example of a 5% annual return are required by regulations of the SEC that are applicable to all investment companies; the assumed 5% annual return is not a prediction of, and does not represent, the projected or actual performance of the Fund's Common Shares. For more complete descriptions of certain of the Fund's costs and expenses, see "Management of the Fund." In addition, while the example assumes reinvestment of all dividends and distributions at NAV, participants in the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan may receive Common Shares purchased or issued at a price or value different from NAV. See "Distributions" and "Dividend Reinvestment Plan." The example does not include sales load or estimated offering costs, which would cause the expenses shown in the example to increase.

The example should not be considered a representation of past or future expenses, and the Fund's actual expenses may be greater or less than those shown. Moreover, the Fund's actual rate of return may be greater or less than the hypothetical 5% return shown in the example.

⁽¹⁾ If Common Shares are sold to or through underwriters, the Prospectus Supplement will set forth any applicable sales load.

The Adviser will pay the expenses of the Offering (other than the applicable commissions); therefore, Offering expenses are not included in the Summary of Fund Expenses. Offering expenses generally include, but are not limited to, the preparation, review and filing with the SEC of the Fund's registration statement (including this ⁽²⁾ Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information), the preparation, review and filing of any associated marketing or similar materials, costs associated with the printing, mailing or other distribution of the Prospectus, Statement of Additional Information and/or marketing materials, associated filing fees, NYSE listing fees, and legal and auditing fees associated with the Offering.

⁽³⁾

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

You will be charged a \$5.00 service charge and pay brokerage charges if you direct the plan agent to sell your Common Shares held in a dividend reinvestment account.

(4) Stated as a percentage of average net assets attributable to Common Shares for the period ended October 31, 2018.

The adviser fee paid by the Fund to the Adviser is based on the average daily gross assets of the Fund, including all (5) assets attributable to any form of investment leverage that the Fund may utilize. Accordingly, if the Fund were to increase investment leverage in the future, the adviser fee will increase as a percentage of net assets.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 18 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Financial Highlights and Investment Performance**FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS**

This table details the financial performance of the Common Shares, including total return information showing how much an investment in the Fund has increased or decreased each period. This information has been audited by [____], an independent registered public accounting firm. The report of [____] and the Fund's financial statements are incorporated by reference and included in the Fund's annual report, which is available upon request.

Selected data for a common share outstanding during the periods stated.

	Year Ended October 31,				
	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014
Net asset value – Beginning of year	\$I1.960	\$I1.140	\$I2.010	\$I2.340	\$I1.870
Income (Loss) From Operations					
Net investment income ⁽¹⁾	\$H.082	\$H.100	\$H.119	\$H.211	\$H.324 ⁽²⁾
Net realized and unrealized gain	H.830	I.732	H.023	H.471	I.157
Total income from operations	\$H.912	\$I.832	\$H.142	\$H.682	\$I.481
Less Distributions					
From net investment income	\$ (0.081)	\$ (0.096)	\$ (0.095)	\$ (0.212)	\$ (0.327)
From net realized gain	(0.486)	(0.285)	(0.071)	(0.800)	—
Tax return of capital	(0.445)	(0.631)	(0.846)	—	(0.685)
Total distributions	\$ (1.012)	\$ (1.012)	\$ (1.012)	\$ (1.012)	\$ (1.012)
Anti-dilutive effect of share repurchase program⁽¹⁾	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$H.001
Net asset value – End of year	\$I1.860	\$I1.960	\$I1.140	\$I2.010	\$I2.340
Market value – End of year	\$I1.460	\$I1.640	\$I0.290	\$I1.310	\$I1.710
Total Investment Return on Net Asset Value⁽³⁾	O.75%	I7.51%	I.98%	N.38%	I3.64%
Total Investment Return on Market Value⁽³⁾	N.98%	J3.81%	H.04%	M.57%	I9.41%
Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net assets, end of year (000's omitted)	\$I,775,555	\$I,787,846	\$I,665,148	\$I,795,490	\$I,844,442
Ratios (as a percentage of average daily net assets):					
Expenses ⁽⁴⁾	I.07%	I.08%	I.08%	I.07%	I.08%
Net investment income	H.66%	H.86%	I.05%	I.72%	J.65% ⁽²⁾
Portfolio Turnover	48%	75%	86%	85%	83%
(See related footnotes.)					

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 19Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Financial Highlights (continued)

	Year Ended October 31,				
	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
Net asset value – Beginning of year	\$10.960	\$10.830	\$12.210	\$12.810	\$12.940
Income (Loss) From Operations					
Net investment income ⁽¹⁾	\$H.195	\$H.138	\$H.121	\$H.138	\$H.186
Net realized and unrealized gain (loss)	1.798	1.062	(0.227)	0.941	1.534
Total income (loss) from operations	\$1.993	\$1.200	\$ (0.106)	\$1.079	\$1.720
Less Distributions					
From net investment income	\$ (0.398)	\$ (0.137)	\$ (0.122)	\$ (0.137)	\$ (0.187)
From net realized gain	(0.698)	—	—	—	—
Tax return of capital	—	(0.948)	(1.152)	(1.542)	(1.663)
Total distributions	\$ (1.096)	\$ (1.085)	\$ (1.274)	\$ (1.679)	\$ (1.850)
Anti-dilutive effect of share repurchase program⁽¹⁾	\$H.013	\$H.015	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Net asset value – End of year	\$11.870	\$10.960	\$10.830	\$12.210	\$12.810
Market value – End of year	\$10.720	\$ 9.510	\$ 9.210	\$11.620	\$12.470
Total Investment Return on Net Asset Value⁽³⁾	10.61%	13.68%	(0.27)%	9.26%	17.86%
Total Investment Return on Market Value⁽³⁾	15.53%	15.99%	(10.88)%	6.82%	24.76%
Ratios/Supplemental Data					
Net assets, end of year (000's omitted)	\$1,775,015	\$1,654,326	\$1,651,551	\$1,861,901	\$1,924,016
Ratios (as a percentage of average daily net assets):					
Expenses ⁽⁴⁾	1.09%	1.07%	1.07%	1.07%	1.07%
Net investment income	1.71%	1.27%	1.03%	1.11%	1.55%
Portfolio Turnover	130%	30%	63%	25%	45%

(1)

Computed using average shares outstanding.

(2) Net investment income per share includes special dividends which amounted to \$0.234 per share. Excluding special dividends, the ratio of net investment income to average daily net assets would have been 0.74%.

Returns are historical and are calculated by determining the percentage change in net asset value or market value

(3) with all distributions reinvested. Distributions are assumed to be reinvested at prices obtained under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan.

(4) Excludes the effect of custody fee credits, if any, of less than 0.005%. Effective September 1, 2015, custody fee credits, which were earned on cash deposit balances, were discontinued by the custodian.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 20Prospectus dated [____], 2019

TRADING AND NAV INFORMATION

The Fund's common shares have traded both at a premium and a discount to its NAV. The Fund cannot predict whether its shares will trade in the future at a premium or discount to its NAV. The provisions of the 1940 Act generally require that the public offering price of common shares (less any underwriting commissions and discounts) must equal or exceed the NAV per share of a company's common stock (calculated within 48 hours of pricing). The issuance of common shares may have an adverse effect on prices in the secondary market for the Fund's common shares by increasing the number of common shares available, which may put downward pressure on the market price for the Fund's common shares. Shares of common stock of closed-end investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. See "Risk Considerations - Discount From or Premium to NAV".

In addition, the Fund's Board of Trustees has authorized the Fund to repurchase up to 10% of its outstanding common shares (as of the date of such authorization) in open-market transactions at a discount to its NAV. The repurchase program does not obligate the Fund to purchase a specific amount of shares. The results of the repurchase program are disclosed in the Fund's annual and semi-annual reports to shareholders. See "Description of Capital Structure – Repurchase of Common Shares and Other Discount Measures."

The following table sets forth for each of the periods indicated the high and low closing market prices for Common Shares on the NYSE, and the corresponding NAV per share and the premium or discount to NAV per share at which the Fund's Common Shares were trading as of such date.

Fiscal Quarter Ended	Market Price		NAV per Share on Date of Market		NAV Premium/(Discount) on Date of Market	
	High	Low	High	Low	High	Low
10/31/2018	12.98	11.20	12.86	11.55	0.93%	(3.03)%
7/31/2018	12.70	12.00	12.50	11.90	1.60%	0.84%
4/30/2018	12.35	11.33	12.65	11.68	(2.37)%	(3.00)%
1/31/2018	12.55	11.58	12.74	12.02	(1.49)%	(3.66)%
10/31/2017	11.84	11.01	12.01	11.72	(1.42)%	(6.06)%
7/31/2017	11.76	11.18	11.98	11.78	(1.84)%	(5.09)%
4/30/2017	11.29	10.71	11.76	11.54	(4.00)%	(7.19)%
1/31/2017	10.66	9.91	11.54	10.90	(7.63)%	(9.08)%
10/31/2016	11.02	10.28	11.48	11.17	(4.01)%	(7.97)%

The last reported sale price, NAV per share and percentage premium/(discount) to NAV per share of the Common Shares as of [____], 2019 were \$[____], \$[____] and [____]%, respectively. As of [____], 2019, the Fund had [____] Common Shares outstanding and net assets of the Fund were \$[____].

The following table provides information about our outstanding Common Shares as of [____], 2019:

Title of Class	Amount Authorized	Amount Held by the Fund for its Account	Amount Outstanding
Common Shares Unlimited	0		[____]
Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 21 Prospectus dated [____], 2019			

The Fund

The Fund is a diversified, closed-end management investment company registered under the 1940 Act. The Fund was organized as a Massachusetts business trust on October 5, 2005 pursuant to an Agreement and Declaration of Trust, as amended, governed by the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Fund's principal office is located at Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, and its telephone number is 1-800-262-1122.

Use of Proceeds

Subject to the remainder of this section, and unless otherwise specified in a Prospectus Supplement, the Fund intends to invest substantially all of the net proceeds of any sales of Common Shares pursuant to this Prospectus in accordance with the Fund's investment objectives and policies. The Fund anticipates that it will be possible to invest the proceeds of the Offering consistent with the Fund's investment objective and policies as soon as practicable, but in no event, assuming normal market conditions, later than three months after the receipt thereof. Pending such investment, the proceeds may be invested in short-term money market instruments, securities with remaining maturities of less than one year, cash and/or cash equivalents. A delay in the anticipated use of proceeds could lower returns and reduce the Fund's distribution to Common Shareholders or result in a distribution consisting principally of a return of capital.

Investment Objectives, Policies and Risks

INVESTMENT OBJECTIVES

The Fund's primary investment objective is to provide current income and gains, with a secondary objective of capital appreciation. In pursuing its investment objectives, the Fund will evaluate returns on an after-tax basis, seeking to minimize and defer shareholder federal income taxes. There can be no assurance that the Fund will achieve its investment objectives.

Under normal market conditions, the Fund's investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. The Fund will seek to earn high levels of tax-advantaged income and gains by (1) emphasizing investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for favorable federal income tax treatment and (2) writing (selling) stock index call options with respect to a portion of its common stock portfolio value. Call options on broad-based stock indices generally qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts" as defined in the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), on which capital gains and losses are generally treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of holding period.

PRIMARY INVESTMENT POLICIES

General Composition of the Fund. Under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a combination of (1) dividend-paying common stocks and (2) common stocks the value of which is subject to covered written index call options. The Fund will emphasize investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains, and will seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund sells a stock on or shortly after the stock's ex-dividend date and uses the sale proceeds to purchase one or more other stocks that are expected to pay dividends before the next dividend payment on the stock being sold. Through this practice, the Fund may receive more dividend payments over a given time period than if it held a single stock. By complying with applicable holding period and other requirements while engaging in dividend capture trading, the Fund may enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives. The use of dividend capture trading strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and potentially higher short-term gain or loss. The Fund may use derivatives to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading. The Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts for this purpose, but may also engage in other types

of derivatives to manage such exposures.

Typically, the Fund invests primarily in common stocks of United States issuers. The Fund may invest up to 40% of its total assets in securities of foreign issuers, including securities evidenced by American Depositary Receipts (“ADRs”), Global Depositary Receipts (“GDRs”) and European Depositary Receipts (“EDRs”). The Fund may invest up to 5% of its total assets in securities of emerging market issuers. The Fund expects that its assets will normally be invested across a broad range of industries and market sectors. The Fund may not invest 25% or more of its total assets in the securities of issuers in any single industry. The Fund may invest a portion of its assets in stocks of mid-capitalization companies. [Eaton Vance generally considers mid-capitalization companies to be those companies having market capitalizations within the range of capitalizations for the S&P MidCap 400 Index (the “S&P MidCap 400”). As of December 31, 2018, the median market capitalization of companies in the S&P MidCap 400 was approximately \$3.5 billion.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 22Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The Fund writes call options on one or more broad-based stock indices that the Adviser believes collectively approximate the characteristics of its common stock portfolio (or that portion of its portfolio against which options are written) and that present attractive opportunities to earn options premiums. The Fund writes call options on the S&P 500 Index (the “S&P 500”), and may also write call options on other domestic and foreign stock indices. Over time, the indices on which the Fund writes call options may vary as a result of changes in the availability and liquidity of various listed index options, changes in stock portfolio holdings, the Adviser’s evaluation of equity market conditions and other factors. Writing index call options involves a tradeoff between the option premiums received and reduced participation in potential future stock price appreciation. Due to tax considerations, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. The Fund’s stock holdings normally include stocks not included in the indices on which it writes call options.

The Fund generally sells stock index call options that are exchange-listed and “European style,” meaning that the options may be exercised only on the expiration date of the option. Index options differ from options on individual securities in that index options (i) typically are settled in cash rather than by delivery of securities and (ii) reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segments of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

As the seller of index call options, the Fund will receive cash (the premiums) from option purchasers. The purchaser of an index call option has the right to any appreciation in the value of the applicable index over a fixed price (the exercise price) as of a specified date in the future (the option valuation date). Generally, the Fund sells call options that are slightly “out-of-the-money” (i.e., the exercise price generally will be slightly above the current level of the applicable index when the option is sold). The Fund may also sell index options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money.” Such options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money” provide greater potential for the Fund to realize capital appreciation, but generally would pay a lower premium than options that are slightly “out-of-the-money.” In writing index options, the Fund, in effect, sells the potential appreciation in the value of the applicable index above the exercise price in exchange for the option premium received. If, at expiration, an index call option sold by the Fund is exercised, the Fund will pay the purchaser the difference between the cash value of the applicable index and the exercise price of the option. The premium, the exercise price and the market value of the applicable index will determine the gain or loss realized by the Fund as the seller of the index call option.

The Fund expects to maintain high turnover in index call options, based on the Adviser’s intent to sell index call options on a portion of its stock portfolio value and roll forward its options positions approximately every one to three months.

The Fund’s policy that, under normal market conditions, the Fund invests at least 80% of its total assets in a combination of (1) dividend-paying common stocks and (2) common stocks the value of which is subject to covered written index call options is a non-fundamental policy that may be changed by the Fund’s Board of Trustees (the “Board”) without Common Shareholder approval following the provision of 60 days’ prior written notice to Common Shareholders.

In implementing the Fund’s investment strategy, the Adviser employs a variety of techniques and strategies designed to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund as described below.

During unusual market conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objectives, principal strategies and other policies.

The S&P 500 is an unmanaged index of 500 stocks maintained and published by S&P that is market-capitalization weighted and generally representative of the performance of larger stocks traded in the United States.

The Fund is not sponsored, endorsed, sold or promoted by any index sponsor. No index sponsor has passed on the legality or suitability of, or the accuracy or adequacy of descriptions and disclosures relating to the Fund. No index sponsor has made any representation or warranty, express or implied, to the Common Shareholders of the Fund or any member of the public regarding the advisability of investing in securities generally or in the Fund particularly, or the ability of any index to track general stock market performance. The indices are determined, composed and calculated by the respective index sponsors without regard to the Fund or its use of the indices for option writing. The index sponsors have no obligation to take the needs of the Fund or its Common Shareholders into consideration in determining, composing or calculating the indices. No index sponsor is responsible for or has participated in the determination of the timing of, price of, or number of Common Shares of the Fund to be issued. No index sponsor has any liability in connection with the management, administration, marketing or trading of the Fund.

The index sponsors do not guarantee the accuracy and/or uninterrupted calculation of the indices or any data included therein. The index sponsors make no warranty, express or implied, as to results to be obtained by the Fund, the Common Shareholders or any other person or entity from the use of the indices in the Fund's options writing program. In publishing the indices, the index sponsors make no express or implied warranties, and expressly disclaim all warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose or use with respect to the indices or any data included therein. Without limiting any of the foregoing, in no event shall an index sponsor have any liability for any lost profits or special, incidental, punitive, indirect or consequential damages, even if notified of the possibility of such damages.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 23Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Investment Strategy. Eaton Vance is responsible for the Fund’s overall investment program, structuring and managing the Fund’s common stock portfolio, including dividend capture trading, tax-loss harvesting (i.e., periodically selling positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund) and other tax-management techniques. The Fund’s investments are actively managed, and securities may be bought or sold on a daily basis. See “Management of the Fund.”

A team of Eaton Vance investment professionals is responsible for the overall management of the Fund’s investments, including decisions about asset allocation and securities selection. The portfolio manager utilizes information provided by, and the expertise of, the Adviser’s research staff in making investment decisions. Investment decisions are made primarily on the basis of fundamental research, which involves consideration of the various company-specific and general business, economic and market factors that may influence the future performance of individual companies and equity investments therein. The Adviser will also consider a variety of other factors in constructing and maintaining the Fund’s stock portfolio, including, but not limited to, stock dividend yields and payment schedules, overlap between the Fund’s stock holdings and the indices on which it has outstanding options positions, realization of tax-loss harvesting (i.e., periodically selling positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund) opportunities and other tax management considerations.

The Adviser believes that a strategy of owning a portfolio of common stocks and selling covered call options (a “buy-write strategy”) with respect to a portion thereof can provide current income and gains and attractive risk-adjusted returns. Compared to selling call options on individual stocks, the Adviser believes that selling index call options can achieve better tax and transactional efficiency because listed options on broad-based securities indices generally qualify as “section 1256 contracts” under the Code, subject to specialized tax treatment, and because the markets for index options are generally deeper and more liquid than options on individual stocks. Although the Fund generally writes stock index call options with respect to only a portion of its common stock portfolio value, the Fund may in market circumstances deemed appropriate by the Adviser write covered index call options on up to 100% of the value of its assets.

To avoid being subject to the “straddle rules” under federal income tax law, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. Under the “straddle rules,” “offsetting positions with respect to personal property” generally are considered to be straddles. In general, investment positions will be offsetting if there is a substantial diminution in the risk of loss from holding one position by reason of holding one or more other positions. The Fund expects that the index call options it writes will not be considered straddles because its stock holdings will be sufficiently dissimilar from the components of each index on which it has open call options positions under applicable guidance established by the IRS. Under certain circumstances, however, the Fund may enter into options transactions or certain other investments that may constitute positions in a straddle.

The Fund’s index option strategy is designed to produce current cash flow from option premiums and to moderate the volatility of the Fund’s returns. This index option strategy is of a hedging nature, and is not designed to speculate on equity market performance. The Adviser believes that the Fund’s index option strategy will moderate the volatility of the Fund’s returns because the option premiums received will help to mitigate the impact of downward price movements in the stocks held by the Fund, while the Fund’s obligations under index calls written will constrain the Fund’s ability to participate in upward price movements in portfolio stocks.

The Fund expects normally to sell index call options on a portion of its common stock portfolio value. The Adviser does not intend to sell index call options representing amounts greater than the value of the Fund’s common stock portfolio (i.e., take a “naked” position). The Adviser generally sells index call options that are exchange-listed and “European style,” meaning that the options may only be exercised on the expiration date of the option. Exchange-traded

index options are typically settled in cash and provide that the holder of the option has the right to receive an amount of cash determined by the excess of the exercise-settlement value of the index over the exercise price of the option. The exercise-settlement value is calculated based on opening sales prices of the component index stocks on the option valuation date, which is the last business day before the expiration date. Generally, the Adviser sells index call options that are slightly “out-of-the-money,” meaning that option exercise prices generally will be slightly above the current level of the index at the time the options are written. The Fund may also sell index options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money.” Such options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money” provide greater potential for the Fund to realize capital appreciation on its portfolio stocks but generally would pay a lower premium than options that are slightly “out-of-the-money.” The Adviser expects to follow a options strategy of selling index call options with a remaining maturity of between approximately one and three months and maintaining its short call options positions until approximately their option valuation date, at which time replacement call option positions with a remaining maturity within this range are written.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 24Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The foregoing policies relating to investments in common stocks and options writing are the Fund's primary investment policies. In addition to its primary investment policies, the Fund may invest to a limited extent in other types of securities and engage in certain other investment practices. In addition to writing index call options, the Fund may write call options on up to 20% of the value of its total assets on futures contracts based upon broad-based securities indices. The Fund's use of such options on index futures would be substantially similar to its use of options directly on indices. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed an investment in these instruments. To seek to protect against price declines in securities holdings with large accumulated gains, the Fund may use various hedging techniques (such as the purchase and sale of futures contracts on stocks and stock indices and options thereon, equity swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks and the purchase and sale of forward currency exchange contracts and currency futures). By using these techniques rather than selling appreciated securities, the Fund can, within certain limitations, reduce its exposure to price declines in the securities without currently realizing substantial capital gains under current federal tax law. The Fund may also use derivatives for other purposes, such as hedging, to enhance return, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. Other permitted derivatives include futures contracts on securities, non-equity indices and currencies, options on futures contracts, equity and interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, and forward currency exchange contracts. The Fund may invest in derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive.

Tax-Managed Investing. Taxes are a major influence on the net after-tax returns that investors receive on their taxable investments. There are five potential sources of returns for a Common Shareholder: (1) appreciation or depreciation in the value of the Common Shares; (2) distributions of qualified dividend income; (3) distributions of other investment income and net short-term capital gains; (4) distributions of long-term capital gains (and long-term capital gains retained by the Fund); and (5) distributions of return of capital. These different sources of investment returns are subject to widely varying federal income tax treatment. Distributions of other investment income (i.e., non-qualified dividend income) and net realized short-term gains are taxed currently as ordinary income, at rates as high as 37%. Distributions of qualified dividend income and net realized long-term gains (whether distributed or retained by the Fund) are taxed currently at rates up to 20% for individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers (provided in the case of qualified dividend income that certain holding period and other requirements are met). Generally, return from unrealized appreciation and depreciation in the value of Common Shares and distributions characterized as return of capital are not taxable until the Common Shareholder sells his or her Common Shares. Upon sale, a capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale and the Common Shareholder's adjusted tax basis is realized. Capital gain is considered long-term and is taxed at rates up to 20% for individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers if the Common Shareholder has held his or her shares more than one year. Otherwise, capital gain is considered short-term and is taxed at rates up to 37%. The after-tax returns achieved by a Common Shareholder will be substantially influenced by the mix of different types of returns subject to varying federal income tax treatment.

In implementing the Fund's investment strategy, the Adviser employs a variety of techniques and strategies designed to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by Common Shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund. These include: (1) investing in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains and complying with the holding period and other requirements for favorable tax treatment; (2) selling index call options that qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code, on which capital gains and losses are generally treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of holding period; (3) limiting the overlap between the Fund's stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis so that the Fund's stock holdings and index call options are not subject to the "straddle rules;" (4) engaging in a systematic program of tax-loss harvesting in the Fund's stock portfolio, periodically selling stock positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund; and (5) managing the sale of appreciated stock positions so as to minimize the Fund's net realized short-term capital gains in excess of net realized long-term capital losses. When an appreciated security is sold, the Fund intends to select for sale the share lots resulting in the most favorable tax

treatment, generally those with holding periods sufficient to qualify for long-term capital gains treatment that have the highest cost basis.

The Fund intends to emphasize investments in stocks that pay dividends that qualify for federal income taxation at rates applicable to long-term capital gains. The qualified dividend income of individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers is taxed at long-term capital gain tax rates if certain holding period and other requirements are met. Qualified dividends are dividends from domestic corporations and dividends from foreign corporations that meet certain specified criteria. The Fund generally can pass the tax treatment of qualified dividend income it receives through to Common Shareholders. For dividends the Fund receives to qualify for tax-advantaged treatment, the Fund must hold stock paying qualified dividends for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date (or more than 90 days during the associated 181-day period, in the case of certain preferred stocks). In addition, the Fund cannot be obligated to make related payments (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) with respect to positions in any security that is substantially similar or related property with respect to such stock. Similar provisions apply to each Common Shareholder's investment in the Fund. In order for qualified dividend income paid by the Fund to a Common Shareholder to be taxable at long-term

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 25 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

capital gains rates, the Common Shareholder must hold his or her Fund shares for more than 60 days during the 121-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date. The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code and future changes in tax laws and regulations.

The Fund will seek to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives by engaging in dividend capture trading. In a dividend capture trade, the Fund sells a stock on or shortly after the stock's ex-dividend date and uses the sale proceeds to purchase one or more other stocks that are expected to pay dividends before the next dividend payment on the stock being sold. Through this practice, the Fund may receive more dividend payments over a given time period than if it held a single stock. In order for dividends received by the Fund to qualify for favorable tax treatment, the Fund must comply with the holding period and other requirements set forth in the preceding paragraph. By complying with applicable holding period and other requirements while engaging in dividend capture trading, the Fund may be able to enhance the level of tax-advantaged dividend income it receives because it will receive more dividend payments qualifying for favorable treatment during the same time period than if it simply held its portfolio stocks. The use of dividend capture trading strategies will expose the Fund to increased trading costs and potentially higher short-term gain or loss. The Fund may use derivatives to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading. The Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts for this purpose, but may also engage in other types of derivatives to manage such exposures.

Options on broad-based equity indices that trade on a national securities exchange registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") or a domestic board of trade designated as a contract market by the Commodity Futures Trading Commission generally will qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts." Options on broad-based equity indices that trade on other exchanges, boards of trade or markets designated by the United States Secretary of Treasury also qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts." Because only a small number of exchanges, boards and markets outside the United States have to date received the necessary designation, most foreign-traded stock index options do not currently qualify for treatment as "section 1256 contracts." In writing options on indices based upon foreign stocks, the Fund generally sells options on broad-based foreign country and/or regional stock indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as "section 1256 contracts." Options on foreign indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code may trade in substantially lower volumes and with substantially wider bid-ask spreads than other options contracts on the same or similar indices that trade on other markets outside the United States. To implement its options program most effectively, the Fund may sell index options that do not qualify as "section 1256 contracts." Gain or loss on index options not qualifying as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code would be realized upon disposition, lapse or settlement of the positions, and would be treated as short-term gain or loss.

To seek to protect against price declines in securities holdings with large accumulated gains, the Fund may use various hedging techniques (such as the sale of futures contracts on stocks and stock indices and options thereon, equity swaps, covered short sales, and forward sales of stocks). By using these techniques rather than selling appreciated securities, the Fund can, within certain limitations, reduce its exposure to price declines in the securities without currently realizing substantial capital gains under current federal tax law. The Fund may also use derivatives for other purposes, such as hedging, to enhance return, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. Dividends received on securities with respect to which the Fund is obligated to make related payments (pursuant to short sales or otherwise) are treated as fully taxable ordinary income (i.e., income other than tax-advantaged qualified dividend income). In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify for favorable tax treatment. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed an investment in these instruments.

Common Stocks. Under normal market conditions, the Fund's investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. Common stock represents an equity ownership interest in the issuing corporation. Holders of common stock generally have voting rights in the issuer and are entitled to receive common stock

dividends when, as and if declared by the corporation's board of directors. Common stock normally occupies the most subordinated position in an issuer's capital structure. Returns on common stock investments consist of any dividends received plus the amount of appreciation or depreciation in the value of the stock.

Although common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed-income securities over the long term and particularly during periods of high or rising concerns about inflation, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in returns and may not maintain their real value during inflationary periods. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of a particular common stock held by the Fund. Also, the prices of common stocks are sensitive to general movements in the stock market and a drop in the stock market may depress the price of common stocks to which the Fund has exposure. Common stock prices fluctuate for many reasons, including changes in investors' perceptions of the financial condition of an issuer or the general condition of the relevant stock market, or when political or economic events affecting the issuer occur. In addition, common stock prices may be sensitive to rising interest rates as the costs of capital rise and borrowing costs increase.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 26Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Foreign Securities. The value of foreign securities is affected by changes in currency rates, foreign tax laws (including withholding tax), government policies (in this country or abroad), relations between nations and trading, settlement, custodial and other operational risks. In addition, the costs of investing abroad are generally higher than in the United States, and foreign securities markets may be less liquid, more volatile and less subject to governmental supervision than markets in the United States. Foreign investments also could be affected by other factors not present in the United States, including expropriation, armed conflict, confiscatory taxation, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards, less publicly available financial and other information and potential difficulties in enforcing contractual obligations. As an alternative to holding foreign-traded securities, the Fund may invest in dollar-denominated securities of foreign companies that trade on U.S. exchanges or in the U.S. over-the-counter market (including depositary receipts, which evidence ownership in underlying foreign securities). Dividends received with respect to stock of a foreign corporation may qualify for the reduced rates of federal income taxation applicable to qualified dividend income only if such corporation satisfies the requirements to be a “qualified foreign corporation.”

The Fund may invest in ADRs, EDRs and GDRs, which are certificates evidencing ownership of shares of foreign issuers and are alternatives to purchasing directly the underlying foreign securities in their national markets and currencies. However, they continue to be subject to many of the risks associated with investing directly in foreign securities. These risks include foreign exchange risk as well as the political and economic risks of the underlying issuer’s country. ADRs, EDRs and GDRs may be sponsored or unsponsored. Unsponsored receipts are established without the participation of the issuer. Unsponsored receipts may involve higher expenses, they may not pass through voting or other shareholder rights, and may be less liquid than sponsored receipts.

Index Options Generally. The Fund will pursue its objectives in part by writing (selling) stock index call options with respect to a portion of its common stock portfolio value. The Fund generally sells index options that are exchange-listed and “European style,” meaning that the options may be exercised only on the expiration date of the option. Index options differ from options on individual securities in that index options (i) typically are settled in cash rather than by delivery of securities (meaning the exercise of an index option does not involve the actual purchase or sale of securities) and (ii) reflect price fluctuations in a group of securities or segments of the securities market rather than price fluctuations in a single security.

United States listed options contracts are originated and standardized by the Options Clearing Corporation (the “OCC”). Currently, United States listed index options are available on approximately 144 indexes, with new listings added periodically. In the United States, the Fund generally sells index call options that are issued, guaranteed and cleared by the OCC. The Fund may also sell index call options in the United States and outside the United States that are not issued, guaranteed or cleared by the OCC. The Adviser believes that there exists sufficient liquidity in the index options markets to fulfill the Fund’s requirements to implement its strategy.

Selling Index Call Options. The Fund’s index option strategy is designed to produce current cash flow from options premiums and to moderate the volatility of the Fund’s returns. This index option strategy is of a hedging nature, and is not designed to speculate on equity market performance.

As the seller of index call options, the Fund will receive cash (the premium) from the purchasers thereof. The purchaser of an index option has the right to any appreciation in the value of the applicable index over a fixed price (the exercise price) as of a specified date in the future (the option valuation date). Generally, the Fund sells index call options that are slightly “out-of-the-money” (i.e., the exercise price generally will be slightly above the current level of the applicable index when the option is sold). The Fund may also sell index options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money.” Such options that are more substantially “out-of-the-money” provide greater potential for the Fund to realize capital appreciation on its portfolio stocks but generally would pay a lower premium than options that are slightly “out-of-the-money.” When it writes index call options, the Fund will, in effect, sell the potential appreciation in the value of the applicable index above the exercise price in exchange for the option premium received. If, at

expiration, an index call option sold by the Fund is exercised, the Fund will pay the purchaser the difference between the cash value of the applicable index and the exercise price of the option. The premium, the exercise price and the market value of the applicable index will determine the gain or loss realized by the Fund as the seller of the index call option.

Prior to expiration, the Fund may close an option position by making an offsetting market purchase of identical option contracts (same type, underlying index, exercise price and expiration). The cost of closing transactions and payments in settlement of exercised options will reduce the net option premiums available for distribution to Common Shareholders by the Fund. The reduction in net option premiums due to a rise in stock prices should generally be offset, at least in part, by appreciation in the value of common stocks held and by the opportunity to realize higher premium income from selling new index options at higher exercise prices.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 27Prospectus dated [____], 2019

In certain extraordinary market circumstances, to limit the risk of loss on the Fund's index option strategy, the Fund may enter into "spread" transactions by purchasing index call options with higher exercise prices than those of index call options written. The Fund will only engage in such transactions when Eaton Vance believes that certain extraordinary events temporarily have depressed equity prices and substantial short-term appreciation of such prices is expected. By engaging in spread transactions in such circumstances the Fund will reduce the limitation imposed on its ability to participate in such recovering equity markets that exist if the Fund only writes index call options. The premiums paid to purchase such call options are expected to be lower than the premiums earned from the call options written at lower exercise prices. However, the payment of these premiums will reduce amounts available for distribution from the Fund's option activity.

The Fund will sell only "covered" call options. An index call option is considered covered if the Fund maintains with its custodian assets determined to be liquid (in accordance with procedures established by the Board) in an amount at least equal to the contract value of the index. An index call option also is covered if the Fund holds a call on the same index as the call written where the exercise price of the call held is (i) equal to or less than the exercise price of the call written, or (ii) greater than the exercise price of the call written, provided the difference is maintained by the Fund in segregated assets determined to be liquid (in accordance with procedures established by the Board).

If an option written by the Fund expires unexercised, the Fund realizes on the expiration date a capital gain equal to the premium received by the Fund at the time the option was written. If an option written by the Fund is exercised, the Fund realizes on the expiration date a capital gain if the cash payment made by the Fund upon exercise is less than the premium received from writing the option and a capital loss if the cash payment made is more than the premium received. If a written option is repurchased, the Fund realizes upon the closing purchase transaction a capital gain if the cost of repurchasing the option is less than the premium received from writing the option and a capital loss if the cost of repurchasing the option is more than the premium received.

For written index options that qualify as "section 1256 contracts," the Fund's gains and losses thereon generally will be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss, regardless of holding period. In addition, the Fund generally will be required to "mark to market" (i.e., treat as sold for fair market value) each outstanding index option position at the close of each taxable year (and on October 31 of each year for excise tax purposes) and to adjust the amount of gain or loss subsequently realized to reflect the marking to market. Gain or loss on index options not qualifying as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code would be realized upon disposition, lapse or exercise of the positions and would be treated as short-term gain or loss.

The principal factors affecting the market value of an option contract include supply and demand in the options market, interest rates, the current market price of the underlying index in relation to the exercise price of the option, the actual or perceived volatility associated with the underlying index, and the time remaining until the expiration date. The premium received for an option written by the Fund is recorded as an asset of the Fund and its obligation under the option contract as an initially equivalent liability. The Fund then adjusts over time the liability as the market value of the option changes. The value of each written option is marked to market daily and valued at the closing price on the exchange on which it is traded or, if not traded on an exchange or no closing price is available, at the mean between the last bid and asked prices or otherwise at fair value.

The transaction costs of buying and selling options consist primarily of commissions (which are imposed in opening, closing and exercise transactions), but may also include margin and interest costs in particular transactions. The impact of transaction costs on the profitability of a transaction may often be greater for options transactions than for transactions in the underlying securities because these costs are often greater in relation to option premiums than in relation to the prices of underlying securities. Transaction costs may be especially significant in option strategies calling for multiple purchases and sales of options over short periods of time or concurrently. Transaction costs

associated with the Fund's options strategy will vary depending on market circumstances and other factors.

Writing index call options can lower the variability of potential return outcomes and can enhance returns in three of four market performance scenarios (down, flat or moderately up). Only when the level of the index at option expiration exceeds the sum of the premium received and the option exercise price would the buy-write strategy be expected to provide lower returns than the stock portfolio-only alternative. The amount of downside protection afforded by the buy-write strategy in declining market scenarios is limited, however, to the amount of option premium received. If an index declines by an amount greater than the option premium, a buy-write strategy consisting of owning all of the stocks in the index and writing index options on the value thereof would generate an investment loss. The Fund's returns from implementing a buy-write strategy using index options will also be substantially affected by the performance of the Fund's stock portfolio versus the indices on which it writes call options and by the percentage of portfolio value on which options are written. The returns on the Fund's portfolio are unlikely to be the same as the returns on the indices on which it writes options.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 28Prospectus dated [____], 2019

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT PRACTICES

In addition to its primary investment strategies as described above, the Fund may engage in the following investment practices.

Temporary Investments. During unusual market conditions, the Fund may invest up to 100% of its assets in cash or cash equivalents temporarily, which may be inconsistent with its investment objectives, principal strategies and other policies. Cash equivalents are highly liquid, short-term securities such as commercial paper, time deposits, certificates of deposit, short-term notes and short-term United States government obligations. In moving to a substantial temporary investments position and in transitioning from such a position back into conformity with the Fund's normal investment policies, the Fund may incur transaction costs that would not be incurred if the Fund had remained fully invested in accordance with such normal policies. The transition to and from a substantial temporary investments position may also result in the Fund having to sell common stocks and/or close out options positions and then later purchase common stocks and open new options positions in circumstances that might not otherwise be optimal. The Fund's investment in such temporary investments under unusual market circumstances may not be in furtherance of the Fund's investment objectives.

When-Issued Securities and Forward Commitments. Securities may be purchased on a "forward commitment" or "when-issued" basis (meaning securities are purchased or sold with payment and delivery taking place in the future) in order to secure what is considered to be an advantageous price and yield at the time of entering into the transaction. However, the return on a comparable security when the transaction is consummated may vary from the return on the security at the time that the forward commitment or when-issued transaction was made. From the time of entering into the transaction until delivery and payment is made at a later date, the transacted securities are subject to market fluctuations. In forward commitment or when-issued transactions, if the seller or buyer, as the case may be, fails to consummate the transaction, the counterparty may miss the opportunity of obtaining a price or yield considered to be advantageous. Forward commitment or when-issued transactions may occur a month or more before delivery is due. However, no payment or delivery is made until payment is received or delivery is made from the other party to the transaction. The Fund does not intend to enter into forward commitment or when-issued transactions for the purpose of investment leverage.

Illiquid Securities. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its total assets in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or which are otherwise illiquid. The Fund may not be able to dispose readily of such investments at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell such investments if they were more widely traded and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. In addition, the limited liquidity could affect the market price of the investments, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's NAV and ability to make dividend distributions. Limited liquidity can also affect the market price of securities, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's net asset value and ability to make dividend distributions. The financial markets in general have in recent years experienced periods of extreme secondary market supply and demand imbalance, resulting in a loss of liquidity during which market prices were suddenly and substantially below traditional measures of intrinsic value. During such periods, some securities could be sold only at arbitrary prices and with substantial losses. Periods of such market dislocation may occur again at any time.

Other Derivative Instruments. In addition to the intended strategy of writing index call options, the Fund may also invest in other derivative instruments for hedging, risk management and investment purposes (to gain exposure to securities, securities markets, market indices and/or currencies consistent with its investment objectives and policies. These strategies may be executed through the use of derivative contracts in the United States or abroad. In the course of pursuing these investment strategies, the Fund may purchase and sell derivatives including futures contracts on

securities, non-equity indices and currencies, options on futures contracts, equity and interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, and forward currency exchange contracts. In addition, derivatives may also include new techniques, instruments or strategies that are not currently available. Derivative instruments may be used by the Fund to enhance returns or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities. The Fund may invest in derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive. The loss on derivative instruments (other than purchased options) may substantially exceed an investment in these instruments.

Swaps. Swap contracts may be purchased or sold to hedge against fluctuations in securities prices, interest rates or market conditions, to mitigate non-payment or default risk or to gain exposure to particular securities, baskets of securities, indices or currencies. In a standard “swap” transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) on different currencies, securities, baskets of currencies or securities, indices or other instruments, which returns are calculated with respect to a “notional amount,” i.e., the designated referenced amount of exposure to the underlying instruments. The Fund will enter into swaps only on a net basis, i.e., the two payment streams are netted out, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments. If the other party to a swap defaults, the Fund’s risk of loss consists of the net amount of payments that the Fund is contractually entitled to receive. The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Fund’s obligations over its entitlements are

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 29 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

maintained in a segregated account by the Fund's custodian. The Fund will not enter into any swap unless the claims-paying ability of the other party thereto is considered to be investment grade by the Adviser. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. Swaps are traded in the over-the-counter market. The use of swaps is a highly specialized activity, which involves investment techniques and risks different from those associated with ordinary portfolio securities transactions. If the Adviser is incorrect in its forecasts of market values, interest rates and other applicable factors, the total return performance of the Fund would be unfavorably affected.

Total Return Swaps. Total return swaps are contracts in which one party agrees to make payments of the total return from the designated underlying asset(s), which may include securities, baskets of securities, or securities indices during the specified period, in return for payments equal to a fixed or floating rate of interest or the total return from other designated underlying asset(s).

Interest Rate Swaps. Interest rate swaps involve the exchange by the Fund with another party of their respective commitments to pay or receive interest (e.g., an exchange of fixed rate payments for floating rate payments).

Futures and Options on Futures. The Fund may purchase and sell various kinds of financial futures contracts and options thereon to seek to hedge against changes in stock prices or interest rates, for other risk management purposes or to gain exposure to certain securities, indices and currencies. Futures contracts may be based on various securities indices and securities. Such transactions involve a risk of loss or depreciation due to adverse changes in securities prices, which may exceed the Fund's initial investment in these contracts. The Fund will only purchase or sell futures contracts or related options in compliance with the rules of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. These transactions involve transaction costs. Sales of futures contracts and related options generally result in realization of short-term or long-term capital gain depending on the period for which the investment is held. To the extent that any futures contract or options on futures contract held by the Fund is a "section 1256 contract" under the Code, the contract will be marked-to-market annually and any gain or loss will be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term, regardless of the holding period for such contract.

Short Sales. The Fund may sell a security short if it owns at least an equal amount of the security sold short or another security convertible or exchangeable for an equal amount of the security sold short without payment of further compensation (a short sale against-the-box). In a short sale against-the-box, the short seller is exposed to the risk of being forced to deliver stock that it holds to close the position if the borrowed stock is called in by the lender, which would cause gain or loss to be recognized on the delivered stock. The Fund expects normally to close its short sales against-the-box by delivering newly acquired stock.

Short sales against-the-box can be a tax-efficient alternative to the sale of an appreciated securities position. The ability to use short sales against-the-box as a tax-efficient management technique with respect to holdings of appreciated securities is limited to circumstances in which the hedging transaction is closed out not later than thirty days after the end of the Fund's taxable year in which the transaction was initiated, and the underlying appreciated securities position is held unhedged for at least the next sixty days after the hedging transaction is closed. Not meeting these requirements would trigger the recognition of gain on the underlying appreciated securities position under the federal tax laws applicable to constructive sales.

Securities Lending. The Fund may seek to earn income by lending portfolio securities to broker-dealers or other institutional borrowers. As with other extensions of credit, there are risks of delay in recovery or even loss of rights in the securities loaned if the borrower of the securities fails financially. Loans are made only to organizations whose credit quality or claims paying ability is considered by the Adviser to be at least investment grade and when the expected return, net of administrative expenses and any finders' fees, justifies the attendant risk. Securities loans currently are required to be secured continuously by collateral in cash, cash equivalents (such as money market instruments) or other liquid securities held by the custodian and maintained in an amount at least equal to the market

value of the securities loaned. The financial condition of the borrower is monitored by the Adviser on an ongoing basis.

Borrowings. The Fund may borrow money to the extent permitted under the 1940 Act as interpreted, modified or otherwise permitted by the regulatory authority having jurisdiction. Although it does not currently intend to do so, the Fund may in the future from time to time borrow money to add leverage to the portfolio. The Fund may also borrow money for temporary administrative purposes or to meet temporary cash needs.

Reverse Repurchase Agreements. The Fund may enter into reverse repurchase agreements. Under a reverse repurchase agreement, the Fund temporarily transfers possession of a portfolio instrument to another party, such as a bank or broker-dealer, in return for cash. At the same time, the Fund agrees to repurchase the instrument at an agreed upon time (normally within seven days) and price, which reflects an interest payment. The Fund may enter into such agreements when it is able to invest the cash acquired at a rate higher than the cost of the agreement, which would increase earned income. Income realized on reverse repurchase agreements is taxable as ordinary income.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 30Prospectus dated [____], 2019

When the Fund enters into a reverse repurchase agreement, any fluctuations in the market value of either the securities transferred to another party or the securities in which the proceeds may be invested would affect the market value of the Fund's assets. As a result, such transactions may increase fluctuations in the market value of the Fund's assets. There is a risk that large fluctuations in the market value of the Fund's assets could affect NAV and the market price of Common Shares. Because reverse repurchase agreements may be considered to be the practical equivalent of borrowing funds, they constitute a form of leverage and may be subject to leverage risks. Such agreements are treated as subject to investment restrictions as mentioned above under "Borrowings." If the Fund reinvests the proceeds of a reverse repurchase agreement at a rate lower than the cost of the agreement, entering into the agreement will lower the Fund's cash available for distribution.

Portfolio Turnover. The Fund cannot accurately predict its portfolio turnover rate, but the annual turnover rate may exceed 100% (excluding turnover of securities having a maturity of one year or less). A high turnover rate (100% or more) necessarily involves greater expenses to the Fund. The portfolio turnover rate(s) for the Fund for the fiscal years ended October 31, 2018 and 2017 were 48% and 75%, respectively.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

Risk is inherent in all investing. Investing in any investment company security involves risk, including the risk that you may receive little or no return on your investment or even that you may lose part or all of your investment.

Discount From or Premium to NAV. The Offering will be conducted only when Common Shares of the Fund are trading at a price equal to or above the Fund's NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Fund's Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to NAV. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Fund's NAV may decrease.

Market Discount Risk. As with any security, the market value of the Common Shares may increase or decrease from the amount initially paid for the Common Shares. The Fund's Common Shares have traded both at a premium and at a discount relative to NAV. The shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount from their NAV. This is a risk separate and distinct from the risk that the Fund's NAV may decrease.

Secondary Market for the Common Shares. The issuance of Common Shares through the Offering may have an adverse effect on the secondary market for the Common Shares. The increase in the amount of the Fund's outstanding Common Shares resulting from the Offering may put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Fund. Common Shares will not be issued pursuant to the Offering at any time when Common Shares are trading at a price lower than a price equal to the Fund's NAV per Common Share plus the per Common Share amount of commissions.

The Fund also issues Common Shares of the Fund through its dividend reinvestment plan. See "Dividend Reinvestment Plan." Common Shares may be issued under the plan at a discount to the market price for such Common Shares, which may put downward pressure on the market price for Common Shares of the Fund.

When the Common Shares are trading at a premium, the Fund may also issue Common Shares of the Fund that are sold through transactions effected on the NYSE. The increase in the amount of the Fund's outstanding Common Shares resulting from that offering may also put downward pressure on the market price for the Common Shares of the Fund.

The voting power of current shareholders will be diluted to the extent that such shareholders do not purchase shares in any future Common Share offerings or do not purchase sufficient shares to maintain their percentage interest. In addition, if the Adviser is unable to invest the proceeds of such offering as intended, the Fund's per share distribution

may decrease (or may consist of return of capital) and the Fund may not participate in market advances to the same extent as if such proceeds were fully invested as planned.

Investment and Market Risk. An investment in Common Shares is subject to investment risk, including the possible loss of the entire principal amount invested. An investment in Common Shares represents an indirect investment in the securities owned by the Fund, which are generally traded on a securities exchange or in the over-the-counter markets. The value of these securities, like other market investments, may move up or down, sometimes rapidly and unpredictably. Because the Fund normally sells stock index call options on a portion of its common stock portfolio value, the Fund's appreciation potential from equity market performance is more limited than if the Fund did not engage in selling stock index call options. The Common Shares at any point in time may be worth less than the original investment, even after taking into account any reinvestment of distributions.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 31 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The value of investments held by the Fund may increase or decrease in response to economic, political and financial events (whether real, expected or perceived) in the U.S. and global markets. The frequency and magnitude of such changes in value cannot be predicted. Certain securities and other investments held by the Fund may experience increased volatility, illiquidity, or other potentially adverse effects in reaction to changing market conditions. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as decreases or increases in short-term interest rates, could cause high volatility in markets.

The value of investments held by the Fund may increase or decrease in response to economic, political and financial events (whether real, expected or perceived) in the U.S. and global markets. The frequency and magnitude of such changes in value cannot be predicted. Certain securities and other investments held by the Fund may experience increased volatility, illiquidity, or other potentially adverse effects in reaction to changing market conditions. Actions taken by the U.S. Federal Reserve or foreign central banks to stimulate or stabilize economic growth, such as decreases or increases in short-term interest rates, could cause high volatility in markets. No active trading market may exist for certain investments, which may impair the ability of the Fund to sell or to realize the current valuation of such investments in the event of the need to liquidate such assets. Fixed-income markets may experience periods of relatively high volatility in an environment where U.S. treasury yields are rising.

Issuer Risk. The value of securities held by the Fund may decline for a number of reasons that directly relate to the issuer, such as management performance, financial leverage and reduced demand for the issuer's goods and services.

Equity Risk. Under normal market conditions, the Fund's investment program consists of owning a diversified portfolio of common stocks. Therefore, a principal risk of investing in the Fund is equity risk. Equity risk is the risk that the value of securities held by the Fund will fluctuate or fall due to general market or economic conditions, perceptions regarding the industries in which the issuers of securities held by the Fund participate, and the particular circumstances and performance of companies whose securities the Fund holds. Although common stocks have historically generated higher average returns than fixed-income securities over the long term, common stocks also have experienced significantly more volatility in returns. An adverse event, such as an unfavorable earnings report, may depress the value of equity securities of an issuer held by the Fund; the price of common stock of an issuer may be particularly sensitive to general movements in the stock market; or a drop in the stock market may depress the price of most or all of the common stocks held by the Fund. In addition, common stock of an issuer in the Fund's portfolio may decline in price if the issuer fails to make anticipated dividend payments because, among other possible reasons, the issuer of the security experiences a decline in its financial condition. Common stocks in which the Fund invests are structurally subordinated to preferred stocks, bonds and other debt instruments in a company's capital structure, in terms of priority to corporate income, and therefore will be subject to greater dividend risk than preferred stocks or debt instruments of such issuers. Finally, common stock prices may be sensitive to rising interest rates, as the costs of capital rise and borrowing costs increase.

Risks of Investing in Mid-Cap Companies. The Fund may make investments in stocks of companies whose market capitalization is considered middle sized or "mid-cap." Mid-cap companies often are newer or less established companies than larger capitalization companies. Investments in mid-cap companies carry additional risks because earnings of these companies tend to be less predictable; they often have limited product lines, markets, distribution channels or financial resources; and the management of such companies may be dependent upon one or a few key people. The market movements of equity securities of mid-cap companies may be more abrupt or erratic than the market movements of equity securities of larger, more established companies or the stock market in general. Historically, mid-cap companies have sometimes gone through extended periods when they did not perform as well as larger companies. In addition, equity securities of mid-cap companies generally are less liquid than those of larger companies. This means that the Fund could have greater difficulty selling such securities at the time and price that the Fund would like.

Risk of Selling Index Call Options. Under normal market conditions, a portion of the Fund's common stock portfolio value is subject to written index call options. The purchaser of an index call option has the right to any appreciation in the value of the index over the exercise price of the call option as of the valuation date of the option. Because their exercise is settled in cash, sellers of index call options such as the Fund cannot provide in advance for their potential settlement obligations by acquiring and holding the underlying securities. The Fund intends to mitigate the risks of its options activities by writing options on broad-based domestic, foreign country and/or regional stock indices that the Adviser believes collectively approximate the characteristics of the Fund's common stock portfolio (or that portion of its portfolio against which options are written). The Fund will not, however, hold stocks that fully replicate the indices on which it writes call options. Due to tax considerations, the Fund intends to limit the overlap between its stock holdings (and any subset thereof) and each index on which it has outstanding options positions to less than 70% on an ongoing basis. The Fund's stock holdings will normally include stocks not included in the indices on which it writes call options. Consequently, the Fund bears the risk that the performance of its stock portfolio will vary from the performance of the indices on which it writes call options. For example, with respect to the portion of its stock portfolio against which S&P 500 index call options have been written, the Fund will suffer a loss if the S&P 500 appreciates above the exercise price of the options written while the associated securities held by the Fund fail to appreciate as much or decline in value over the life of the written

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 32Prospectus dated [____], 2019

option. Index options written by the Fund are priced on a daily basis. Their value is affected primarily by changes in the prices and dividend rates of the underlying common stocks in such index, changes in actual or perceived volatility of such index and the remaining time to the options' expiration. The trading price of index call options will also be affected by liquidity considerations and the balance of purchase and sale orders.

A decision as to whether, when and how to use options involves the exercise of skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived and well-executed options program may be adversely affected by market behavior or unexpected events. As the writer of index call options, the Fund will forgo, during the option's life, the opportunity to profit from increases in the value of the applicable index above the sum of the option premium received and the exercise price of the call option, but retains the risk of loss, minus the option premium received, should the value of the applicable index decline. When a call option is exercised, the Fund is required to deliver an amount of cash determined by the excess of the value of the applicable index at contract termination over the exercise price of the option. Thus, the exercise of index call options sold by the Fund may require the Fund to sell portfolio securities to generate cash at inopportune times or for unattractive prices.

To the extent that the Fund writes options on indices based upon foreign stocks, the Fund generally sells options on broad-based foreign country and/or regional stock indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code. Options on foreign indices that are listed for trading in the United States or which otherwise qualify as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code may trade in substantially lower volumes and with substantially wider bid-ask spreads than other options contracts on the same or similar indices that trade on other markets outside the United States. To implement its options program most effectively, the Fund may sell index options that do not qualify as "section 1256 contracts." Gain or loss on index options not qualifying as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code would be realized upon disposition, lapse or settlement of the positions and would be treated as short-term gain or loss.

The trading price of options may be adversely affected if the market for such options becomes less liquid or smaller. The Fund may close out a call option by buying the option instead of letting it expire or be exercised. There can be no assurance that a liquid market will exist when the Fund seeks to close out a call option position by buying the option. Reasons for the absence of a liquid secondary market on an exchange include the following: (i) there may be insufficient trading interest in certain options; (ii) restrictions may be imposed by an exchange on opening transactions or closing transactions or both; (iii) trading halts, suspensions or other restrictions may be imposed with respect to particular classes or series of options; (iv) unusual or unforeseen circumstances may interrupt normal operations on an exchange; (v) the facilities of an exchange or the Options Clearing Corporation (the "OCC") may not at all times be adequate to handle current trading volume; or (vi) one or more exchanges could, for economic or other reasons, decide or be compelled to discontinue the trading of options (or a particular class or series of options) at some future date. If trading were discontinued, the secondary market on that exchange (or in that class or series of options) would cease to exist. However, outstanding options on that exchange that had been issued by the OCC as a result of trades on that exchange would continue to be exercisable in accordance with their terms.

The hours of trading for options may not conform to the hours during which common stocks held by the Fund are traded. To the extent that the options markets close before the markets for securities, significant price and rate movements can take place in the securities markets that would not be reflected concurrently in the options markets. Index call options are marked to market daily and their value is affected by changes in the value and dividend rates of the securities represented in the underlying index, changes in interest rates, changes in the actual or perceived volatility of the associated index and the remaining time to the options' expiration, as well as trading conditions in the options market.

Tax Risk. Reference is made to "Federal Income Tax Matters" for an explanation of the federal income tax consequences and attendant risks of investing in the Fund. Although the Fund seeks to minimize and defer the federal income taxes incurred by Common Shareholders in connection with their investment in the Fund, there can be no

assurance that it will be successful in this regard. The tax treatment and characterization of the Fund's distributions may change over time due to changes in the Fund's mix of investment returns and changes in the federal tax laws, regulations and administrative and judicial interpretations. The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code and future changes in tax laws and regulations. Distributions paid on the Common Shares may be characterized variously as non-qualified dividends (taxable at ordinary income rates), qualified dividends (generally taxable at long-term capital gains rates), capital gains dividends (taxable at long-term capital gains rates) or return of capital (generally not currently taxable). The ultimate tax characterization of the Fund's distributions made in a calendar year may not finally be determined until after the end of that calendar year. Distributions to a Common Shareholder that are return of capital will be tax free to the amount of the Common Shareholder's current tax basis in his or her Common Shares, with any distribution amounts exceeding such basis treated as capital gain on a deemed sale of Common Shares. Common Shareholders are required to reduce their tax basis in Common Shares by the amount of tax-free return of capital distributions received, thereby increasing the amount of capital gain (or decreasing the amount of capital loss) to be recognized upon a later disposition of the Common Shares. In order for Fund distributions of qualified

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 33Prospectus dated [____], 2019

dividend income to be taxable at favorable long-term capital gains rates, a Common Shareholder must meet certain prescribed holding period and other requirements with respect to his or her Common Shares. If positions held by the Fund were treated as “straddles” for federal income tax purposes, dividends on such positions would not constitute qualified dividend income subject to favorable income tax treatment. Gain or loss on positions in a straddle are subject to special (and generally disadvantageous) rules as described under “Federal Income Tax Matters.”

Foreign Security Risk. The value of foreign securities is affected by changes in currency rates, foreign tax laws (including withholding tax), government policies (in this country or abroad), relations between nations and trading, settlement, custodial and other operational risks. In addition, the costs of investing abroad (such as foreign brokerage costs, custodial expenses and other fees) are generally higher than in the United States, and foreign securities markets may be less liquid, more volatile and less subject to governmental supervision than markets in the United States. Foreign investments also could be affected by other factors not present in the United States, including expropriation of assets, armed conflict, confiscatory taxation, lack of uniform accounting and auditing standards, less publicly available financial and other information and potential difficulties in enforcing contractual obligations or repatriating capital invested in foreign countries, and the imposition of economic sanctions. Settlements of securities transactions in foreign countries are subject to risk of loss, may be delayed and are generally less frequent than in the United States, which could affect the liquidity of the Fund’s assets. As an alternative to holding foreign-traded securities, the Fund may invest in dollar-denominated securities of foreign companies that trade on United States exchanges or in the United States over-the-counter market (including depositary receipts, which evidence ownership in underlying foreign securities). Since the Fund may invest in securities denominated or quoted in currencies other than the United States dollar, the Fund may be affected by changes in foreign currency exchange rates (and exchange control regulations) which affect the value of investments held by the Fund and the accrued income and appreciation or depreciation of the investments in United States dollars. Changes in foreign currency exchange rates relative to the United States dollar will affect the United States dollar value of the Fund’s assets denominated in that currency and the Fund’s return on such assets as well as any temporary uninvested reserves in bank deposits in foreign currencies. In addition, the Fund will incur costs in connection with conversions between various currencies. Foreign securities may not be eligible for the reduced rate of taxation applicable to qualified dividend income.

Because foreign companies may not be subject to accounting, auditing and financial reporting standards, practices and requirements comparable to those applicable to United States companies, there may be less or less reliable publicly available information about a foreign company than about a domestic company. There is generally less government supervision and regulation of securities exchanges, broker-dealers and listed companies than in the United States. Mail service between the United States and foreign countries may be slower or less reliable than within the United States, thus increasing the risk of delayed settlements of portfolio transactions for, or loss of certificates of, portfolio securities. Payment for securities before delivery may be required. In addition, with respect to certain foreign countries, there is the possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, political or social instability, or diplomatic developments that could adversely affect investments in those countries. Moreover, individual foreign economies may differ favorably or unfavorably from the United States economy in such respects as growth of gross national product, rate of inflation, capital reinvestment, resource self-sufficiency and balance of payments position. Foreign securities markets, while growing in volume and sophistication, are generally not as developed as those in the United States, and securities of some foreign issuers (particularly those located in developing countries) may be less liquid and more volatile than securities of comparable United States companies. The risks of foreign investments described above apply to an even greater extent to investments in emerging markets.

Emerging Market Security Risk. The risks of foreign investments described above apply to an even greater extent to investments in emerging markets. The securities markets of emerging countries are generally smaller, less developed, less liquid, and more volatile than the securities markets of the United States and developed foreign markets. Disclosure and regulatory standards in many respects are less stringent than in the United States and developed foreign markets. There also may be a lower level of monitoring and regulation of securities markets in emerging market countries and the activities of investors in such markets and enforcement of existing regulations may be

limited. Many emerging countries have experienced substantial, and in some periods extremely high, rates of inflation for many years. Inflation and rapid fluctuations in inflation rates have had and may continue to have very negative effects on the economies and securities markets of certain emerging countries. Economies in emerging markets generally are heavily dependent upon international trade and, accordingly, have been and may continue to be affected adversely by trade barriers, exchange controls, managed adjustments in relative currency values, and other protectionist measures imposed or negotiated by the countries with which they trade. The economies of these countries also have been and may continue to be adversely affected by economic conditions in the countries in which they trade. The economies of countries with emerging markets may also be predominantly based on only a few industries or dependent on revenues from particular commodities. In addition, custodial services and other costs relating to investment in foreign markets may be more expensive in emerging markets than in many developed foreign markets, which could reduce the Fund's income from such securities.

In many cases, governments of emerging countries continue to exercise significant control over their economies, and government actions relative to the economy, as well as economic developments generally, may affect the Fund's investments in those countries. In addition, there is a heightened possibility of expropriation or confiscatory taxation, imposition of withholding taxes on dividend and interest payments, or other similar developments that could affect investments in those countries. There can be no assurance that adverse political changes will not cause the Fund to suffer a loss of any or all of its investments.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 34Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Market Disruption. Instability in the Middle East, the wars in Afghanistan, Iraq and Libya, geopolitical tensions elsewhere and terrorist attacks in the United States and around the world have resulted in market volatility and may have long-term effects on the United States and worldwide financial markets and may cause further economic uncertainties in the United States and worldwide. The Fund cannot predict the effects of significant future events on the global economy and securities markets. A disruption of the financial markets could impact interest rates, auctions, secondary trading, ratings, credit risk, inflation and other factors relating to the Common Shares.

Interest Rate Risk. The premiums from writing index call options and amounts available for distribution from the Fund's options activity may decrease in declining interest rate environments. The value of the Fund's common stock investments may also be influenced by changes in interest rates. Higher yielding stocks and stocks of issuers whose businesses are substantially affected by changes in interest rates may be particularly sensitive to interest rate risk.

Derivatives Risk. In addition to writing index call options, the risks of which are described above, the Fund may also invest in other derivative for purposes, such as hedging, to enhance return, or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities or currencies. Other permitted derivatives include futures contracts on securities, non-equity indices and currencies, options on futures contracts, equity and interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, and forward currency exchange contracts. The Fund may invest in derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive. The use of derivatives can lead to losses because of adverse movements in the price or value of the asset, index, rate or instrument underlying a derivative, due to failure of a counterparty or due to tax or regulatory constraints. Derivatives may create investment leverage in the Fund, which magnifies the Fund's exposure to the underlying investment. Derivative risks may be more significant when they are used to enhance return or as a substitute for a position or security, rather than solely to hedge the risk of a position or security held by the Fund. Derivatives for hedging purposes may not reduce risk if they are not sufficiently correlated to the position being hedged. A decision as to whether, when and how to use derivatives involves the exercise of specialized skill and judgment, and even a well-conceived transaction may be unsuccessful to some degree because of market behavior or unexpected events. Changes in the value of the derivative may not correlate perfectly with the underlying asset, rate or index, and the Fund could lose more than the principal amount invested in derivatives. Derivative instruments traded in over-the-counter markets may be difficult to value, may be illiquid, and may be subject to wide swings in valuation caused by changes in the value of the underlying instrument. The loss on derivative transactions may substantially exceed the initial investment. As a general matter, dividends received on hedged stock positions are characterized as ordinary income and are not eligible for favorable tax treatment. Dividends received on securities with respect to which the Fund is obligated to make related payments (pursuant to short sales or otherwise) will not constitute tax-advantaged dividend income and will be taxable as ordinary income. In addition, use of derivatives may give rise to short-term capital gains and other income that would not qualify as tax-advantaged dividend income.

The regulation of the U.S. and non-U.S. derivatives markets has undergone substantial change in recent years. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Act and related regulations require many derivatives to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on counterparties, and impose other regulatory requirements that will continue to change derivative markets as regulations are implemented. Additional regulation of the derivatives markets may make the use of derivatives more costly, may limit the availability or reduce the liquidity of derivatives, and may impose limits or restrictions on the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions. The effects of future regulation cannot be predicted and may impair the effectiveness of the Fund's derivative transactions and its ability to achieve its investment objective(s).

Counterparty Risk. A financial institution or other counterparty with whom the Fund does business (such as trading or as a derivatives counterparty), or that underwrites, distributes or guarantees any instruments that the Fund owns or is otherwise exposed to, may decline in financial condition and become unable to honor its commitments. This could cause the value of Fund shares to decline or could delay the return or delivery of collateral or other assets to the Fund. Counterparty risk is increased for contracts with longer maturities.

Liquidity Risk. The Fund may invest up to 15% of its total assets in securities for which there is no readily available trading market or which are otherwise illiquid. The Fund may not be able to dispose readily of such investments at prices that approximate those at which the Fund could sell such investments if they were more widely traded and, as a result of such illiquidity, the Fund may have to sell other investments or engage in borrowing transactions if necessary to raise cash to meet its obligations. In addition, the limited liquidity could affect the market price of the investments, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's NAV and ability to make dividend distributions. Limited liquidity can also affect the market price of securities, thereby adversely affecting the Fund's net asset value and ability to make dividend distributions. The financial markets in general have in recent years experienced periods of extreme secondary market supply and demand imbalance, resulting in a loss of liquidity during which market prices were suddenly and substantially below traditional measures of intrinsic value. During such periods, some securities could be sold only at arbitrary prices and with substantial losses. Periods of such market dislocation may occur again at any time.

Inflation Risk. Inflation risk is the risk that the purchasing power of assets or income from investments will be worth less in the future as inflation decreases the value of money. As inflation increases, the real value of the Common Shares and distributions thereon can decline.

Market Price of Common Shares. The Fund's share price will fluctuate and, at the time of sale, shares may be worth more or less than the original investment or the Fund's then current NAV. The Fund cannot predict whether its shares will trade at a price at, above or below its NAV. Shares of closed-end funds frequently trade at a discount to their NAV.

Financial Leverage Risk. Although the Fund has no current intention to do so, the Fund is authorized and reserves the flexibility to utilize leverage through the issuance of preferred shares and/or borrowings, including the issuance of debt securities. In the event that the Fund determines in the future to utilize investment leverage, there can be no assurance that such a leveraging strategy will be successful during any period in which it is employed. Leverage creates risks for Common Shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares and the risk that fluctuations in distribution rates on any preferred shares or fluctuations in borrowing costs may affect the

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 35Prospectus dated [____], 2019

return to Common Shareholders. To the extent the returns derived from securities purchased with proceeds received from leverage exceeds the cost of leverage, the Fund's distributions may be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the returns from the securities purchased with such proceeds are not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, the amount available for distribution to Common Shareholders will be less than if leverage had not been used. In the latter case, Eaton Vance, in its best judgment, may nevertheless determine to maintain the Fund's leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate. The costs of an offering of preferred shares and/or a borrowing program would be borne by Common Shareholders and consequently would result in a reduction of the NAV of Common Shares. In addition, the fee paid to Eaton Vance is calculated on the basis of the Fund's average daily gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares and/or borrowings, so the fee is higher when leverage is utilized, which may create an incentive for the Adviser to employ financial leverage. In this regard, holders of preferred shares do not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds of the preferred shares offering.

Management Risk. The Fund is subject to management risk because it is actively managed. Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager invest the assets of the Fund as they deem appropriate in implementing the Fund's investment strategy. Accordingly, the success of the Fund depends upon the investment skills and analytical abilities of Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager to develop and effectively implement strategies that achieve the Fund's investment objectives. There is no assurance that Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager will be successful in developing and implementing the Fund's investment strategy. Subjective decisions made by Eaton Vance and the portfolio manager may cause the Fund to incur losses or to miss profit opportunities.

Anti-Takeover Provisions. The Fund's Agreement and Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other persons or entities to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Fund, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Fund and interfering with the normal operation of the Fund. See "Description of Capital Structure - Certain Provisions of the Declaration of Trust - Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust."

Management of the Fund

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The management of the Fund, including general supervision of the duties performed by the Adviser under the Advisory Agreement (as defined below), is the responsibility of the Fund's Board under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the 1940 Act.

THE ADVISER

Eaton Vance acts as the Fund's investment adviser under an Investment Advisory Agreement (the "Advisory Agreement"). The Adviser's principal office is located at Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110. Eaton Vance and its predecessor organizations have been managing assets since 1924 and managing mutual funds since 1931. As of December 31, 2018, Eaton Vance and its affiliates managed approximately \$423.1 billion of fund and separate account assets on behalf of clients, including approximately \$108.9 billion in equity assets. Eaton Vance is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Eaton Vance Corp., a publicly-held holding company, which through its subsidiaries and affiliates engages primarily in investment management, administration and marketing activities.

Under the general supervision of the Fund's Board, Eaton Vance is responsible for the Fund's overall investment program, structuring and managing the Fund's common stock portfolio, including dividend capture trading, tax-loss harvesting (i.e., periodically selling positions that have depreciated in value to realize capital losses that can be used to offset capital gains realized by the Fund) and other tax-management techniques. The Adviser will compensate all

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

Trustees and officers of the Fund who are members of the Adviser's organization and who render investment services to the Fund, and will also compensate all other Adviser personnel who provide research and investment services to the Fund. In return for these services, facilities and payments, the Fund has agreed to pay the Adviser an investment advisory fee, payable on a monthly basis, at an annual rate of 1.00% of the average daily gross assets of the Fund up to and including \$1.5 billion, 0.98% of the average daily gross assets of the Fund over \$1.5 billion up to and including \$3 billion, 0.96% of the average daily gross assets of the Fund over \$3 billion up to and including \$5 billion, and 0.94% of the average daily gross assets of the Fund over \$5 billion. Gross assets of the Fund means total assets of the Fund, including any form of investment leverage that the Fund utilizes, minus all accrued expenses incurred in the normal course of operations, but not excluding any liabilities or obligations attributable to any future investment leverage obtained through (i) indebtedness of any type (including, without limitation, borrowing through a credit facility/commercial paper program or the issuance of debt securities), (ii) the issuance of preferred shares or other similar preference securities, (iii) the reinvestment of collateral received for securities loaned in accordance with the Fund's investment objectives and policies and/or (iv) any other means. During any future periods in which the Fund is using leverage, the fees paid to Eaton Vance for investment advisory services will be higher than if the Fund did not use leverage because the fees paid will be

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 36Prospectus dated [____], 2019

calculated on the basis of the Fund's gross assets, including proceeds from borrowings and from the issuance of preferred shares (if applicable). The Fund is responsible for all expenses not expressly stated by another party (such as the expenses required to be paid pursuant to an agreement with the investment adviser or administrator).

Michael A. Allison is responsible for managing the Fund's overall investment program and structuring and managing the Fund's common stock portfolio. Mr. Allison is a Vice President of Eaton Vance, is a member of Eaton Vance's Equity Strategy Committee and has been portfolio manager of the Fund since November 2006. Mr. Allison has managed other Eaton Vance portfolios for more than five years.

Additional Information Regarding Portfolio Manager

The Statement of Additional Information provides additional information about the portfolio manager's compensation, other accounts managed by the portfolio manager, and the portfolio manager's ownership of securities in the Fund. The Statement of Additional Information is available free of charge by calling 1-800-262-1122 or by visiting the Fund's website at <http://www.eatonvance.com>. The information contained in, or that can be accessed through, the Fund's website is not part of this prospectus or the Statement of Additional Information.

The Fund and the Adviser have adopted Codes of Ethics relating to personal securities transactions. The Codes of Ethics permit Adviser personnel to invest in securities (including securities that may be purchased or held by the Fund) for their own accounts, subject to the provisions of the Codes of Ethics and certain employees are also subject to certain pre-clearance, reporting and other restrictions and procedures contained in such Codes of Ethics.

The Fund's semiannual shareholder report contains information regarding the basis for the Trustees' approval of the Fund's Advisory Agreement.

THE ADMINISTRATOR

Eaton Vance serves as administrator of the Fund. Under an Amended and Restated Administrative Services Agreement with the Fund (the "Administration Agreement"), Eaton Vance is responsible for managing the business affairs of the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Fund's Board. Eaton Vance furnishes to the Fund all office facilities, equipment and personnel for administering the affairs of the Fund. Eaton Vance's administrative services include recordkeeping, preparation and filing of documents required to comply with federal and state securities laws, supervising the activities of the Fund's custodian and transfer agent, providing assistance in connection with the Board and shareholders' meetings, providing service in connection with any repurchase offers and other administrative services necessary to conduct the Fund's business. Eaton Vance currently receives no compensation for providing administrative services to the Fund.

Plan of Distribution

The Fund may sell the Common Shares being offered under this Prospectus in any one or more of the following ways: (i) directly to purchasers; (ii) through agents; (iii) to or through underwriters; or (iv) through dealers. The Prospectus Supplement relating to the Offering will identify any agents, underwriters or dealers involved in the offer or sale of Common Shares, and will set forth any applicable offering price, sales load, fee, commission or discount arrangement between the Fund and its agents or underwriters, or among its underwriters, or the basis upon which such amount may be calculated, net proceeds and use of proceeds, and the terms of any sale.

The Fund may distribute Common Shares from time to time in one or more transactions at: (i) a fixed price or prices that may be changed; (ii) market prices prevailing at the time of sale; (iii) prices related to prevailing market prices; or (iv) negotiated prices; provided, however, that in each case the offering price per Common Share (less any underwriting commission or discount) must equal or exceed the NAV per Common Share.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

The Fund from time to time may offer its Common Shares through or to certain broker-dealers, including UBS Securities LLC, that have entered into selected dealer agreements relating to at-the-market offerings.

The Fund may directly solicit offers to purchase Common Shares, or the Fund may designate agents to solicit such offers. The Fund will, in a Prospectus Supplement relating to such Offering, name any agent that could be viewed as an underwriter under the 1933 Act, and describe any commissions the Fund must pay to such agent(s). Any such agent will be acting on a reasonable best efforts basis for the period of its appointment or, if indicated in the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials, on a firm commitment basis. Agents, dealers and underwriters may be customers of, engage in transactions with, or perform services for the Fund in the ordinary course of business.

If any underwriters or agents are used in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered, the Fund will enter into an underwriting agreement or other agreement with them at the time of sale to them, and the Fund will set forth in the Prospectus Supplement relating to such Offering their names and the terms of the Fund's agreement with them.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 37 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

If a dealer is utilized in the sale of Common Shares in respect of which this Prospectus is delivered, the Fund will sell such Common Shares to the dealer, as principal. The dealer may then resell such Common Shares to the public at varying prices to be determined by such dealer at the time of resale.

The Fund may engage in at-the-market offerings to or through a market maker or into an existing trading market, on an exchange or otherwise, in accordance with Rule 415(a)(4) under the 1933 Act. An at-the-market offering may be through an underwriter or underwriters acting as principal or agent for the Fund.

Agents, underwriters and dealers may be entitled under agreements which they may enter into with the Fund to indemnification by the Fund against certain civil liabilities, including liabilities under the 1933 Act, and may be customers of, engage in transactions with or perform services for the Fund in the ordinary course of business.

In order to facilitate the Offering of Common Shares, any underwriters may engage in transactions that stabilize, maintain or otherwise affect the price of Common Shares or any other Common Shares the prices of which may be used to determine payments on the Common Shares. Specifically, any underwriters may over-allot in connection with the Offering, creating a short position for their own accounts. In addition, to cover over-allotments or to stabilize the price of Common Shares or of any such other Common Shares, the underwriters may bid for, and purchase, Common Shares or any such other Common Shares in the open market. Finally, in any Offering of Common Shares through a syndicate of underwriters, the underwriting syndicate may reclaim selling concessions allowed to an underwriter or a dealer for distributing Common Shares in the Offering if the syndicate repurchases previously distributed Common Shares in transactions to cover syndicate short positions, in stabilization transactions or otherwise. Any of these activities may stabilize or maintain the market price of Common Shares above independent market levels. Any such underwriters are not required to engage in these activities and may end any of these activities at any time.

The Fund may enter into derivative transactions with third parties, or sell Common Shares not covered by this Prospectus to third parties in privately negotiated transactions. If the applicable Prospectus Supplement indicates, in connection with those derivatives, the third parties may sell Common Shares covered by this Prospectus and the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials, including in short sale transactions. If so, the third parties may use Common Shares pledged by the Fund or borrowed from the Fund or others to settle those sales or to close out any related open borrowings of securities, and may use Common Shares received from the Fund in settlement of those derivatives to close out any related open borrowings of securities. The third parties in such sale transactions will be underwriters and, if not identified in this Prospectus, will be identified in the applicable Prospectus Supplement or other offering materials (or a post-effective amendment).

The Fund or one of the Fund's affiliates may loan or pledge Common Shares to a financial institution or other third party that in turn may sell Common Shares using this Prospectus. Such financial institution or third party may transfer its short position to investors in Common Shares or in connection with a simultaneous Offering of other Common Shares offered by this Prospectus or otherwise.

The maximum amount of compensation to be received by any member of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. will not exceed 8% of the initial gross proceeds from the sale of any security being sold with respect to each particular Offering of Common Shares made under a single Prospectus Supplement.

Any underwriter, agent or dealer utilized in the Offering of Common Shares will not confirm sales to accounts over which it exercises discretionary authority without the prior specific written approval of its customer.

Distributions

Pursuant to an exemptive order issued by the Securities and Exchange Commission ("Order"), the Fund is authorized to distribute long-term capital gains to shareholders more frequently than once per year. Pursuant to the Order, the Fund's

Board of Trustees approved a Managed Distribution Plan (“MDP”) pursuant to which the Fund makes monthly cash distributions to Common Shareholders, stated in terms of a fixed amount per common share. Shareholders should not draw any conclusions about the Fund’s investment performance from the amount of these distributions or from the terms of the MDP. The MDP is subject to regular periodic review by the Fund’s Board of Trustees and the Board may amend or terminate the MDP at any time without prior notice to Fund shareholders. However, at this time there are no reasonably foreseeable circumstances that might cause the termination of the MDP. The Fund may distribute more than its net investment income and net realized capital gains and, therefore, a distribution may include a return of capital. A return of capital is treated as a non-dividend distribution for tax purposes and is not subject to current tax. A return of capital reduces a shareholder’s tax cost basis in fund shares. A return of capital distribution does not necessarily reflect the Fund’s investment performance and should not be confused with “yield” or “income.” With each distribution, the Fund will issue a notice to shareholders and a press release containing information about the amount and sources of the distribution and other related information. The amounts and sources of distributions contained in the notice and press release are only estimates and are not provided for tax purposes. The amounts and sources of the Fund’s distributions for tax purposes are reported to shareholders on Form 1099-DIV for each calendar year.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 38Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Subject to its MDP, the Fund makes monthly distributions to Common Shareholders sourced from the Fund's cash available for distribution. "Cash available for distribution" consists of the Fund's dividends and interest income after payment of Fund expenses, net option premiums and net realized and unrealized gains on stock investments. The Fund intends to distribute all or substantially all of its net realized capital gains. Distributions are recorded on the ex-dividend date. Distributions to shareholders are determined in accordance with income tax regulations, which may differ from U.S. GAAP. As required by U.S. GAAP, only distributions in excess of tax basis earnings and profits are reported in the financial statements as a return of capital. Permanent differences between book and tax accounting relating to distributions are reclassified to paid-in capital. For tax purposes, distributions from short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income. Distributions in any year may include a substantial return of capital component. The Fund's distribution rate may be adjusted from time-to-time. The Board may modify this distribution policy at any time without obtaining the approval of Common Shareholders.

The Fund distinguishes between distributions on a tax basis and a financial reporting basis. Accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America require that only distributions in excess of tax basis earnings and profits be reported in the financial statements as a return of capital. Permanent differences between book and tax accounting relating to distributions are reclassified to paid-in capital. For tax purposes, distributions from short-term capital gains are taxable to shareholders as ordinary income.

Common Shareholders will automatically have distributions reinvested in additional Common Shares under the Fund's dividend reinvestment plan unless they elect otherwise through their investment dealer. See "Distributions" and "Dividend Reinvestment Plan."

Federal Income Tax Matters

The Fund elects to be treated and to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (a "RIC") under the Code. Accordingly, the Fund intends to satisfy certain requirements relating to sources of its income and diversification of its assets and to distribute substantially all of its net income and net short-term capital gains (after reduction by net long term capital losses and any available capital loss carryforwards) in accordance with the timing requirements imposed by the Code, so as to maintain its RIC status and to avoid paying federal income or excise tax thereon. To the extent it qualifies for treatment as a RIC and satisfies the above-mentioned distribution requirements, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on income paid to its shareholders in the form of dividends or capital gains distributions.

At least annually, the Fund intends to distribute any net capital gain (which is the excess of net long-term capital gain over net short-term capital loss) or, alternatively, to retain all or a portion of the year's net capital gain and pay federal income tax on the retained gain. If the Fund retains all or a portion of the year's net capital gain, Common Shareholders of record as of the end of the Fund's taxable year will include their attributable share of the retained gain in their income for the year as long-term capital gain (regardless of their holding period in the Common Shares), and will be entitled to a tax credit or refund for the tax deemed paid on their behalf by the Fund on the retained gain. Common Shareholders of record for the retained capital gain will also be entitled to increase their tax basis in their Common Shares by the difference between the amount of the includable gains and the tax deemed paid by the Common Shareholder. Distributions of the Fund's net capital gain ("capital gain distributions"), if any, are taxable to Common Shareholders as long-term capital gain, regardless of their holding period in the Common Shares. Distributions of the Fund's net realized short-term gains are taxable as ordinary income.

If, for any calendar year, the Fund's total distributions exceed the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits, the excess will be treated as a tax-free return of capital to each Common Shareholder (up to the amount of the Common Shareholder's basis in his or her Common Shares) and thereafter as gain from the sale of Common Shares (assuming the Common Shares are held as a capital asset). The amount treated as a tax-free return of capital will reduce the Common Shareholder's adjusted basis in his or her Common Shares, thereby increasing his or her potential

gain or reducing his or her potential loss on the subsequent sale or other disposition of his or her Common Shares. See below for a summary of the maximum tax rates applicable to long-term capital gain (including capital gain distributions). A corporation that owns Fund shares generally will not be entitled to the dividends received deduction (“DRD”) with respect to all (or any prescribed percentage) of the distributions it receives from the Fund. Fund distributions that are attributable to qualified dividend income received by the Fund from certain domestic corporations may be designated by the Fund as being eligible for the DRD.

If the Fund does not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year, the Fund’s taxable income will be subject to corporate income taxes, and all distributions from earnings and profits, including distributions of net capital gain (if any), will be taxable to the shareholder as ordinary income. Such distributions generally would be eligible (i) to be treated as qualified dividend income in the case of individual and other noncorporate shareholders and (ii) for the DRD in the case of corporate shareholders. In addition, in order to requalify for taxation as a RIC, the Fund may be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest, and make certain distributions.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 39Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Certain of the Fund's investment practices are subject to special and complex federal income tax provisions that may, among other things, (i) convert dividends that would otherwise constitute qualified dividend income into ordinary income, (ii) treat dividends that would otherwise be eligible for the corporate DRD as ineligible for such treatment, (iii) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions, (iv) convert long-term capital gain into short-term capital gain or ordinary income, (v) convert an ordinary loss or deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited), (vi) cause the Fund to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash, (vii) adversely affect the time as to when a purchase or sale of stock or securities is deemed to occur, (viii) adversely alter the characterization of certain complex financial transactions, and (ix) produce income that will not qualify as good income for purposes of the income requirement that applies to RICs. While it may not always be successful in doing so, the Fund will seek to avoid or minimize the adverse tax consequences of its investment practices.

For the Fund's index call options that qualify as "section 1256 contracts," Section 1256 of the Code generally will require any gain or loss arising from the lapse, closing out or exercise of such positions to be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. In addition, the Fund generally will be required to "mark to market" (i.e., treat as sold for fair market value) each outstanding index option position at the close of each taxable year (and on October 31 of each year for excise tax purposes). If a "section 1256 contract" held by the Fund at the end of a taxable year is sold in the following year, the amount of any gain or loss realized on such sale will be adjusted to reflect the gain or loss previously taken into account under the "mark to market" rules. In addition to most index call options, "section 1256 contracts" under the Code include certain other options contracts, certain regulated futures contracts, and certain other financial contracts.

The Fund's index call options that do not qualify as "section 1256 contracts" under the Code generally will be treated as equity options governed by Section 1234 of the Code. Pursuant to Section 1234 of the Code, if a written option expires unexercised, the premium received is short-term capital gain to the Fund. If the Fund enters into a closing transaction, the difference between the premium received for writing the option, and the amount paid to close out its position is short-term capital gain or loss. If a call option written by the Fund that is not a "section 1256 contract" is cash settled, any resulting gain or loss will be short-term.

Section 1092 of the Code contains special rules that apply to "straddles," defined generally as the holding of "offsetting positions with respect to personal property." For example, the straddle rules normally apply when a taxpayer holds stock and an offsetting option with respect to such stock or substantially identical stock or securities. In general, investment positions will be offsetting if there is a substantial diminution in the risk of loss from holding one position by reason of holding one or more other positions. The Fund expects that the index call options it writes will not be considered straddles for this purpose because the Fund's portfolio of common stocks will be sufficiently dissimilar from the components of each index on which it has outstanding options positions under applicable guidance established by the IRS. Under certain circumstances, however, the Fund may enter into options transactions or certain other investments that may constitute positions in a straddle. If two or more positions constitute a straddle, recognition of a realized loss from one position must generally be deferred to the extent of unrecognized gain in an offsetting position. In addition, long-term capital gain may be recharacterized as short-term capital gain, or short-term capital loss as long-term capital loss. Interest and other carrying charges allocable to personal property that is part of a straddle are not currently deductible but must instead be capitalized. Similarly, "wash sale" rules apply to prevent the recognition of loss by the Fund from the disposition of stock or securities at a loss in a case in which identical or substantially identical stock or securities (or an option to acquire such property) is or has been acquired within a prescribed period.

The Code allows a taxpayer to elect to offset gains and losses from positions that are part of a "mixed straddle." A "mixed straddle" is any straddle in which one or more but not all positions are "section 1256 contracts." The Fund may be eligible to elect to establish one or more mixed straddle accounts for certain of its mixed straddle trading positions. The mixed straddle account rules require a daily "marking to market" of all open positions in the account and a daily

netting of gains and losses from all positions in the account. At the end of a taxable year, the annual net gains or losses from the mixed straddle account are recognized for tax purposes. The net capital gain or loss is treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss if attributable to the “section 1256 contract” positions, or all short-term capital gain or loss if attributable to the non-section 1256 contract positions.

The Fund may recognize gain (but not loss) from a constructive sale of certain “appreciated financial positions” if the Fund enters into a short sale, offsetting notional principal contract, or forward contract transaction with respect to the appreciated position or substantially identical property. Appreciated financial positions subject to this constructive sale treatment include interests (including options and forward contracts and short sales) in stock and certain other instruments. Constructive sale treatment does not apply if the transaction is closed out not later than thirty days after the end of the taxable year in which the transaction was initiated, and the underlying appreciated securities position is held unhedged for at least the next sixty days after the hedging transaction is closed.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 40Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Gain or loss from a short sale of property is generally considered as capital gain or loss to the extent the property used to close the short sale constitutes a capital asset in the Fund's hands. Except with respect to certain situations where the property used to close a short sale has a long-term holding period on the date the short sale is entered into, gains on short sales generally are short-term capital gains. A loss on a short sale will be treated as a long-term capital loss if, on the date of the short sale, "substantially identical property" has been held by the Fund for more than one year. In addition, entering into a short sale may result in suspension of the holding period of "substantially identical property" held by the Fund.

Gain or loss on a short sale will generally not be realized until such time as the short sale is closed. However, as described above in the discussion of constructive sales, if the Fund holds a short sale position with respect to securities that has appreciated in value, and it then acquires property that is the same as or substantially identical to the property sold short, the Fund generally will recognize gain on the date it acquires such property as if the short sale were closed on such date with such property. Similarly, if the Fund holds an appreciated financial position with respect to securities and then enters into a short sale with respect to the same or substantially identical property, the Fund generally will recognize gain as if the appreciated financial position were sold at its fair market value on the date it enters into the short sale. The subsequent holding period for any appreciated financial position that is subject to these constructive sale rules will be determined as if such position were acquired on the date of the constructive sale.

Certain dividend distributions paid by the Fund (whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional Common Shares) to individual taxpayers are taxed at rates applicable to net long-term capital gains (20% or 15% or 0% for individuals at certain income levels). This tax treatment applies only if certain holding period and other requirements are satisfied by the Common Shareholder, as discussed below, and the dividends are attributable to qualified dividend income received by the Fund itself. For this purpose, "qualified dividend income" means dividends received by the Fund from United States corporations and "qualified foreign corporations," provided that the Fund satisfies certain holding period and other requirements in respect of the stock of such corporations.

Subject to certain exceptions, a "qualified foreign corporation" is any foreign corporation that is either (i) incorporated in a possession of the United States (the "possessions test"), or (ii) eligible for benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States that the Secretary of the Treasury determines is satisfactory for these purposes and which includes an exchange of information program (the "treaty test"). Subject to the same exceptions, a foreign corporation that does not satisfy either the possessions test or the treaty test will still be considered a "qualified foreign corporation" with respect to any dividend paid by such corporation if the stock with respect to which such dividend is paid is readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States. The Treasury Department has issued a notice stating that common or ordinary stock, or an ADR in respect of such stock, is considered "readily tradable" if it is listed on a national securities exchange that is registered under section 6 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotations system. Foreign corporations that are passive foreign investment companies will not be "qualified foreign corporations."

In order for qualified dividends paid by the Fund to a Common Shareholder to be taxable at long-term capital gains rates, the Common Shareholder must hold his or her Common Shares for more than 60 days during the 121-day period surrounding the ex-dividend date. For dividends the Fund receives to qualify for tax-advantaged treatment, the Fund must hold stock paying qualified dividend income for more than 60 days during the 121-day period beginning 60 days before the ex-dividend date (or more than 90 days during the associated 181-day period, in the case of certain preferred stocks). In addition, neither a Common Shareholder nor the Fund can be obligated to make related payments (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) with respect to positions in any security that is substantially similar or related property with respect to his or her Common Shares or such stock, respectively. Gains on option positions treated as short-term and other short-term gains, interest income and non-qualified dividends are not eligible for the lower tax rate. There can be no assurance as to what portion of the Fund's dividend distributions will qualify for favorable

treatment. The Fund's investment program and the tax treatment of Fund distributions may be affected by IRS interpretations of the Code and future changes in tax laws and regulations.

The Fund will inform Common Shareholders of the source and tax status of all distributions promptly after the close of each calendar year.

Selling Common Shareholders will generally recognize gain or loss in an amount equal to the difference between the amount realized on the sale and the Common Shareholder's adjusted tax basis in the Common Shares sold. If the Common Shares are held as a capital asset, the gain or loss will be a capital gain or loss. The maximum tax rate applicable to net capital gains recognized by individuals and other non-corporate taxpayers is (i) the same as the maximum ordinary income tax rate for gains recognized on the sale of capital assets held for one year or less (in 2019, 37%), or (ii) 20% for gains recognized on the sale of capital assets held for more than one year (as well as any capital gain distributions) (15% or 0% for individuals at certain income levels). Any loss on a disposition of Common Shares held for six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain distributions received with respect to those Common Shares. For purposes of determining whether Common Shares have been held for six months

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 41 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

or less, the holding period is suspended for any periods during which the Common Shareholder's risk of loss is diminished as a result of holding one or more other positions in substantially similar or related property, or through certain options or short sales. Any loss realized on a sale or exchange of Common Shares will be disallowed to the extent those Common Shares are replaced by other Common Shares within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date of disposition of the Common Shares (whether through the reinvestment of distributions or otherwise). In that event, the basis of the replacement Common Shares will be adjusted to reflect the disallowed loss.

An investor should be aware that, if Common Shares are purchased shortly before the record date for any taxable distribution (including a capital gain distribution), the purchase price likely will reflect the value of the distribution and the investor then would receive a taxable distribution that is likely to reduce the trading value of such Common Shares, in effect resulting in a taxable return of some of the purchase price. Taxable distributions to certain individuals and certain other non-corporate Common Shareholders, including those who have not provided their correct taxpayer identification number and other required certifications, may be subject to "backup" federal income tax withholding at the fourth lowest rate of tax applicable to a single individual (in 2019, 24%).

An investor should also be aware that the benefits of the reduced tax rate applicable to long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income may be impacted by the application of the alternative minimum tax to individual shareholders.

The foregoing briefly summarizes some of the important federal income tax consequences to Common Shareholders of investing in Common Shares, reflects the federal tax law as of the date of this Prospectus, and does not address special tax rules applicable to certain types of investors, such as corporate and foreign investors. A more complete discussion of the tax rules applicable to the Fund and the Common Shareholders can be found in the Statement of Additional Information that is incorporated by reference into this Prospectus. Unless otherwise noted, this discussion assumes that an investor is a United States person and holds Common Shares as a capital asset. This discussion is based upon current provisions of the Code, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and judicial and administrative ruling authorities, all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations by the courts or the IRS retroactively or prospectively. Investors should consult their tax advisors regarding other federal, state or local tax considerations that may be applicable in their particular circumstances, as well as any proposed tax law changes. The Fund has not received a formal opinion of tax counsel. However, the Adviser previously received an opinion from special tax counsel with respect to certain tax matters presented by the Fund in connection with the offering of another similar closed-end fund managed by the Adviser and has been informed by such counsel that there have not been intervening changes in the law relating to these matters.

Dividend Reinvestment Plan

The Fund offers a dividend reinvestment plan (the "Plan") pursuant to which Common Shareholders automatically have distributions reinvested in Common Shares of the Fund unless they elect otherwise through their investment dealer. Common Shareholders who elect not to participate in the Plan will receive all Fund distributions in cash paid by check mailed directly to the Common Shareholder of record (or, if the Common Shares are held in street or other nominee name, then to the nominee) by American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC ("AST" or the "Plan Agent"), as disbursing agent. On the distribution payment date, if the net asset value per Common Share is equal to or less than the market price per Common Share plus estimated brokerage commissions, then new Common Shares will be issued. The number of Common Shares shall be determined by the greater of the net asset value per Common Share or 95% of the market price. Otherwise, Common Shares generally will be purchased on the open market by the Plan Agent. Distributions subject to income tax (if any) are taxable whether or not shares are reinvested.

If your shares are in the name of a brokerage firm, bank, or other nominee, you can ask the firm or nominee to participate in the Plan on your behalf. If the nominee does not offer the Plan, you will need to request that your shares

be re-registered in your name with the Fund's transfer agent, AST, or you will not be able to participate.

The Plan Agent's service fee for handling distributions will be paid by the Fund. Each participant will be charged their pro rata share of brokerage commissions on all open-market purchases.

Plan participants may withdraw from the Plan at any time by writing to the Plan Agent at the address noted on page []. If you withdraw, you will receive shares in your name for all Common Shares credited to your account under the Plan. If a participant elects by written notice to the Plan Agent to have the Plan Agent sell part or all of his or her Common Shares and remit the proceeds, the Plan Agent is authorized to deduct a \$5.00 fee plus brokerage commissions from the proceeds.

Any inquiries regarding the Plan can be directed to the Plan Agent, AST, at 1-866-439-6787.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 42Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Description of Capital Structure

The Fund is an unincorporated business trust established under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts by an Agreement and Declaration of Trust (the “Declaration of Trust”). The Declaration of Trust provides that the Board may authorize separate classes of shares of beneficial interest. The Board has authorized an unlimited number of Common Shares. The Fund intends to hold annual meetings of Common Shareholders in compliance with the requirements of the NYSE.

COMMON SHARES

The Declaration of Trust permits the Fund to issue an unlimited number of full and fractional Common Shares. Each Common Share represents an equal proportionate interest in the assets of the Fund with each other Common Share in the Fund. Common Shareholders will be entitled to the payment of distributions when, as and if declared by the Board. The 1940 Act or the terms of any future borrowings or issuance of preferred shares may limit the payment of distributions to the Common Shareholders. Each whole Common Share shall be entitled to one vote as to matters on which it is entitled to vote pursuant to the terms of the Declaration of Trust on file with the SEC. Upon liquidation of the Fund, after paying or adequately providing for the payment of all liabilities of the Fund and the liquidation preference with respect to any outstanding preferred shares, and upon receipt of such releases, indemnities and refunding agreements as they deem necessary for their protection, the Board may distribute the remaining assets of the Fund among the Common Shareholders. The Declaration of Trust provides that Common Shareholders are not liable for any liabilities of the Fund and permits inclusion of a clause to that effect in every agreement entered into by the Fund and, in coordination with the Fund’s By-laws, indemnifies shareholders against any such liability. Although shareholders of an unincorporated business trust established under Massachusetts law may, in certain limited circumstances, be held personally liable for the obligations of the business trust as though they were general partners, the provisions of the Fund’s Declaration of Trust and By-laws described in the foregoing sentence make the likelihood of such personal liability remote.

While there are any borrowings or preferred shares outstanding, the Fund may not be permitted to declare any cash distribution on its Common Shares, unless at the time of such declaration, (i) all accrued distributions on preferred shares or accrued interest on borrowings have been paid and (ii) the value of the Fund’s total assets (determined after deducting the amount of such distribution), less all liabilities and indebtedness of the Fund not represented by senior securities, is at least 300% of the aggregate amount of such securities representing indebtedness and at least 200% of the aggregate amount of securities representing indebtedness plus the aggregate liquidation value of the outstanding preferred shares. In addition to the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Fund may be required to comply with other asset coverage requirements as a condition of the Fund obtaining a rating of preferred shares from a nationally recognized statistical rating agency (a “Rating Agency”). These requirements may include an asset coverage test more stringent than under the 1940 Act. This limitation on the Fund’s ability to make distributions on its Common Shares could in certain circumstances impair the ability of the Fund to maintain its qualification for taxation as a regulated investment company for federal income tax purposes. If the Fund were in the future to issue preferred shares or borrow money, it would intend, however, to the extent possible to purchase or redeem preferred shares or reduce borrowings from time to time to maintain compliance with such asset coverage requirements and may pay special distributions to the holders of the preferred shares in certain circumstances in connection with any potential impairment of the Fund’s status as a regulated investment company. See “Federal Income Tax Matters.” Depending on the timing of any such redemption or repayment, the Fund may be required to pay a premium in addition to the liquidation preference of the preferred shares to the holders thereof.

The Fund has no present intention of offering additional Common Shares, except as described herein. Other offerings of its Common Shares, if made, will require approval of the Board. Any additional offering will not be sold at a price

per Common Share below the then current NAV (exclusive of underwriting discounts and commissions) except in connection with an offering to existing Common Shareholders or with the consent of a majority of the outstanding Common Shares. The Common Shares have no preemptive rights.

The Fund generally will not issue Common Share certificates. However, upon written request to the Fund's transfer agent, a share certificate will be issued for any or all of the full Common Shares credited to an investor's account. Common Share certificates that have been issued to an investor may be returned at any time.

REPURCHASE OF COMMON SHARES AND OTHER DISCOUNT MEASURES

Because shares of closed-end management investment companies frequently trade at a discount to their NAVs, the Board has determined that from time-to-time it may be in the interest of Common Shareholders for the Fund to take corrective actions to reduce trading discounts in the Common Shares. The Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, will review at least annually the possibility of open market repurchases and/or tender offers for the Common Shares and will consider such factors as the market price of the Common Shares, the NAV of the Common Shares, the liquidity of the assets of the Fund, the effect on the Fund's expenses, whether such transactions would impair the Fund's status as a

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 43Prospectus dated [____], 2019

regulated investment company or result in a failure to comply with applicable asset coverage requirements, general economic conditions and such other events or conditions that may have a material effect on the Fund's ability to consummate such transactions. There are no assurances that the Board will, in fact, decide to undertake either of these actions or, if undertaken, that such actions will result in the Common Shares trading at a price equal to or approximating their NAV. In recognition of the possibility that the Common Shares might trade at a discount to NAV and that any such discount may not be in the interest of shareholders, the Board, in consultation with Eaton Vance, from time to time may review possible actions to reduce any such discount.

On September 30, 2013, the Board of Trustees of the Fund authorized the continuation of the repurchase program by the Fund of up to 10% of its then-currently outstanding Common Shares in open-market transactions at a discount to its NAV. The repurchase program has been in effect since August 6, 2012 and does not obligate the Fund to purchase a specific amount of shares. Results of the repurchase program are disclosed in the Fund's annual and semiannual reports to shareholders.

PREFERRED SHARES

The Fund has no current intention of issuing any shares other than the Common Shares. However, the Declaration of Trust authorizes the issuance of an unlimited number of shares of beneficial interest with preference rights (the "preferred shares") in one or more series, with rights as determined by the Board, by action of the Board without the approval of the Common Shareholders.

Under the requirements of the 1940 Act, the Fund must, immediately after the issuance of any preferred shares, have an "asset coverage" of at least 200%. Asset coverage means the ratio which the value of the total assets of the Fund, less all liabilities and indebtedness not represented by senior securities (as defined in the 1940 Act), bears to the aggregate amount of senior securities representing indebtedness of the Fund, if any, plus the aggregate liquidation preference of the preferred shares. If the Fund seeks a rating for preferred shares, asset coverage requirements in addition to those set forth in the 1940 Act may be imposed. The liquidation value of any preferred shares would be expected to equal their aggregate original purchase price plus redemption premium, if any, together with any accrued and unpaid distributions thereon (on a cumulative basis), whether or not earned or declared. The terms of any preferred shares, including their distribution rate, voting rights, liquidation preference and redemption provisions, will be determined by the Board (subject to applicable law and the Fund's Declaration of Trust) if and when it authorizes preferred shares. The Fund may issue preferred shares that provide for the periodic redetermination of the distribution rate at relatively short intervals through an auction or remarketing procedure, although the terms of such preferred shares may also enable the Fund to lengthen such intervals. At times, the distribution rate on any preferred shares may exceed the Fund's return after expenses on the investment of proceeds from the preferred shares and the Fund's leverage structure, resulting in a lower rate of return to Common Shareholders than if the Fund were not so structured.

In the event of any voluntary or involuntary liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the Fund, the terms of any preferred shares may entitle the holders of preferred shares to receive a preferential liquidating distribution (expected to equal the original purchase price per share plus redemption premium, if any, together with accrued and unpaid dividends, whether or not earned or declared and on a cumulative basis) before any distribution of assets is made to Common Shareholders. After payment of the full amount of the liquidating distribution to which they are entitled, the preferred shareholders would not be entitled to any further participation in any distribution of assets by the Fund.

Holders of preferred shares, voting as a class, would be entitled to elect two of the Fund's Trustees if any preferred shares are issued. The holders of both the Common Shares and the preferred shares (voting together as a single class with each share entitling its holder to one vote) shall be entitled to elect the remaining Trustees of the Fund. Under the 1940 Act, if at any time dividends on the preferred shares are unpaid in an amount equal to two full years' dividends thereon, the holders of all outstanding preferred shares, voting as a class, will be allowed to elect a majority of the Board until all distributions in arrears have been paid or declared and set apart for payment. In addition, if required by

a Rating Agency rating the preferred shares or if the Board determines it to be in the best interests of the Common Shareholders, issuance of the preferred shares may result in more restrictive provisions than required under the 1940 Act. In this regard, holders of preferred shares may be entitled to elect a majority of the Board in other circumstances, for example, if one payment on the preferred shares is in arrears. The differing rights of the holders of preferred and Common Shares with respect to the election of Trustees do not affect the obligation of all Trustees to take actions they believe to be consistent with the best interests of the Fund. All such actions must be consistent with (i) the obligations of the Fund with respect to the holders of preferred shares (which obligations arise primarily from the contractual terms of the preferred shares, as specified in the Declaration of Trust and By-laws of the Fund) and (ii) the fiduciary duties owed to the Fund, which include the duties of loyalty and care.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 44Prospectus dated [____], 2019

In the event of any future issuance of preferred shares, the Fund likely would seek a credit rating for such preferred shares from a Rating Agency. In such event, as long as preferred shares are outstanding, the composition of its portfolio will reflect guidelines established by such Rating Agency. Based on previous guidelines established by Rating Agencies for the securities of other issuers, the Fund anticipates that the guidelines with respect to any preferred shares would establish a set of tests for portfolio composition and asset coverage that supplement (and in some cases are more restrictive than) the applicable requirements under the 1940 Act. Although no assurance can be given as to the nature or extent of the guidelines that may be imposed in connection with obtaining a rating of any preferred shares, the Fund anticipates that such guidelines would include asset coverage requirements that are more restrictive than those under the 1940 Act, restrictions on certain portfolio investments and investment practices and certain mandatory redemption requirements relating to any preferred shares. No assurance can be given that the guidelines actually imposed with respect to any preferred shares by a Rating Agency would be more or less restrictive than those described in this Prospectus.

CREDIT FACILITY/COMMERCIAL PAPER PROGRAM

The Fund has no current intention to borrow money for the purpose of obtaining investment leverage. If, in the future, the Fund determines to engage in investment leverage using borrowings, the Fund may enter into definitive agreements with respect to a credit facility/commercial paper program or other borrowing program (“Program”), pursuant to which the Fund would expect to be entitled to borrow up to a specified amount. Any such borrowings would constitute financial leverage. Borrowings under such a Program would not be expected to be convertible into any other securities of the Fund. Outstanding amounts would be expected to be prepayable by the Fund prior to final maturity without significant penalty, and no sinking fund or mandatory retirement provisions would be expected to apply. Outstanding amounts would be payable at maturity or such earlier times as required by the agreement. The Fund may be required to prepay outstanding amounts under the Program or incur a penalty rate of interest in the event of the occurrence of certain events of default. The Fund would be expected to indemnify the lenders under the Program against liabilities they may incur in connection with the Program.

In addition, the Fund expects that any such Program would contain covenants that, among other things, likely would limit the Fund’s ability to pay distributions in certain circumstances, incur additional debt, change its fundamental investment policies and engage in certain transactions, including mergers and consolidations, and may require asset coverage ratios in addition to those required by the 1940 Act. The Fund may be required to pledge its assets and to maintain a portion of its assets in cash or high-grade securities as a reserve against interest or principal payments and expenses. The Fund expects that any Program would have customary covenant, negative covenant and default provisions. There can be no assurance that the Fund will enter into an agreement for a Program on terms and conditions representative of the foregoing, or that additional material terms will not apply. In addition, if entered into, any such Program may in the future be replaced or refinanced by one or more credit facilities having substantially different terms or by the issuance of preferred shares or debt securities.

EFFECTS OF POSSIBLE FUTURE LEVERAGE

As discussed above, the Fund has no current intention to issue preferred shares or to borrow money for the purpose of obtaining investment leverage. In the event that the Fund determines in the future to utilize investment leverage, there can be no assurance that such a leveraging strategy would be successful during any period in which it is employed. Leverage creates risks for Common Shareholders, including the likelihood of greater volatility of NAV and market price of the Common Shares and the risk that fluctuations in distribution rates on any preferred shares or fluctuations in borrowing costs may affect the return to Common Shareholders. To the extent that amounts available for distribution derived from securities purchased with the proceeds of leverage exceed the cost of such leverage, the Fund’s distributions would be greater than if leverage had not been used. Conversely, if the amounts available for

distribution derived from securities purchased with leverage proceeds are not sufficient to cover the cost of leverage, distributions to Common Shareholders would be less than if leverage had not been used. In the latter case, Eaton Vance, in its best judgment, may nevertheless determine to maintain the Fund's leveraged position if it deems such action to be appropriate. The costs of an offering of preferred shares and/or a borrowing program would be borne by Common Shareholders and consequently would result in a reduction of the NAV of Common Shares. See "Risk Factors -- Financial Leverage Risk."

In addition, the fee paid to Eaton Vance is calculated on the basis of the Fund's average daily gross assets, including proceeds from the issuance of preferred shares and/or borrowings, so the fees would be higher if leverage is utilized. In this regard, holders of preferred shares would not bear the investment advisory fee. Rather, Common Shareholders would bear the portion of the investment advisory fee attributable to the assets purchased with the proceeds of the preferred shares offering. See "Risk Factors -- Financial Leverage Risk."

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 45Prospectus dated [____], 2019

CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE DECLARATION OF TRUST

Anti-Takeover Provisions in the Declaration of Trust

The Declaration of Trust includes provisions that could have the effect of limiting the ability of other entities or persons to acquire control of the Fund or to change the composition of its Board and could have the effect of depriving Common Shareholders of an opportunity to sell their Common Shares at a premium over prevailing market prices by discouraging a third party from seeking to obtain control of the Fund. These provisions may have the effect of discouraging attempts to acquire control of the Fund, which attempts could have the effect of increasing the expenses of the Fund and interfering with the normal operation of the Fund. The Board is divided into three classes, with the term of one class expiring at each annual meeting of shareholders. At each annual meeting, one class of Trustees is elected to a three-year term. This provision could delay for up to two years the replacement of a majority of the Board. A Trustee may be removed from office only for cause by a written instrument signed by the remaining Trustees or by a vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the class of shares of the Fund that elected such Trustee and are entitled to vote on the matter.

In addition, the Declaration of Trust requires the favorable vote of the holders of at least 75% of the outstanding shares of each class of the Fund, voting as a class, then entitled to vote to approve, adopt or authorize certain transactions with 5%-or-greater holders of a class of shares and their associates, unless the Board shall by resolution have approved a memorandum of understanding with such holders, in which case normal voting requirements would be in effect. For purposes of these provisions, a 5%-or-greater holder of a class of shares (a "Principal Shareholder") refers to any person who, whether directly or indirectly and whether alone or together with its affiliates and associates, beneficially owns 5% or more of the outstanding shares of any class of beneficial interest of the Fund. The transactions subject to these special approval requirements are: (i) the merger or consolidation of the Fund or any subsidiary of the Fund with or into any Principal Shareholder; (ii) the issuance of any securities of the Fund to any Principal Shareholder for cash; (iii) the sale, lease or exchange of all or any substantial part of the assets of the Fund to any Principal Shareholder (except assets having an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purpose of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period); or (iv) the sale, lease or exchange to the Fund or any subsidiary thereof, in exchange for securities of the Fund, of any assets of any Principal Shareholder (except assets having an aggregate fair market value of less than \$1,000,000, aggregating for the purposes of such computation all assets sold, leased or exchanged in any series of similar transactions within a twelve-month period).

The Board has determined that provisions with respect to the Board and the 75% voting requirements described above, which voting requirements are greater than the minimum requirements under Massachusetts law or the 1940 Act, are in the best interest of Common Shareholders generally. Reference should be made to the Declaration of Trust on file with the SEC for the full text of these provisions.

Conversion to Open-End Fund

The Fund may be converted to an open-end management investment company at any time if approved by the lesser of (i) two-thirds or more of the Fund's then outstanding Common Shares and preferred shares (if any), each voting separately as a class, or (ii) more than 50% of the then outstanding Common Shares and preferred shares (if any), voting separately as a class if such conversion is recommended by at least 75% of the Trustees then in office. If approved in the foregoing manner, conversion of the Fund could not occur until 90 days after the shareholders' meeting at which such conversion was approved and would also require at least 30 days' prior notice to all shareholders. Conversion of the Fund to an open-end management investment company also would require the redemption of any outstanding preferred shares and could require the repayment of borrowings, which would eliminate any future leveraged capital structure of the Fund with respect to the Common Shares. In the event of conversion, the Common Shares would cease to be listed on the NYSE or other national securities exchange or market

system. The Board believes that the closed-end structure is desirable, given the Fund's investment objectives and policies. Investors should assume, therefore, that it is unlikely that the Board would vote to convert the Fund to an open-end management investment company. Shareholders of an open-end management investment company may require the company to redeem their shares at any time (except in certain circumstances as authorized by or under the 1940 Act) at their NAV, less such redemption charge, if any, as might be in effect at the time of a redemption. If the Fund were to convert to an open-end investment company, the Fund expects it would pay all such redemption requests in cash, but would likely reserve the right to pay redemption requests in a combination of cash or securities. If such partial payment in securities were made, investors may incur brokerage costs in converting such securities to cash. If the Fund were converted to an open-end fund, it is likely that new Common Shares would be sold at NAV plus a sales load.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 46Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Custodian and Transfer Agent

State Street Bank and Trust Company (“State Street”), State Street Financial Center, One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, is the custodian of the Fund and will maintain custody of the securities and cash of the Fund. State Street maintains the Fund’s general ledger and computes NAV per share at least weekly. State Street also attends to details in connection with the sale, exchange, substitution, transfer and other dealings with the Fund’s investments, and receives and disburses all funds. State Street also assists in preparation of shareholder reports and the electronic filing of such reports with the SEC.

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219 is the transfer agent and dividend disbursing agent of the Fund.

Legal Opinions

Certain legal matters in connection with the Common Shares is passed upon for the Fund by internal counsel for Eaton Vance.

Reports to Shareholders

The Fund will send to Common Shareholders unaudited semi-annual and audited annual reports, including a list of investments held.

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

[_____], independent registered public accounting firm, audits the Fund’s financial statements and provides other audit, tax and related services.

Additional Information

The Prospectus and the Statement of Additional Information do not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement that the Fund has filed with the SEC. The complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the fee prescribed by its rules and regulations. The Statement of Additional Information can be obtained without charge by calling 1-800-262-1122.

Statements contained in this Prospectus as to the contents of any contract or other documents referred to are not necessarily complete, and, in each instance, reference is made to the copy of such contract or other document filed as an exhibit to the Registration Statement of which this Prospectus forms a part, each such statement being qualified in all respects by such reference.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 47Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Table of Contents for the Statement of Additional Information

	Page
Additional Investment Information and Restrictions	2
Trustees and Officers	9
Investment Advisory and Other Services	18
Determination of Net Asset Value	22
Portfolio Trading	23
Taxes	25
Other Information	31
Custodian	32
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	32
Financial Statements	32
APPENDIX A: Ratings	33
APPENDIX B: Eaton Vance Funds Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures	42
APPENDIX C: Adviser Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures	44

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 48 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

The Fund's Privacy Policy

The Eaton Vance organization is committed to ensuring your financial privacy. Each of the financial institutions identified below has in effect the following policy ("Privacy Policy") with respect to nonpublic personal information about its customers:

Only such information received from you, through application forms or otherwise, and information about your Eaton Vance fund transactions will be collected. This may include information such as name, address, social security number, tax status, account balances and transactions.

None of such information about you (or former customers) will be disclosed to anyone, except as permitted by law (which includes disclosure to employees necessary to service your account). In the normal course of servicing a customer's account, Eaton Vance may share information with unaffiliated third parties that perform various required services such as transfer agents, custodians and broker/dealers.

Policies and procedures (including physical, electronic and procedural safeguards) are in place that are designed to protect the confidentiality of such information.

We reserve the right to change our Privacy Policy at any time upon proper notification to you. Customers may want to review our Privacy Policy periodically for changes by accessing the link on our homepage: www.eatonvance.com.

Our pledge of privacy applies to the following entities within the Eaton Vance organization: the Eaton Vance Family of Funds, Eaton Vance Management, Eaton Vance Investment Counsel, Eaton Vance Distributors, Inc., Eaton Vance Trust Company, Eaton Vance Management (International) Limited, Eaton Vance Advisers International Ltd., Eaton Vance Management's Real Estate Investment Group and Boston Management and Research.

In addition, our Privacy Policy applies only to those Eaton Vance customers who are individuals and who have a direct relationship with us. If a customer's account (i.e., fund shares) is held in the name of a third-party financial adviser/broker-dealer, it is likely that only such adviser's privacy policies apply to the customer. This notice supersedes all previously issued privacy disclosures.

For more information about Eaton Vance's Privacy Policy, please call 1-800-262-1122.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 49Prospectus dated [____], 2019

Up to [_____] Shares

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund

Common Shares

Prospectus [____], 2019

Printed on recycled paper.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 50 Prospectus dated [____], 2019

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION [____], 2019

**STATEMENT OF
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
[____], 2019**

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund

Two International Place
Boston, MA 02110
1-800-262-1122

Table of Contents

	Page
Additional Investment Information and Restrictions	2
Trustees and Officers	9
Investment Advisory and Other Services	18
Determination of Net Asset Value	22
Portfolio Trading	23
Taxes	25
Other Information	31
Custodian	32
Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	32
Financial Statements	32
APPENDIX A: Ratings	33
APPENDIX B: Eaton Vance Funds Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures	42
APPENDIX C: Adviser Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures	44

THE INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (“SAI”) IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. THESE SECURITIES MAY NOT BE SOLD UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS SAI, WHICH IS NOT A PROSPECTUS, IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND IS NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

THIS STATEMENT OF ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (“SAI”) IS NOT A PROSPECTUS AND IS AUTHORIZED FOR DISTRIBUTION TO PROSPECTIVE INVESTORS ONLY IF PRECEDED OR ACCOMPANIED BY THE PROSPECTUS OF EATON VANCE TAX-MANAGED DIVERSIFIED EQUITY INCOME FUND (THE “FUND”) DATED [____], 2019, (THE “PROSPECTUS”) AS SUPPLEMENTED FROM TIME TO TIME, WHICH IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE. THIS SAI SHOULD BE READ IN CONJUNCTION WITH SUCH PROSPECTUS, A COPY OF WHICH MAY BE OBTAINED WITHOUT CHARGE BY CONTACTING YOUR FINANCIAL INTERMEDIARY OR CALLING THE FUND AT 1-800-262-1122.

Capitalized terms used in this SAI and not otherwise defined have the meanings given them in the Fund's Prospectus and any related Prospectus Supplements.

ADDITIONAL INVESTMENT INFORMATION AND RESTRICTIONS

Primary investment strategies are described in the Prospectus. The following is a description of the various investment policies that may be engaged in, whether as a primary or secondary strategy, and a summary of certain attendant risks. The Adviser may not buy any of the following instruments or use any of the following techniques unless it believes that doing so will help to achieve the Fund's investment objective.

Equity Investments. As described in the Prospectus, the Fund invests in common stocks.

Preferred Stocks. The Fund may invest in preferred stocks of both domestic and foreign issuers. Under normal market conditions, the Fund expects, with respect to that portion of its total assets invested in preferred stocks, to invest only in preferred stocks of investment grade quality as determined by S&P, Fitch or Moody's or, if unrated, determined to be of comparable quality by Eaton Vance. The foregoing credit quality policies apply only at the time a security is purchased, and the Fund is not required to dispose of a security in the event of a downgrade of an assessment of credit quality or the withdrawal of a rating.

Preferred stock represents an equity interest in a corporation, company or trust that has a higher claim on the assets and earnings than common stock. Preferred stock usually has limited voting rights. Preferred stock involves credit risk, which is the risk that a preferred stock will decline in price, or fail to pay dividends when expected, because the issuer experiences a decline in its financial status. A company's preferred stock generally pays dividends after the company makes the required payments to holders of its bonds and other debt instruments but before dividend payments are made to common stockholders. However, preferred stock may not pay scheduled dividends or dividend payments may be in arrears. The value of preferred stock may react more strongly than bonds and other debt instruments to actual or perceived changes in the company's financial condition or prospects. Certain preferred stocks may be convertible to common stock. Preferred stock may be subject to redemption at the option of the issuer at a predetermined price. Because they may make regular income payments, preferred stocks may be considered fixed-income securities for purposes of a Fund's investment restrictions. In addition to credit risk, investment in preferred stocks involves certain other risks as more fully described in the Prospectus.

Derivative Instruments. Generally, derivatives can be characterized as financial instruments whose performance is derived at least in part from the performance of an underlying reference instrument. Derivative instruments may be acquired in the United States or abroad and include the various types of exchange-traded and over-the-counter ("OTC") instruments described herein and other instruments with substantially similar characteristics and risks. Derivative instruments may be based on securities, indices, currencies, commodities, economic indicators and events (referred to as "reference instruments"). Fund obligations created pursuant to derivative instruments may be subject to the requirements described under "Asset Coverage" herein.

In seeking to manage exposure to certain sectors and/or markets in connection with its use of dividend capture trading, the Fund may buy and sell equity index futures contracts and may engage in other types of derivatives to manage such exposures. The Fund may also invest in derivative instruments acquired for hedging, risk management and investment purposes (to gain exposure to securities, securities markets, markets indices and/or currencies consistent with its investment objective and policies). Other permitted derivatives include futures contracts on securities and non-equity indices, options on futures contracts, the purchase of put options and the sale of call options on securities held, equity swaps, interest rate swaps, covered short sales, forward sales of stocks, forward currency exchange contracts and currency futures contracts. Derivative instruments may also be used by the Fund to enhance returns or as a substitute for the purchase or sale of securities. The Fund may invest in the foregoing derivatives without limitation and use of derivatives may be extensive.

Derivative instruments are subject to a number of risks, including adverse or unexpected movements in the price of the reference instrument, and counterparty, liquidity, tax, correlation and leverage risks. Use of derivative instruments may cause the realization of higher amounts of short-term capital gains (generally taxed at ordinary income tax rates) than if such instruments had not been used. Success in using derivative instruments to hedge portfolio assets depends on the degree of price correlation between the derivative instruments and the hedged asset. Imperfect correlation may be caused by several factors, including temporary price disparities among the trading markets for the derivative instrument, the reference instrument and the Fund's assets. To the extent that a derivative instrument is intended to hedge against an event that does not occur, the Fund may realize losses. Derivatives permit the Fund to increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, to which its portfolio is exposed in much the same way as the Fund can increase or decrease the level of risk, or change the character of the risk, of its portfolio by making investments in specific securities. There can be no assurance that the use of derivative instruments will benefit the Fund.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 2SAI dated [____], 2019

The Fund may use derivative instruments and trading strategies, including the following:

Options on Securities, Indices and Currencies. The Fund may engage in transactions in exchange traded and over-the-counter ("OTC") options. In general, exchange-traded options have standardized exercise prices and expiration dates and require the parties to post margin against their obligations, and the performance of the parties' obligations in connection with such options is guaranteed by the exchange or a related clearing corporation. OTC options have more flexible terms negotiated between the buyer and the seller, but generally do not require the parties to post margin and are subject to greater credit risk. OTC options also involve greater liquidity risk. The Staff of the SEC takes the position that certain purchased OTC options, and assets used as cover for written OTC options, are illiquid.

Call Options. The Fund is authorized to write (i.e., sell) call options and to enter into closing purchase transactions with respect to certain of such options. A covered call option is an option in which the Fund, in return for a premium, gives another party a right to buy specified securities owned by the Fund at a specified future date and price set at the time of the contract.

The principal reason for writing call options is the attempt to realize, through the receipt of premiums, a greater return than would be realized on the securities alone. By writing covered call options, the Fund gives up the opportunity, while the option is in effect, to profit from any price increase in the underlying security above the option exercise price. In addition, the Fund's ability to sell the underlying security will be limited while the option is in effect unless the Fund enters into a closing purchase transaction. A closing purchase transaction cancels out the Fund's position as the writer of an option by means of an offsetting purchase of an identical option prior to the expiration of the option it has written. Covered call options also serve as a partial hedge to the extent of the premium received against the price of the underlying security declining.

Put Options. The Fund is authorized to purchase put options to seek to hedge against a decline in the value of its securities or to enhance its return. By buying a put option, the Fund acquires a right to sell the underlying securities or instruments at the exercise price, thus limiting the Fund's risk of loss through a decline in the market value of the securities or instruments until the put option expires. The amount of any appreciation in the value of the underlying securities or instruments will be partially offset by the amount of the premium paid for the put option and any related transaction costs. Prior to its expiration, a put option may be sold in a closing sale transaction and profit or loss from the sale will depend on whether the amount received is more or less than the premium paid for the put option plus the related transaction costs. A closing sale transaction cancels out the Fund's position as the purchaser of an option by means of an offsetting sale of an identical option prior to the expiration of the option it has purchased. The Fund also may purchase uncovered put options.

Futures. The Fund may engage in transactions in futures and options on futures. Futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts that obligate a purchaser to take delivery, and a seller to make delivery, of a specific amount of an asset at a specified future date at a specified price. No price is paid upon entering into a futures contract. Rather, upon purchasing or selling a futures contract the Fund is required to deposit collateral ("margin") equal to a percentage (generally less than 10%) of the contract value. Each day thereafter until the futures position is closed, the Fund will pay additional margin representing any loss experienced as a result of the futures position the prior day or be entitled to a payment representing any profit experienced as a result of the futures position the prior day. Futures involve substantial leverage risk. The sale of a futures contract limits the Fund's risk of loss from a decline in the market value of portfolio holdings correlated with the futures contract prior to the futures contract's expiration date. In the event the market value of the Fund holdings correlated with the futures contract increases rather than decreases, however, the Fund will realize a loss on the futures position and a lower return on the Fund holdings than would have been realized without the purchase of the futures contract.

The purchase of a futures contract may protect the Fund from having to pay more for securities as a consequence of increases in the market value for such securities during a period when the Fund was attempting to identify specific securities in which to invest in a market the Fund believes to be attractive. In the event that such securities decline in value or the Fund determines not to complete an anticipatory hedge transaction relating to a futures contract, however, the Fund may realize a loss relating to the futures position.

The Fund is also authorized to purchase or sell call and put options on futures contracts including financial futures and stock indices. Generally, these strategies would be used under the same market and market sector conditions (i.e., conditions relating to specific types of investments) in which the Fund entered into futures transactions. The Fund may purchase put options or write call options on futures contracts and stock indices in lieu of selling the underlying futures contract in anticipation of a decrease in the market value of its securities. Similarly, the Fund can purchase call options, or write put options on futures contracts and stock indices, as a substitute for the purchase of such futures to hedge against the increased cost resulting from an increase in the market value of securities which the Fund intends to purchase.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 3SAI dated [____], 2019

Risks Associated with Futures. The primary risks associated with the use of futures contracts and options are (a) the imperfect correlation between the change in market value of the instruments held by the Fund and the price of the futures contract or option; (b) possible lack of a liquid secondary market for a futures contract and the resulting inability to close a futures contract when desired; (c) losses caused by unanticipated market movements, which are potentially unlimited; (d) the investment adviser's inability to predict correctly the direction of securities prices, interest rates, currency exchange rates and other economic factors; and (e) the possibility that the counterparty will default in the performance of its obligations.

The Fund has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term Commodity Pool Operator ("CPO") under the Commodity Exchange Act and therefore is not subject to registration as a CPO.

Forward Foreign Currency Exchange Contracts. Forward foreign currency exchange contracts are OTC contracts to purchase or sell a specified amount of a specified currency or multinational currency unit at a price and future date set at the time of the contract. Spot foreign exchange transactions are similar but require current, rather than future, settlement. The Fund will enter into foreign exchange transactions for purposes of hedging either a specific transaction or the Fund position or, to seek to enhance returns. Proxy hedging is often used when the currency to which the Fund is exposed is difficult to hedge or to hedge against the dollar. Proxy hedging entails entering into a forward contract to sell a currency whose changes in value are generally considered to be linked to a currency or currencies in which some or all of the Fund's securities are, or are expected to be, denominated, and to buy U.S. dollars. Proxy hedging involves some of the same risks and considerations as other transactions with similar instruments. Currency transactions can result in losses to the Fund if the currency being hedged fluctuates in value to a degree or in a direction that is not anticipated. In addition, there is the risk that the perceived linkage between various currencies may not be present or may not be present during the particular time that the Fund is engaged in proxy hedging. The Fund may also cross-hedge currencies by entering into forward contracts to sell one or more currencies that are expected to decline in value relative to other currencies to which the Fund has or in which the Fund expects to have portfolio exposure. Some of the forward foreign currency contracts entered into by the Fund are classified as non-deliverable forwards ("NDF"). NDFs are cash-settled, short-term forward contracts that may be thinly traded or are denominated in non-convertible foreign currency, where the profit or loss at the time at the settlement date is calculated by taking the difference between the agreed upon exchange rate and the spot rate at the time of settlement, for an agreed upon notional amount of funds. NDFs are commonly quoted for time periods of one month up to two years, and are normally quoted and settled in U.S. dollars. They are often used to gain exposure to and/or hedge exposure to foreign currencies that are not internationally traded.

Foreign Currency Transactions. The Fund may engage in spot transactions and forward foreign currency exchange contracts and currency swaps, purchase and sell options on currencies and purchase and sell currency futures and related options thereon (collectively, "Currency Instruments") for purposes of hedging against the decline in the value of currencies in which its portfolio holdings are denominated against the U.S. dollar or, to seek to enhance returns. Such transactions could be effected with respect to hedges on foreign dollar denominated securities owned by the Fund, sold by the Fund but not yet delivered, or committed or anticipated to be purchased by the Fund.

As measured in U.S. dollars, the value of assets denominated in foreign currencies may be affected favorably or unfavorably by changes in foreign currency rates and exchange control regulations. Currency exchange rates can also be affected unpredictably by intervention by U.S. or foreign governments or central banks, or the failure to intervene, or by currency controls or political developments in the United States or abroad. Foreign currency exchange transactions may be conducted on a spot (i.e., cash) basis at the spot rate prevailing in the foreign currency exchange market or through entering into derivative currency transactions. Currency transactions are subject to the risk of a number of complex political and economic factors applicable to the countries issuing the underlying currencies. Furthermore, unlike trading in most other types of instruments, there is no systematic reporting of last sale information with respect to the foreign currencies underlying the derivative currency transactions. As a result, available information may not be complete. In an over-the-counter trading environment, there are no daily price fluctuation

limits.

Currency Options. The Fund may seek to enhance returns or hedge against the decline in the value of a currency through the use of currency options. Currency options are similar to options on securities. For example, in consideration for an option premium the writer of a currency option is obligated to sell (in the case of a call option) or purchase (in the case of a put option) a specified amount of a specified currency on or before the expiration date for a specified amount of another currency. The Fund may engage in transactions in options on currencies either on exchanges or OTC markets. Currency options involve substantial currency risk, and may also involve credit, leverage or liquidity risk.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 4SAI dated [____], 2019

Currency Futures. The Fund may also seek to enhance returns or hedge against the decline in the value of a currency through use of currency futures or options thereon. Currency futures are similar to forward foreign exchange transactions except that futures are standardized, exchange-traded contracts while forward foreign exchange transactions are traded in the OTC market. Currency futures involve substantial currency risk, and also involve leverage risk.

Risk Factors in Hedging Foreign Currency. Hedging transactions involving Currency Instruments involve substantial risks, including correlation risk. Although Currency Instruments will be used with the intention of hedging against adverse currency movements, transactions in Currency Instruments involve the risk that anticipated currency movements will not be accurately predicted and that the Fund's hedging strategies will be ineffective. To the extent that the Fund hedges against anticipated currency movements that do not occur, the Fund may realize losses and decrease its total return as the result of its hedging transactions. Furthermore, the Fund will only engage in hedging activities from time to time and may not be engaging in hedging activities when movements in currency exchange rates occur.

Swap Agreements. Swap agreements are two-party contracts entered into primarily by institutional investors for periods ranging from a few weeks to more than one year. In a standard "swap" transaction, two parties agree to exchange the returns (or differentials in rates of return) earned or realized on particular predetermined investments or instruments, which can be adjusted for an interest factor. The gross returns to be exchanged or "swapped" between the parties are generally calculated with respect to a "notional amount," i.e., the return on or increase in value of a particular dollar amount invested at a particular interest rate or in a "basket" of securities representing a particular index. Whether the Fund's use of swap agreements will be successful in furthering its investment objective will depend on the investment adviser's ability to predict correctly whether certain types of investments are likely to produce greater returns than other investments. Because they are two-party contracts and because they may have terms of greater than seven days, swap agreements may be considered to be illiquid. Moreover, the Fund bears the risk of loss of the amount expected to be received under a swap agreement in the event of the default or bankruptcy of a swap agreement counterparty. The Fund will enter into swap agreements only with counterparties that meet certain standards of creditworthiness. If there is a default by the other party to such a transaction, the Fund will have contractual remedies pursuant to the agreements related to the transaction. Swap agreements are also subject to the risk that the Fund will not be able to meet its obligations to the counterparty. The Fund, however, will segregate liquid assets equal to or greater than the market value of the liabilities under the swap agreement or the amount it would cost the Fund initially to make an equivalent direct investment, plus or minus any amount the Fund is obligated to pay or is to receive under the swap agreement. The swap market has grown substantially in recent years with a large number of banks and investment banking firms acting both as principals and as agents utilizing standardized swap documentation. As a result, the swap market has become relatively liquid. The swaps market is largely unregulated. It is possible that developments in the swaps market, including potential government regulation, could adversely affect the Fund's ability to terminate existing swap agreements or to realize amounts to be received under such agreements.

Interest Rate Swaps. Interest rate swaps are OTC contracts in which each party agrees to make a periodic interest payment based on an index or the value of an asset in return for a periodic payment from the other party based on a different index or asset. The Fund usually will enter into interest rate swap transactions on a net basis (i.e., the two payment streams are netted out, with the Fund receiving or paying, as the case may be, only the net amount of the two payments). The net amount of the excess, if any, of the Fund's obligations over its entitlements with respect to each interest rate swap will be accrued on a daily basis. If the interest rate swap transaction is entered into on other than a net basis, the full amount of the Fund's obligations will be accrued on a daily basis. Certain federal income tax requirements may limit the Fund's ability to engage in certain interest rate transactions.

Total Return Swaps. Total return swaps are contracts in which one party agrees to make payments of the total return from the underlying asset(s), which may include securities, baskets of securities, or securities indices during the specified period, in return for payments equal to a fixed or floating-rate of interest or the total return from other

underlying asset(s).

Credit Default Swaps. The Fund may enter into credit default swap contracts. When the Fund is the buyer of a credit default swap contract, the Fund is entitled to receive the par (or other agreed-upon) value of a referenced debt obligation from the counterparty to the contract in the event of a default by a third party, such as a U.S. or foreign corporate issuer, on the debt obligation. In return, the Fund would pay the counterparty a periodic stream of payments over the term of the contract provided that no event of default has occurred. If no default occurs, the Fund would have spent the stream of payments and received no benefit from the contract. When the Fund is the seller of a credit default swap contract, it receives the stream of payments, but is obligated to pay upon default of the referenced debt obligation. As the seller, the Fund would effectively add leverage to its portfolio because, in addition to its total net assets, the Fund would be subject to investment exposure on the notional amount of the swap. These transactions involve certain risks, including the risk that the seller may be unable to fulfill the transaction.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 5SAI dated [____], 2019

The regulation of derivatives has undergone substantial change in recent years and such change may continue. In particular, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (the “Dodd-Frank Act”), and regulations proposed to be promulgated thereunder require many derivatives to be cleared and traded on an exchange, expand entity registration requirements, impose business conduct requirements on dealers that enter into swaps with a pension plan, endowment, retirement plan or government entity, and require banks to move some derivatives trading units to a non-guaranteed affiliate separate from the deposit-taking bank or divest them altogether. Although the CFTC has released final rules relating to clearing, reporting, recordkeeping, required margin and registration requirements under the legislation, many of the provisions are subject to further final rule making, and thus its ultimate impact remains unclear. New regulations and the implementation of existing regulations could, among other things, restrict the Fund’s ability to engage in derivatives transactions (for example, by making certain types of derivatives transactions no longer available to the Fund) and/or increase the costs of such derivatives transactions (for example, by increasing margin or capital requirements), and the Fund may be unable to fully execute its investment strategies as a result. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which the Fund engages in derivative transactions also could prevent the Fund from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments, or may change the availability of certain investments.

Likewise, the SEC has proposed regulations that, if adopted, would significantly change the manner in which a Fund must segregate assets to cover its future obligations. The proposed regulations would restrict its ability to enter into derivative transactions for speculative or hedging purposes and would require the Fund’s Board to adopt a derivative risk management and governance framework. These regulations could also limit the ability of a Fund to use these instruments as part of its investment management strategy, increase the costs of using these instruments or make them less effective. Limits or restrictions applicable to the counterparties with which a Fund engages in derivative transactions also could prevent the Fund from using these instruments or affect the pricing or other factors relating to these instruments, or may change the availability of certain investments.

Legislation may be enacted that could negatively affect the assets of the Fund. Legislation or regulation may also change the way in which the Fund itself is regulated. The effects of any new governmental regulation cannot be predicted and there can be no assurance that any new governmental regulation will not adversely affect the Fund’s ability to achieve its investment objective(s).

Short Sales. The Fund may sell a security short if it owns at least an equal amount of the security sold short or another security convertible or exchangeable for an equal amount of the security sold short without payment of further compensation (a short sale against-the-box). If the price of the security in the short sale decreases, the Fund will realize a profit to the extent that the short sale price for the security exceeds the market price. If the price of the security increases, the Fund will realize a loss to the extent that the market price exceeds the short sale price. Selling securities short runs the risk of losing an amount greater than the initial investment therein.

Purchasing securities to close out the short position can itself cause the price of the securities to rise further, thereby exacerbating the loss. Short-selling exposes the Fund to unlimited risk with respect to that security due to the lack of an upper limit on the price to which an instrument can rise. Although the Fund reserves the right to utilize short sales, the Adviser is under no obligation to utilize short-sales at all.

Securities Lending. The Fund may lend a portion of its portfolio securities to broker-dealers or other institutional borrowers. Loans will be made only to organizations whose credit quality or claims paying ability is considered by the Adviser to be at least investment grade. All securities loans will be collateralized on a continuous basis by cash, cash equivalents (such as money market instruments) or U.S. Government securities having a value, marked to market daily, of at least 100% of the market value of the loaned securities. The Fund may receive loan fees in connection with loans that are collateralized by securities or on loans of securities for which there is special demand. The Fund may also seek to earn income on securities loans by reinvesting cash collateral in securities consistent with its investment objectives and policies, seeking to invest at rates that are higher than the “rebate” rate that it normally will pay to the

borrower with respect to such cash collateral.

Securities loans may result in delays in recovering, or a failure of the borrower to return, the loaned securities. The defaulting borrower ordinarily would be liable to the Fund for any losses resulting from such delays or failures, and the collateral provided in connection with the loan normally would also be available for that purpose. Securities loans normally may be terminated by either the Fund or the borrower at any time. Upon termination and the return of the loaned securities, the Fund would be required to return the related cash or securities collateral to the borrower and it may be required to liquidate longer term portfolio securities in order to do so. To the extent that such securities have decreased in value, this may result in the Fund realizing a loss at a time when it would not otherwise do so. The Fund also may incur losses if it is unable to reinvest cash collateral at rates higher than applicable rebate rates paid to borrowers and related administrative costs. These risks are substantially the same as those incurred through investment leverage and will be subject to the investment policies, restrictions and risk considerations described in the Prospectus and in this SAI.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 6SAI dated [____], 2019

The Fund will receive amounts equivalent to any interest or other distributions paid on securities while they are on loan, and the Fund will not be entitled to exercise voting or other beneficial rights on loaned securities. The Fund will exercise its right to terminate loans and thereby regain these rights whenever the Adviser considers it to be in the Fund's interest to do so, taking into account the related loss of reinvestment income and other factors.

Exchange-Traded Funds. The Fund may invest in shares of exchange-traded funds (collectively, "ETFs") which are designed to provide investment results corresponding to an index. These indexes may be either broad-based, sector or international and may include Standard & Poor's Depository Receipts ("SPDRs," DIAMONDS, Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock (also referred to as "Nasdaq-100 Shares"), iShares exchange-traded funds ("iShares"), such as iShares Russell 2000 Growth Index Fund and HOLDRS (Holding Company Depository Receipts).

ETFs usually are units of beneficial interest in an investment trust or represent undivided ownership interests in a portfolio of securities, in each case with respect to a portfolio of all or substantially all of the component securities of, and in substantially the same weighting as, the relevant benchmark index. ETFs are listed on an exchange and trade in the secondary market on a per-share basis.

Investments in ETFs are generally subject to limits in the 1940 Act on investments in other investment companies. The values of ETFs are subject to change as the values of their respective component securities (or commodities) fluctuate according to market volatility. Investments in ETFs that are designed to correspond to an equity index involve certain inherent risks generally associated with investments in a broadly based portfolio of common stocks, including the risk that the general level of stock prices may decline, thereby adversely affecting the value of ETFs invested in by the Fund. Moreover, the Fund's investments in ETFs may not exactly match the performance of a direct investment in the respective indices to which they are intended to correspond due to the temporary unavailability of certain index securities in the secondary market or other extraordinary circumstances, such as discrepancies with respect to the weighting of securities.

Typically, ETF programs bear their own operational expenses, which are deducted from the dividends paid to investors. To the extent that the Fund invests in ETFs, the Fund must bear these expenses in addition to the expenses of its own operation.

Pooled Investment Vehicles. The Fund reserves the right to invest up to 10% of its total assets, calculated at the time of purchase, in the securities of pooled investment vehicles including other investment companies unaffiliated with the Adviser. The Fund will indirectly bear its proportionate share of any management fees paid by pooled investment vehicles in which it invests in addition to the advisory fee paid by the Fund. The 10% limitation does not apply to the Fund's investment in money market funds and certain other pooled investment vehicles.

Cybersecurity Risk. With the increased use of technologies by Fund service providers to conduct business, such as the Internet, the Fund is susceptible to operational, information security and related risks. In general, cyber incidents can result from deliberate attacks or unintentional events. Cyber attacks include, but are not limited to, gaining unauthorized access to digital systems (e.g., through "hacking" or malicious software coding) for purposes of misappropriating assets or sensitive information, corrupting data, or causing operational disruption. Cyber attacks may also be carried out in a manner that does not require gaining unauthorized access, such as causing denial-of-service attacks on websites (i.e., efforts to make network services unavailable to intended users). Cybersecurity failures or breaches by the Fund's investment adviser or administrator and other service providers (including, but not limited to, the custodian or transfer agent), and the issuers of securities in which the Fund invests, have the ability to cause disruptions and impact business operations potentially resulting in financial losses, interference with the Fund's ability to calculate its net asset value, impediments to trading, violations of applicable privacy and other laws, regulatory fines, penalties, reputational damage, reimbursement or other compensation costs, or additional compliance costs. While various Fund service providers have established business continuity plans and risk management systems intended to identify and mitigate cyber attacks, there are inherent limitations in such plans and systems including the

possibility that certain risks have not been identified. Furthermore, the Fund cannot control the cybersecurity plans and systems put in place by service providers to the Fund and issuers in which the Fund invests. The Fund and its shareholders could be negatively impacted as a result.

Operational Risk. The Fund's service providers, including the investment adviser, may experience disruptions or operating errors that could negatively impact the Fund. While service providers are expected to have appropriate operational risk management policies and procedures, their methods of operational risk management may differ from the Fund's in the setting of priorities, the personnel and resources available or the effectiveness of relevant controls. It also is not possible for Trust service providers to identify all of the operational risks that may affect the Fund or to develop processes and controls to completely eliminate or mitigate their occurrence or effects.

Temporary Investments. The Fund may invest temporarily in cash or cash equivalents. Cash equivalents are highly liquid, short-term securities such as commercial paper, time deposits, certificates of deposit, short-term notes and short-term United States government obligations.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 7SAI dated [____], 2019

Investment Restrictions. The following investment restrictions of the Fund are designated as fundamental policies and as such cannot be changed without the approval of the holders of a majority of the Fund's outstanding voting securities, which as used in this SAI means the lesser of (a) 67% of the shares of the Fund present or represented by proxy at a meeting if the holders of more than 50% of the outstanding shares are present or represented at the meeting or (b) more than 50% of outstanding shares of the Fund. As a matter of fundamental policy, the Fund may not:

- Borrow money, except as permitted by the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act"). The
- (1) 1940 Act currently requires that any indebtedness incurred by a closed-end investment company have an asset coverage of at least 300%;
 - Issue senior securities, as defined in the 1940 Act, other than (i) preferred shares which immediately after issuance will have asset coverage of at least 200%, (ii) indebtedness which immediately after issuance will have asset coverage of at least 300%, or (iii) the borrowings permitted by investment restriction (1) above. The 1940 Act
 - (2) currently defines "senior security" as any bond, debenture, note or similar obligation or instrument constituting a security and evidencing indebtedness and any stock of a class having priority over any other class as to distribution of assets or payment of dividends. Debt and equity securities issued by a closed-end investment company meeting the foregoing asset coverage provisions are excluded from the general 1940 Act prohibition on the issuance of senior securities;
 - Purchase securities on margin (but the Fund may obtain such short-term credits as may be necessary for the
 - (3) clearance of purchases and sales of securities). The purchase of investment assets with the proceeds of a permitted borrowing or securities offering will not be deemed to be the purchase of securities on margin;
 - (4) Underwrite securities issued by other persons, except insofar as it may technically be deemed to be an underwriter under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, in selling or disposing of a portfolio investment;
 - Make loans to other persons, except by (a) the acquisition of loans, loan interests, debt securities and other
 - (5) obligations in which the Fund is authorized to invest in accordance with its investment objectives and policies, (b) entering into repurchase agreements and (c) lending its portfolio securities;
 - Purchase or sell real estate, although it may purchase and sell securities which are secured by interests in real estate
 - (6) and securities of issuers which invest or deal in real estate. The Fund reserves the freedom of action to hold and to sell real estate acquired as a result of the ownership of securities;
 - Purchase or sell physical commodities or contracts for the purchase or sale of physical commodities. Physical
 - (7) commodities do not include futures contracts with respect to securities, securities indices, currency or other financial instruments;
 - With respect to 75% of its total assets, invest more than 5% of its total assets in the securities of a single issuer or
 - (8) purchase more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of a single issuer, except obligations issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government, its agencies or instrumentalities and except securities of other investment companies; and
 - (9) Invest 25% or more of its total assets in any single industry (other than securities issued or guaranteed by the U.S. government or its agencies or instrumentalities).
- In regard to 5(c), the value of the securities loaned by the Fund may not exceed 33 1/3% of its total assets.

The Fund may borrow money as a temporary measure for extraordinary or emergency purposes, including the payment of dividends and the settlement of securities transactions which otherwise might require untimely dispositions of Fund securities. The 1940 Act currently requires that the Fund have 300% asset coverage with respect to all borrowings other than temporary borrowings.

For purposes of construing restriction (9), securities of the U.S. Government, its agencies, or instrumentalities are not considered to represent industries. Municipal obligations backed by the credit of a governmental entity are also not considered to represent industries.

The Fund has adopted the following nonfundamental investment policy which may be changed by the Board without approval of the Fund's shareholders. As a matter of nonfundamental policy, the Fund may not make short sales of

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

securities or maintain a short position, unless at all times when a short position is open the Fund either owns an equal amount of such securities or owns securities convertible into or exchangeable, without payment of any further consideration, for securities of the same issue as, and equal in amount to, the securities sold short.

Upon the Board's approval, the Fund may invest more than 10% of its total assets in one or more other management investment companies (or may invest in affiliated investment companies) to the extent permitted by the 1940 Act and rules thereunder.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 8SAI dated [____], 2019

Whenever an investment policy or investment restriction set forth in the Prospectus or this SAI states a maximum percentage of assets that may be invested in any security or other asset or describes a policy regarding quality standards, such percentage limitation or standard shall be determined immediately after and as a result of the Fund's acquisition of such security or asset. Accordingly, any later increase or decrease resulting from a change in values, assets or other circumstances or any subsequent rating change made by a rating service (or as determined by the Adviser if the security is not rated by a rating agency) will not compel the Fund to dispose of such security or other asset. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Fund must always be in compliance with the borrowing policies set forth above.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

The Board of Trustees of the Fund (the "Board") is responsible for the overall management and supervision of the affairs of the Fund. The Board members and officers of the Fund are listed below. Except as indicated, each individual has held the office shown or other offices in the same company for the last five years. The "noninterested Trustees" consist of those Trustees who are not "interested persons" of the Fund, as that term is defined under the 1940 Act. The business address of each Board member and officer is Two International Place, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. As used in this SAI, "EVC" refers to Eaton Vance Corp., "EV" refers to Eaton Vance, Inc., "BMR" refers to Boston Management and Research and "EVD" refers to Eaton Vance Distributors Inc. EVC and EV are the corporate parent and trustee, respectively, of Eaton Vance and BMR. EVD is a wholly-owned subsidiary of EVC. Each officer affiliated with Eaton Vance may hold a position with other Eaton Vance affiliates that is comparable to his or her position with Eaton Vance listed below.

Name and Year of Birth	Fund Position(s) ⁽¹⁾	Length of Service	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years and Other Relevant Experience	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships Held During Last Five Years ⁽³⁾
Interested Trustee					
THOMAS E. FAUST JR. 1958	Class I Trustee	Until 2019. 3 years. Since 2007.	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. Trustee and/or officer of 175 registered investment companies. Mr. Faust is an interested person because of his positions with BMR, Eaton Vance, EVC, EVD and EV, which are affiliates of the Fund.	175	Director of EVC and Hexavest Inc. (investment management firm).
Noninterested Trustees					
MARK R. FETTING 1954	Class III Trustee	Until 2021. 3 years. Since 2016.	Private investor. Formerly held various positions at Legg Mason, Inc. (investment management firm) (2000-2012), including President, Chief Executive Officer, Director and Chairman (2008-2012), Senior Executive Vice President (2004-2008) and Executive Vice President (2001-2004). Formerly, President of Legg Mason family of funds	175	None

(2001-2008). Formerly, Division President and Senior Officer of Prudential Financial Group, Inc. and related companies (investment management firm) (1991-2000).

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 9SAI dated [____], 2019

Name and Year of Birth	Fund Position(s) ⁽¹⁾	Length of Service	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years and Other Relevant Experience	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships Held During Last Five Years ⁽³⁾
CYNTHIA E. FROST 1961	Class I Trustee	Until 2019. 3 years. Since 2014.	Private investor. Formerly, Chief Investment Officer of Brown University (university endowment) (2000-2012). Formerly, Portfolio Strategist for Duke Management Company (university endowment manager) (1995-2000). Formerly, Managing Director, Cambridge Associates (investment consulting company) (1989-1995). Formerly, Consultant, Bain and Company (management consulting firm) (1987-1989). Formerly, Senior Equity Analyst, BA Investment Management Company (1983-1985).	175	None
GEORGE J. GORMAN 1952	Class II Trustee	Until 2020. 3 years. Since 2014.	Principal at George J. Gorman LLC (consulting firm). Formerly, Senior Partner at Ernst & Young LLP (a registered public accounting firm) (1974-2009).	175	Formerly, Trustee of the BofA Funds Series Trust (11 funds) (2011-2014) and of the Ashmore Funds (9 funds) (2010-2014). Director of Investnet, Inc. (provider of intelligent systems for wealth management and financial wellness) (since 2018). Director of Dynex Capital, Inc. (mortgage REIT) (since 2013).
VALERIE A. MOSLEY 1960	Class III Trustee	Until 2021. 3 years. Since 2014.	Chairwoman and Chief Executive Officer of Valmo Ventures (a consulting and investment firm). Former Partner and Senior Vice President, Portfolio Manager and Investment Strategist at Wellington Management Company, LLP (investment management firm) (1992-2012). Former Chief Investment Officer, PG Corbin Asset Management (1990-1992). Formerly worked in institutional corporate bond sales at Kidder Peabody (1986-1990).	175	Formerly, Trustee of the BofA Funds Series Trust (11 funds) (2011-2014) and of the Ashmore Funds (9 funds) (2010-2014). Director of Investnet, Inc. (provider of intelligent systems for wealth management and financial wellness) (since 2018). Director of Dynex Capital, Inc. (mortgage REIT) (since 2013).
WILLIAM H. PARK 1947	Chairperson of the Board and Class II Trustee	Until 2020. 3 years. Chairperson of the Board	Private investor. Formerly, Consultant (management and transactional) (2012-2014). Formerly, Chief Financial Officer, Aveon Group, L.P. (investment	175	None

since 2016 and Trustee since 2003. management firm) (2010-2011). Formerly, Vice Chairman, Commercial Industrial Finance Corp. (specialty finance company) (2006-2010). Formerly, President and Chief Executive Officer, Prizm Capital Management, LLC (investment management firm) (2002-2005). Formerly, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, United Asset Management Corporation (investment management firm) (1982-2001). Formerly, Senior Manager, Price Waterhouse (now PricewaterhouseCoopers) (a registered public accounting firm) (1972-1981).

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 10SAI dated [____], 2019

Name and Year of Birth	Fund Position(s) ⁽¹⁾	Length of Service	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years and Other Relevant Experience	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships Held During Last Five Years ⁽³⁾
HELEN FRAME PETERS 1948	Class III Trustee	Until 2021. 3 years. Since 2008.	Professor of Finance, Carroll School of Management, Boston College. Formerly, Dean, Carroll School of Management, Boston College (2000-2002). Formerly, Chief Investment Officer, Fixed Income, Scudder Kemper Investments (investment management firm) (1998-1999). Formerly, Chief Investment Officer, Equity and Fixed Income, Colonial Management Associates (investment management firm) (1991-1998). Independent Investment Committee Member at New Hampshire Retirement System (since 2017). Advisory Committee member at Northfield Information Services, Inc. (risk management analytics provider) (since 2016). Formerly, Portfolio Manager and Senior Quantitative Analyst at Fidelity Investments (investment management firm) (2001-2014).	175	None
KEITH QUINTON 1958	Class II Trustee	Until 2020. 2 years. Since 2018.	Member of Posse Boston Advisory Board (foundation) (since 2015); Trustee at University of Mount Union (since 2008). Formerly, Portfolio Manager at MFS Investment Management (investment management firm) (1994-2017).	175	Director of New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank (since 2016).
MARCUS L. SMITH 1966	Class III Trustee	Until 2021. 3 years. Since 2018.	Member of Posse Boston Advisory Board (foundation) (since 2015); Trustee at University of Mount Union (since 2008). Formerly, Portfolio Manager at MFS Investment Management (investment management firm) (1994-2017).	175	Director of MSCI Inc. (global provider of investment decision support tools) (since 2017). Director of DCT Industrial Trust Inc. (logistics real estate company) (since 2017).
SUSAN J. SUTHERLAND 1957	Class II Trustee	Until 2020. 3 years. Since 2015.	Private investor. Formerly, Associate, Counsel and Partner at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP (law firm) (1982-2013).	175	Formerly, Director of Montpelier Re Holdings Ltd. (global provider of customized insurance and reinsurance)

products)
(2013-2015).

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 11 SAI dated [____], 2019

Name and Year of Birth	Fund Position(s) ⁽¹⁾	Length of Service	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years and Other Relevant Experience	Number of Portfolios in Fund Complex Overseen By Trustee ⁽²⁾	Other Directorships Held During Last Five Years ⁽³⁾
SCOTT E. WENNERHOLM 1959	Class I Trustee	Until 2019. 3 years. Since 2016.	Formerly, Trustee at Wheelock College (postsecondary institution) (2012-2018). Formerly, Consultant at GF Parish Group (executive recruiting firm) (2016-2017). Formerly, Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President at BNY Mellon Asset Management (investment management firm) (2005-2011). Formerly, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Natixis Global Asset Management (investment management firm) (1997-2004). Formerly, Vice President at Fidelity Investments Institutional Services (investment management firm) (1994-1997).	175	None

⁽¹⁾ The Board of Trustees is divided into three classes, each class having a term of three years to expire on the date of the third annual meeting following its election.

⁽²⁾ Includes both master and feeder funds in a master-feeder structure.

During their respective tenures, the Trustees (except for Mmes. Frost and Sutherland and Messrs. Fetting, Gorman, Quinton, Smith and Wennerholm) also served as Board members of one or more of the following funds (which operated in the years noted): eUnits™ 2 Year U.S. Market Participation Trust: Upside to Cap/Buffered Downside ⁽³⁾(launched in 2012 and terminated in 2014); and eUnits™ 2 Year U.S. Market Participation Trust II: Upside to Cap/Buffered Downside (launched in 2012 and terminated in 2014). However, Ms. Mosley did not serve as a Board member of eUnits™ 2 Year U.S. Market Participation Trust: Upside to Cap/Buffered Downside (launched in 2012 and terminated in 2014).

Principal Officers who are not Trustees

Name and Year of Birth	Fund Position(s)	Length of Service	Principal Occupation(s) During Past Five Years
EDWARD J. PERKIN 1972	President	Since 2017	Chief Equity Investment Officer and Vice President of Eaton Vance and BMR since 2014. Formerly, Chief Investment Officer, International and Emerging Markets Equity, and Managing Director, Portfolio Manager, Europe, EAFE and Global at Goldman Sachs Asset Management (2002-2014). Officer of 27 registered investment companies managed by Eaton Vance or BMR.
MAUREEN A. GEMMA 1960	Vice President, Secretary and Chief Legal Officer	Vice President since 2011, Secretary since 2007 and Chief Legal Officer	Vice President of Eaton Vance and BMR. Officer of 175 registered investment companies managed by Eaton Vance or BMR. Also Vice President of CRM and officer of 39 registered investment companies advised or administered by CRM since 2016.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

		since 2008	
JAMES F. KIRCHNER 1967	Treasurer	Since 2013	Vice President of Eaton Vance and BMR. Officer of 175 registered investment companies managed by Eaton Vance or BMR. Also Vice President of CRM and officer of 39 registered investment companies advised or administered by CRM since 2016.
RICHARD F. FROIO 1968	Chief Compliance Officer	Since 2017	Vice President of Eaton Vance and BMR since 2017. Officer of 175 registered investment companies managed by Eaton Vance or BMR. Formerly, Deputy Chief Compliance Officer (Adviser/Funds) and Chief Compliance Officer (Distribution) at PIMCO (2012-2017) and Managing Director at BlackRock/Barclays Global Investors (2009-2012).

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 12SAI dated [____], 2019

The Board 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(s) (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 eleven Trustees, including ten 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 six 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 six committees to assist the Board in performing its oversight responsibilities.

The Board has appointed a noninterested Trustee to serve in the role of Chairperson. The Chairperson’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 Chairperson also presides at all meetings of the Board and acts as a liaison with service providers, officers, attorneys, and other Board members generally between meetings. The Chairperson may perform such other functions as may be requested by the Board from time to time. In addition, the Board may appoint a noninterested Trustee to serve in the role of Vice-Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson has the power and authority to perform any or all of the duties and responsibilities of the Chairperson in the absence of the Chairperson and/or as requested by the Chairperson. Except for any duties specified herein or pursuant to the Fund’s Declaration of Trust or By-laws, the designation of Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson 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 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 or should be mitigated. The Board also interacts with the CCO and with senior personnel of the adviser, administrator, 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, administrator, principal underwriter and the other Fund service providers has its own, independent interest 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, the investment adviser and the sub-adviser (if applicable) are responsible for the implementation and day-to-day administration of these valuation policies and procedures and provides reports to the Audit Committee of the Board and the Board regarding these and related matters. In addition, the Audit Committee of the Board or 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.

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 members' existing mix of skills, core competencies and qualifications; (vi) perceived ability to contribute to the ongoing functions of the Board, including the ability and commitment to attend meetings regularly and work collaboratively with other members of the Board; (vii) the ability to qualify as a noninterested

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 13SAI dated [____], 2019

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.

Among the attributes or skills common to all Board members are their ability to review critically, evaluate, question and discuss information provided to them, to interact effectively with the other members of the Board, 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 members of the Board. Each Board member's ability to perform his or her duties effectively has been attained through the Board member's business, consulting, public service and/or academic positions and through experience from service as a member of the Boards of the Eaton Vance family of funds ("Eaton Vance Fund Boards") (and/or in other capacities, including for any predecessor funds), public companies, or non-profit entities or other organizations as set forth below. Each Board member'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 member of the Board, the individual's substantial professional accomplishments and experience, including in fields related to the operations of registered investment companies, were a significant factor in the determination that the individual should serve as a member of the Board. The following is a summary of each Board member's particular professional experience and additional considerations that contributed to the Board's conclusion that he or she should serve as a member of the Board:

Thomas E. Faust Jr. Mr. Faust has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards 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 and of SigFig Wealth Management LLC since 2016. Mr. Faust previously served as an equity analyst, portfolio manager, Director of Equity Research and Management and Chief Investment Officer of Eaton Vance from 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.

Mark R. Fetting. Mr. Fetting has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2016. He has over 30 years of experience in the investment management industry as an executive and in various leadership roles. From 2000 through 2012, Mr. Fetting served in several capacities at Legg Mason, Inc., including most recently serving as President, Chief Executive Officer, Director and Chairman from 2008 to his retirement in 2012. He also served as a Director/Trustee and Chairman of the Legg Mason family of funds from 2008-2012 and Director/Trustee of the Royce family of funds from 2001-2012. From 2001 through 2008, Mr. Fetting also served as President of the Legg Mason family of funds. From 1991 through 2000, Mr. Fetting served as Division President and Senior Officer of Prudential Financial Group, Inc. and related companies. Early in his professional career, Mr. Fetting was a Vice President at T. Rowe Price and served in leadership roles within the firm's mutual fund division from 1981-1987.

Cynthia E. Frost. Ms. Frost has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2014 and is the Chairperson of the Portfolio Management Committee. From 2000 through 2012, Ms. Frost was the Chief Investment Officer of Brown University, where she oversaw the evaluation, selection and monitoring of the third party investment managers who managed the university's endowment. From 1995 through 2000, Ms. Frost was a Portfolio Strategist for Duke Management Company, which oversaw Duke University's endowment. Ms. Frost also served in various investment and consulting roles at Cambridge Associates from 1989-1995, Bain and Company from 1987-1989 and BA Investment Management Company from 1983-1985. She serves as a member of the investment committee of the MCNC Endowment.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

George J. Gorman. Mr. Gorman has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2014 and is the Chairperson of the Audit Committee. From 1974 through 2009, Mr. Gorman served in various capacities at Ernst & Young LLP, including as a Senior Partner in the Asset Management Group (from 1988) specializing in managing engagement teams responsible for auditing mutual funds registered with the SEC, hedge funds and private equity funds. Mr. Gorman also has experience serving as an independent trustee of other mutual fund complexes, including the Bank of America Money Market Funds Series Trust from 2011-2014 and the Ashmore Funds from 2010-2014.

Valerie A. Mosley. Ms. Mosley has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2014 and is the Chairperson of the Governance Committee and of the Ad Hoc Committee for Closed-End Fund Matters. She currently owns and manages a consulting and investment firm, Valmo Ventures and is a Director of Progress Investment Management Company, a manager of emerging managers. From 1992 through 2012, Ms. Mosley served in several capacities at Wellington Management Company, LLP, an investment management firm, including as a Partner, Senior Vice President, Portfolio Manager and Investment Strategist. Ms. Mosley also served as Chief Investment Officer at PG Corbin Asset Management from 1990-1992 and worked in institutional corporate bond sales at Kidder Peabody from 1986-1990. Ms. Mosley is a Director of Dynex Capital, Inc., a mortgage REIT, where she serves on the board's audit and investment committees, and a Director of Envestnet, Inc., a provider of intelligent systems for wealth management and

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 14SAI dated [____], 2019

financial wellness. She also serves as a trustee or board member of several major non-profit organizations and endowments, including New Profit, a non-profit venture philanthropy fund. She is a member of the Risk Audit Committee of the United Auto Workers Retiree Medical Benefits Trust and a member of the Investment Advisory Committee of New York State Common Retirement Fund. She is also an advisor to New Technology Ventures, a venture capital firm.

William H. Park. Mr. Park has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2003 and is the Independent Chairperson of the Board. Mr. Park was formerly a consultant from 2012-2014 and 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.

Helen Frame Peters. Dr. Peters has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2008. Dr. Peters 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. Dr. Peters was previously a Director of BJ's Wholesale Club, Inc. from 2004-2011. In addition, Dr. 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. Dr. 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.

Keith Quinton. Mr. Quinton has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since October 1, 2018. He had over thirty years of experience in the investment industry before retiring from Fidelity Investments in 2014. Prior to joining Fidelity, Mr. Quinton was a vice president and quantitative analyst at MFS Investment Management from 2000-2001. From 1997 through 2000, he was a senior quantitative analyst at Santander Global Advisors and, from 1995 through 1997, Mr. Quinton was senior vice president in the quantitative equity research department at Putnam Investments. Prior to joining Putnam Investments, Mr. Quinton served in various investment roles at Eberstadt Fleming, Falconwood Securities Corporation and Drexel Burnham Lambert, where he began his career in the investment industry as a senior quantitative analyst in 1983. Mr. Quinton currently serves as an Independent Investment Committee Member of the New Hampshire Retirement System, a five member committee that manages investments based on the investment policy and asset allocation approved by the board of trustees, and as a Director of the New Hampshire Municipal Bond Bank.

Marcus L. Smith. Mr. Smith has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since October 1, 2018. Since 2017, Mr. Smith has been a Director of MSCI Inc., a leading provider of investment decision support tools worldwide, where he serves on the Audit Committee, and a Director of DCT Industrial Trust Inc., a leading logistics real estate company, where he is a member of the Nominating and Corporate Governance and Audit Committees. From 1994 through 2017, Mr. Smith served in several capacities at MFS Investment Management, an investment management firm, where he managed the MFS Institutional International Fund for 17 years and the MFS Concentrated International Fund for 10 years. In addition to his portfolio management duties, Mr. Smith served as Director of Equity, Canada from 2012-2017, Director of Equity, Asia from 2010-2012, and Director of Asian Equity Research from 2005-2010. Prior to joining MFS, Mr. Smith was a senior consultant at Andersen Consulting (now known as Accenture) from 1988-1992. Mr. Smith served as a United States Army Reserve Officer from 1987-1992. He has also been a trustee of the University of Mount Union since 2008 and has served as the chairman of the finance committee since 2015. Mr. Smith currently sits on the Boston advisory board of the Posse Foundation.

Susan J. Sutherland. Ms. Sutherland has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2015 and is the Chairperson of the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee. She is also a Director of Ascot Group Limited which, through its related businesses including Syndicate 1414 at Lloyd's of London, is a leading global

underwriter of specialty property and casualty insurance and reinsurance. Ms. Sutherland was a Director of Montpelier Re Holdings Ltd., a global provider of customized reinsurance and insurance products, from 2013 until its sale in 2015 and of Hagerty Holding Corp., a leading provider of specialized automobile and marine insurance from 2015-2018. From 1982 through 2013, Ms. Sutherland was an associate, counsel and then a partner in the Financial Institutions Group of Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP, where she primarily represented U.S. and international insurance and reinsurance companies, investment banks and private equity firms in insurance-related corporate transactions. In addition, Ms. Sutherland is qualified as a Governance Fellow of the National Association of Corporate Directors and has also served as a board member of prominent non-profit organizations.

Scott E. Wennerholm. Mr. Wennerholm has served as a member of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards since 2016 and is the Chairperson of the Contract Review Committee. He has over 30 years of experience in the financial services industry in various leadership and executive roles. Mr. Wennerholm served as Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President at BNY Mellon Asset Management from 2005-2011. He also served as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer at Natixis Global Asset Management from 1997-2004 and was a Vice President at Fidelity Investments Institutional Services from 1994-1997. In addition, Mr. Wennerholm served as a Trustee at Wheelock College, a postsecondary institution from 2012-2018.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 15SAI dated [____], 2019

The Board(s) of the Fund has several standing Committees, including the Governance Committee, the Audit Committee, the Portfolio Management Committee, the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee, the Contract Review Committee and the Ad Hoc Committee for Closed-End Fund Matters. Each of the Committees are comprised of only noninterested Trustees.

Mmes. Mosley (Chairperson), Frost, Peters and Sutherland, and Messrs. Fetting, Gorman, Park, Quinton, Smith and Wennerholm are members of the Governance Committee. The purpose of the Governance Committee is to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board with respect to the structure, membership and operation of the Board and the Committees thereof, including the nomination and selection of noninterested Trustees and a Chairperson of the Board and the compensation of such persons. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Governance Committee convened seven times.

The Governance Committee will, when a vacancy exists, consider a nominee for Trustee recommended by a shareholder, provided that such recommendation is submitted in writing to the Fund's Secretary at the principal executive office of the Fund. Such recommendations must be accompanied by biographical and occupational data on the candidate (including whether the candidate would be an "interested person" of the Fund), a written consent by the candidate to be named as a nominee and to serve as Trustee if elected, record and ownership information for the recommending shareholder with respect to the Fund, and a description of any arrangements or understandings regarding recommendation of the candidate for consideration.

Messrs. Gorman (Chairperson), Park and Wennerholm and Ms. Mosley are members of the Audit Committee. The Board has designated Messrs. Gorman and Park, each a noninterested Trustee, as audit committee financial experts. The Audit Committee's purposes 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 registered public accounting firm, and, if applicable, nominate the independent registered public accounting firm to be proposed for shareholder ratification in any proxy statement of the Fund; (v) evaluate the qualifications, independence and performance of the independent registered public accounting firm and the audit partner in charge of leading the audit; and (vi) prepare, as necessary, audit committee reports consistent with the requirements of applicable SEC and stock exchange rules for inclusion in the proxy statement of the Fund. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Audit Committee convened fourteen times.

Messrs. Wennerholm (Chairperson), Fetting, Gorman, Park, Quinton and Smith, and Mmes. Frost, Mosley, Peters and Sutherland are members of the Contract Review Committee. The purposes of the Contract Review Committee are to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board 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 and administrative services; (ii) any and all other matters in which any service provider (including Eaton Vance or any affiliated entity thereof) has an actual or potential conflict of interest with the interests of the Fund; and (iii) any other matter appropriate for review by the noninterested Trustees, unless the matter is within the responsibilities of the other Committees of the Board. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Contract Review Committee convened seven times.

Mmes. Frost (Chairperson), Mosley and Peters and Messrs. Fetting and Smith are members of the Portfolio Management Committee. The purposes of the Portfolio Management Committee are to: (i) assist the Board 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 in its oversight of the trading policies and procedures and risk management techniques applicable to the Fund; and (iii) assist the Board

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

in its monitoring of the performance results of all funds and portfolios, giving special attention to the performance of certain funds and portfolios that it or the Board identifies from time to time. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Portfolio Management Committee convened seven times.

Ms. Sutherland (Chairperson) and Messrs. Gorman, Quinton and Wennerholm are 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 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 and the Fund's CCO; and (iii) serve as a "qualified legal compliance committee" within the rules promulgated by the SEC. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Compliance Reports and Regulatory Matters Committee convened nine times.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 16SAI dated [____], 2019

Ms. Mosley (Chairperson) and Messrs. Gorman and Park are members of the Ad Hoc Committee for Closed-End Fund Matters. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee for Closed-End Fund Matters is to consider, evaluate and make recommendations to the Board with respect to issues specifically related to Eaton Vance Closed-End Funds. During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Ad Hoc Committee for Closed-End Fund Matters did not meet.

Share Ownership. The following table shows the dollar range of equity securities beneficially owned by each Trustee in the Fund and in the Eaton Vance family of funds overseen by the Trustee as of December 31, 2018.

Name of Trustee	Dollar Range of Equity Securities Beneficially Owned in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities Beneficially Owned in Funds Overseen by Trustee in the Eaton Vance Family of Funds
Interested Trustee		
Thomas E. Faust Jr.	None	Over \$100,000
Noninterested Trustees		
Mark R. Fetting	None	Over \$100,000
Cynthia E. Frost	None	Over \$100,000
George J. Gorman	None	Over \$100,000
Valerie A. Mosley	None	Over \$100,000
William H. Park	None	Over \$100,000
Helen Frame Peters	None	Over \$100,000
Keith Quinton ⁽¹⁾	None	Over \$100,000
Marcus L. Smith ⁽¹⁾	None	Over \$100,000
Susan J. Sutherland	None	Over \$100,000 ⁽²⁾
Scott E. Wennerholm	None	Over \$100,000 ⁽²⁾

⁽¹⁾ Messrs. Quinton and Smith began serving as Trustees effective October 1, 2018.

⁽²⁾ Includes shares which may be deemed to be beneficially owned through the Trustee Deferred Compensation Plan.

As of December 31, 2018, no noninterested Trustee or any of their immediate family members owned beneficially or of record any class of securities of EVC, EVD, any sub-adviser, if applicable, or any person controlling, controlled by or under common control with EVC or EVD or any sub-adviser, if applicable, collectively (“Affiliated Entity”).

During the calendar years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018, no noninterested Trustee (or their immediate family members) had:

- (1) Any direct or indirect interest in any Affiliated Entity;
- Any direct or indirect material interest in any transaction or series of similar transactions with (i) the Fund; (ii) another fund managed or distributed by any Affiliated Entity; (iii) any Affiliated Entity; or (iv) an officer of any of the above; or
- (3) Any direct or indirect relationship with (i) the Fund; (ii) another fund managed or distributed by any Affiliated Entity; (iii) any Affiliated Entity; or (iv) an officer of any of the above.

During the calendar years ended December 31, 2017 and December 31, 2018, no officer of any Affiliated Entity served on the Board of Directors of a company where a noninterested Trustee of the Fund or any of their immediate family members served as an officer.

Noninterested Trustees 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 “Deferred Compensation Plan”). Under the Deferred Compensation Plan, an eligible Board member may elect to have his or her deferred fees invested in the shares of one or more funds in the Eaton Vance family of funds, and the amount paid to the Board members under the Deferred Compensation Plan will be determined based upon the performance of such investments. Deferral of Board members’ fees in accordance with the Deferred Compensation Plan will have a negligible effect on the assets, liabilities, and net income of a participating fund or portfolio, and do not require that a participating Board member be retained. There is no retirement plan for Board members.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 17SAI dated [____], 2019

The fees and expenses of the Trustees of the Fund are paid by the Fund. (A Board member who is a member of the Eaton Vance organization receives no compensation from the Fund.) During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Trustees of the Fund earned the following compensation in their capacities as Board members from the Fund. For the year ended December 31, 2018, the Board members earned the following compensation in their capacities as members of the Eaton Vance Fund Boards⁽¹⁾:

Source of Compensation Fund	Mark R. Fetting	Cynthia E. Frost	George J. Gorman	Valerie A. Mosley	William H. Park	Helen Frame Peters	Keith Quinton	Marcus L. Smith	Susan J. Sutherland	Scott E. Wennerholm
Fund	\$7,961	\$8,508	\$8,690	\$8,432 ⁽²⁾	\$10,999	\$8,143	\$7,961	\$7,961	\$8,690 ⁽³⁾	\$8,690 ⁽⁴⁾
Fund and Fund Complex ⁽¹⁾	\$327,500	\$350,000	\$357,500	\$346,875 ⁽⁵⁾	\$452,500	\$335,000	\$327,500	\$327,500	\$357,500 ⁽⁶⁾	\$357,500 ⁽⁷⁾

As of [____], 2019, the Eaton Vance fund complex consists of [175] registered investment companies or series thereof. Messrs. Quinton and Smith began serving as Trustees effective October 1, 2018, and thus the compensation figures listed for the Fund and Fund and Fund Complex are estimated based on amounts each would have received ⁽¹⁾if they had been Trustees for the full fiscal year ended October 31, 2018 and for the full calendar year ended December 31, 2018. Harriett Tee Taggart retired as a Trustee effective December 31, 2018. For the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, Ms. Taggart received \$8,219 from the Fund. For the calendar year ended December 31, 2018, she received \$338,125 from the Fund and Fund Complex.

- (2) Includes \$593 of deferred compensation.
- (3) Includes \$8,690 of deferred compensation.
- (4) Includes \$2,468 of deferred compensation.
- (5) Includes \$24,000 of deferred compensation.
- (6) Includes \$352,119 of deferred compensation.
- (7) Includes \$100,000 of deferred compensation.

Proxy Voting Policy. The Board adopted a proxy voting policy and procedures (the “Fund Policy”), pursuant to which the Board has delegated proxy voting responsibility to the Adviser and adopted the Adviser’s proxy voting policies and procedures (the “Adviser Policies”). An independent proxy voting service has been retained to assist in the voting of Fund proxies through the provision of vote analysis, implementation and recordkeeping and disclosure services. The members of the Board will review the Fund’s proxy voting records from time to time and will annually consider approving the Adviser Policies for the upcoming year. For a copy of the Fund Policy and the Adviser Policies, see Appendix B. Pursuant to certain provisions of the 1940 Act and certain exemptive orders relating to funds investing in other funds, a Fund may be required or may elect to vote its interest in another fund in the same proportion as the holders of all other shares of that fund. Information on how the Fund voted proxies relating to portfolio securities during the most recent 12-month period ended June 30 is available (1) without charge, upon request, by calling 1-800-262-1122, and (2) on the SEC’s website at <http://www.sec.gov>.

INVESTMENT ADVISORY AND OTHER SERVICES

The Adviser. Eaton Vance, its affiliates and its predecessor companies have been managing assets of individuals and institutions since 1924 and of investment companies since 1931. They maintain a large staff of experienced fixed-income, senior loan and equity investment professionals to service the needs of their clients. The equity group covers stocks ranging from blue chip to emerging growth companies. The fixed-income group focuses on all kinds of taxable investment-grade and high-yield securities, tax-exempt investment-grade and high-yield securities, and U.S. government securities. The senior loan group focuses on senior floating rate loans, unsecured loans and other floating rate debt securities such as notes, bonds and asset backed securities. Eaton Vance and its affiliates act as adviser to a family of mutual funds, and individual and various institutional accounts, including corporations, hospitals, retirement plans, universities, foundations and trusts.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

The Fund is responsible for all of its costs and expenses not expressly stated to be payable by Eaton Vance under the Investment Advisory Agreement (the “Advisory Agreement”) or the Amended and Restated Administrative Services Agreement (the “Administration Agreement”). Such costs and expenses to be borne by the Fund include, without limitation (i) expenses of maintaining the Fund and continuing its existence; (ii) registration of the Fund under the Investment Company Act of 1940; (iii) commissions, spreads, fees and other expenses connected with the acquisition, holding and disposition of securities and other investments; (iv) auditing, accounting and legal expenses; (v) taxes and interest; (vi) governmental fees; (vii) expenses of listing shares of the Fund with a stock exchange, and expenses of issue, sale, repurchase and redemption (if any) of interests in the Fund, including expenses of conducting tender offers for the

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 18SAI dated [____], 2019

purpose of repurchasing Fund interests; (viii) expenses of registering and qualifying the Fund and its shares under federal and state securities laws and of preparing and filing registration statements and amendments for such purposes; (ix) expenses of reports and notices to shareholders and of meetings of shareholders and proxy solicitations therefore; (x) expenses of reports to governmental officers and commissions; (xi) insurance expenses; (xii) association membership dues; (xiii) fees, expenses and disbursements of custodians and subcustodians for all services to the Fund (including, without limitation, safekeeping of funds, securities and other investments, keeping of books, accounts and records, and determination of net asset values); (xiv) fees, expenses and disbursements of transfer agents, dividend disbursing agents, shareholder servicing agents and registrars for all services to the Fund; (xv) expenses for servicing shareholder accounts; (xvi) any direct charges to shareholders approved by the Trustees of the Fund; (xvii) compensation and expenses of Trustees of the Fund who are not members of the Adviser's organization; (xviii) pricing and valuation services employed by the Fund; (xix) all expenses incurred in connection with leveraging of Fund's assets through a line of credit, or issuing and maintaining preferred shares; and (xx) such non-recurring items as may arise, including expenses incurred in connection with litigation, proceedings and claims and the obligation of the Fund to indemnify its Trustees, officers and shareholders with respect thereto.

Pursuant to the Advisory Agreement and subsequent fee reduction agreement between the Adviser and the Fund, for the fiscal years ended October 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, the Fund incurred \$18,362,407, \$17,427,400 and \$16,975,898, respectively, in advisory fees. As of October 31, 2018, the Fund had gross assets of \$1,792,917,553.

The Advisory Agreement with the Adviser continues in effect indefinitely so long as such continuance is approved at least annually (i) by the vote of a majority of the noninterested Trustees of the Fund or of the Adviser, such vote being cast in person at a meeting specifically called for the purpose of voting on such approval and (ii) by the Board of Trustees of the Fund or by vote of a majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. The Fund's Administration Agreement continues in effect from year to year so long as such continuance is approved at least annually by the vote of a majority of the Fund's Trustees. Each agreement may be terminated at any time without penalty on sixty (60) days' written notice by the Trustees of the Fund or Eaton Vance, as applicable, or by vote of the majority of the outstanding shares of the Fund. Each agreement will terminate automatically in the event of its assignment. Each agreement provides that, in the absence of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence or reckless disregard of its obligations or duties to the Fund under such agreements on the part of Eaton Vance, Eaton Vance shall not be liable to the Fund for any loss incurred, to the extent not covered by insurance.

Information About Eaton Vance. Eaton Vance is a business trust organized under the laws of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts. EV serves as trustee of Eaton Vance. EV and Eaton Vance are wholly-owned subsidiaries of EVC, a Maryland corporation and publicly-held holding company. BMR is an indirect subsidiary of EVC. EVC through its subsidiaries and affiliates engages primarily in investment management, administration and marketing activities. The Directors of EVC are Thomas E. Faust Jr., Ann E. Berman, Leo I. Higdon, Jr., Paula A. Johnson, Brian D. Langstraat, Dorothy E. Puhly, Winthrop H. Smith, Jr. and Richard A. Spillane, Jr. All shares of the outstanding Voting Common Stock of EVC are deposited in a Voting Trust, the Voting Trustees of which are Mr. Faust, Craig R. Brandon, Daniel C. Cataldo, Michael A. Cirami, Cynthia J. Clemson, James H. Evans, Maureen A. Gemma, Laurie G. Hylton, Mr. Langstraat, Frederick S. Marius, David C. McCabe, Scott H. Page, Edward J. Perkin, Lewis R. Piantedosi, Charles B. Reed, Craig P. Russ, John L. Shea, Eric A. Stein, Payson F. Swaffield, Michael W. Weilheimer, R. Kelly Williams and Matthew J. Witkos (all of whom are officers of Eaton Vance or its affiliates). The Voting Trustees have unrestricted voting rights for the election of Directors of EVC. All of the outstanding voting trust receipts issued under said Voting Trust are owned by certain of the officers of Eaton Vance who may also be officers, or officers and Directors of EVC and EV. As indicated under "Management and Organization," all of the officers of the Fund (as well as Mr. Faust who is also a Trustee) hold positions in the Eaton Vance organization.

Code of Ethics. The Adviser and the Fund have adopted Codes of Ethics (the "Codes") governing personal securities transactions pursuant to Rule 17j-1 under the 1940 Act. Under the Codes, employees of the Adviser may purchase and sell securities (including securities held or eligible for purchase by the Fund) subject to the provisions of the Codes

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

and certain employees are also subject to pre-clearance, reporting requirements and/or other procedures.

The Codes can be reviewed and copied at the Securities and Exchange Commission's public reference room in Washington, DC (call 1-202-551-8090 for information on the operation of the public reference room); on the EDGAR Database on the SEC's Internet site (<http://www.sec.gov>); or, upon payment of copying fees, by writing the SEC's public reference section, Washington, DC 20549-1520, or by electronic mail at publicinfo@sec.gov.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 19SAI dated [____], 2019

Portfolio Manager. The portfolio manager of the Fund is listed below. The following table shows, as of the Fund's most recent fiscal year end, the number of accounts the portfolio manager managed in each of the listed categories and the total assets (in millions of dollars) in the accounts managed within each category. The table also shows the number of accounts with respect to which the advisory fee is based on the performance of the account, if any, and the total assets (in millions of dollars) in those accounts.

	Number of All Accounts	Total Assets of All Accounts	Number of Accounts Paying a Performance Fee	Total Assets of Accounts Paying a Performance Fee
Michael A. Allison Registered Investment Companies	16	\$29,333.2	0	\$0
Other Pooled Investment Vehicles	14	\$19,890.7 ⁽¹⁾	0	\$0
Other Accounts	10	\$13.6	0	\$0

The following table shows the dollar range of shares of the Fund beneficially owned by the portfolio manager as of the Fund's most recent fiscal year ended October 31, 2018 and in the Eaton Vance Family of Funds as of December 31, 2018.

Portfolio Manager	Dollar Range of Equity Securities Beneficially Owned in the Fund	Aggregate Dollar Range of Equity Securities Beneficially Owned in all Registered Funds in the Eaton Vance Family of Funds
Michael A. Allison	\$50,001 - \$100,000	\$500,001 - \$1,000,000

It is possible that conflicts of interest may arise in connection with a portfolio manager's management of the Fund's investments on the one hand and the investments of other accounts for which a portfolio manager is responsible on the other. For example, a portfolio manager may have conflicts of interest in allocating management time, resources and investment opportunities among the Fund and other accounts he advises. In addition, due to differences in the investment strategies or restrictions between the Fund and the other accounts, the portfolio manager may take action with respect to another account that differs from the action taken with respect to the Fund. In some cases, another account managed by a portfolio manager may compensate the investment adviser based on the performance of the securities held by that account. The existence of such a performance based fee may create additional conflicts of interest for the portfolio manager in the allocation of management time, resources and investment opportunities. Whenever conflicts of interest arise, the portfolio manager will endeavor to exercise his discretion in a manner that he believes is equitable to all interested persons. The Adviser has adopted several policies and procedures designed to address these potential conflicts including a code of ethics and policies that govern the investment adviser's trading practices, including among other things the aggregation and allocation of trades among clients, brokerage allocations, cross trades and best execution.

Compensation Structure for Eaton Vance. Compensation of the Adviser's portfolio managers and other investment professionals has the following primary components: (1) a base salary, (2) an annual cash bonus, (3) annual non-cash compensation consisting of options to purchase shares of EVC nonvoting common stock and/or restricted shares of EVC nonvoting common stock that generally are subject to a vesting schedule and (4) (for equity portfolio managers) a Deferred Alpha Incentive Plan, which pays a deferred cash award tied to future excess returns in certain equity

strategy portfolios. The Adviser's investment professionals also receive certain retirement, insurance and other benefits that are broadly available to the Adviser's employees. Compensation of the Adviser's investment professionals is reviewed primarily on an annual basis. Cash bonuses, stock-based compensation awards, and adjustments in base salary are typically paid or put into effect at or shortly after the October 31st fiscal year end of EVC.

Method to Determine Compensation. The Adviser compensates its portfolio managers based primarily on the scale and complexity of their portfolio responsibilities and the total return performance of managed funds and accounts versus the benchmark(s) stated in the prospectus, as well as an appropriate peer group (as described below). In addition to rankings within peer groups of funds on the basis of absolute performance, consideration may also be given to relative risk-adjusted performance. Risk-adjusted performance measures include, but are not limited to, the Sharpe ratio (Sharpe ratio uses standard deviation and excess return to determine reward per unit of risk). Performance is normally based on periods ending on the September 30th preceding fiscal year end. Fund performance is normally evaluated primarily versus peer groups of funds as determined by Lipper Inc. and/or Morningstar, Inc. When a fund's peer group as determined by Lipper or Morningstar is deemed by the Adviser's management not to provide a fair comparison, performance may instead be evaluated primarily against a custom peer group or market index. In evaluating the performance of a fund and its manager, primary emphasis is normally placed on three-year performance, with secondary consideration of performance over longer and shorter periods. For funds that are tax-managed or otherwise have an objective of after-tax returns, performance is measured net of taxes. For other funds, performance is evaluated on a pre-

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 20SAI dated [____], 2019

tax basis. For funds with an investment objective other than total return (such as current income), consideration will also be given to the fund's success in achieving its objective. For managers responsible for multiple funds and accounts, investment performance is evaluated on an aggregate basis, based on averages or weighted averages among managed funds and accounts. Funds and accounts that have performance-based advisory fees are not accorded disproportionate weightings in measuring aggregate portfolio manager performance. A portion of the compensation payable to equity portfolio managers and investment professionals will be determined based on the ability of one or more accounts managed by such manager to achieve a specified target average annual gross return over a three year period in excess of the account benchmark. The cash award to be payable at the end of the three year term will be established at the inception of the term and will be adjusted positively or negatively to the extent that the average annual gross return varies from the specified target return.

The compensation of portfolio managers with other job responsibilities (such as heading an investment group or providing analytical support to other portfolios) will include consideration of the scope of such responsibilities and the managers' performance in meeting them.

The Adviser seeks to compensate portfolio managers commensurate with their responsibilities and performance, and competitive with other firms within the investment management industry. The Adviser participates in investment-industry compensation surveys and utilizes survey data as a factor in determining salary, bonus and stock-based compensation levels for portfolio managers and other investment professionals. Salaries, bonuses and stock-based compensation are also influenced by the operating performance of the Adviser and its parent company. The overall annual cash bonus pool is generally based on a substantially fixed percentage of pre-bonus adjusted operating income. While the salaries of the Adviser's portfolio managers are comparatively fixed, cash bonuses and stock-based compensation may fluctuate significantly from year to year, based on changes in manager performance and other factors as described herein. For a high performing portfolio manager, cash bonuses and stock-based compensation may represent a substantial portion of total compensation.

Investment Advisory Services. Under the general supervision of the Fund's Board, Eaton Vance will carry out the investment and reinvestment of the assets of the Fund, will furnish continuously an investment program with respect to the Fund, will determine which securities should be purchased, sold or exchanged, and will implement such determinations. Eaton Vance will furnish to the Fund investment advice and provide related office facilities and personnel for servicing the investments of the Fund. Eaton Vance will compensate all Trustees and officers of the Fund who are members of the Eaton Vance organization and who render investment services to the Fund, and will also compensate all other Eaton Vance personnel who provide research and investment services to the Fund.

Commodity Futures Trading Commission Registration. Effective December 31, 2012, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission ("CFTC") adopted certain regulatory changes that subject registered investment companies and advisers to regulation by the CFTC if a fund invests more than a prescribed level of its assets in certain CFTC-regulated instruments (including futures, certain options and swaps agreements) or markets itself as providing investment exposure to such instruments. The Fund has claimed an exclusion from the definition of the term "commodity pool operator" under the Commodity Exchange Act. Accordingly, neither the Fund nor the Adviser with respect to the operation of the Fund is subject to CFTC regulation. Because of its management of other strategies, Eaton Vance is registered with the CFTC as a commodity pool operator. Eaton Vance is also registered as a commodity trading advisor. The CFTC has neither reviewed nor approved the Fund's investment strategies or this SAI.

Administrative Services. Under the Administration Agreement, Eaton Vance is responsible for managing the business affairs of the Fund, subject to the supervision of the Fund's Board. Eaton Vance will furnish to the Fund all office facilities, equipment and personnel for administering the affairs of the Fund. Eaton Vance will compensate all Trustees and officers of the Fund who are members of the Eaton Vance organization and who render executive and administrative services to the Fund, and will also compensate all other Eaton Vance personnel who perform

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

management and administrative services for the Fund. Eaton Vance's administrative services include recordkeeping, preparation and filing of documents required to comply with federal and state securities laws, supervising the activities of the Fund's custodian and transfer agent, providing assistance in connection with the Trustees and shareholders' meetings, providing services in connection with repurchase offers, if any, and other administrative services necessary to conduct the Fund's business.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 21 SAI dated [____], 2019

DETERMINATION OF NET ASSET VALUE

The net asset value of the Fund is determined by State Street Bank and Trust Company (as agent and custodian) by subtracting the liabilities of the Fund from the value of its total assets. The Fund is closed for business and will not issue a net asset value on the following business holidays and any other business day that the New York Stock Exchange (the "Exchange") is closed: New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day.

The Board has approved procedures pursuant to which investments are valued for purposes of determining the Fund's net asset value. Listed below is a summary of the methods generally used to value investments (some or all of which may be held by the Fund) under the procedures.

Equity securities (including common stock, exchange-traded funds, closed end funds, preferred equity securities, exchange-traded notes and other instruments that trade on recognized stock exchanges) are valued at the last sale, official close or if there are no reported sales at the mean between the bid and asked price on the primary exchange on which they are traded.

Most debt obligations are valued on the basis of market valuations furnished by a pricing service or at the mean of the bid and asked prices provided by recognized broker/dealers of such securities. The pricing service may use a pricing matrix to determine valuation.

Short-term instruments with remaining maturities of less than 397 days are valued on the basis of market valuations furnished by a pricing service or based on dealer quotations.

Foreign securities and currencies are valued in U.S. dollars based on foreign currency exchange quotations supplied by a pricing service.

Senior and Junior Loans are valued on the basis of prices furnished by a pricing service. The pricing service uses transactions and market quotations from brokers in determining values.

Futures contracts are valued at the settlement or closing price on the primary exchange or board of trade on which they are traded.

Exchange-traded options are valued at the mean of the bid and asked prices. Over-the-counter options are valued based on quotations obtained from a pricing service or from a broker (typically the counterparty to the option).

Non-exchange traded derivatives (including swap agreements, forward contracts and equity participation notes) are generally valued on the basis of valuations provided by a pricing service or using quotes provided by a broker/dealer (typically the counterparty).

Precious metals are valued at the New York Composite mean quotation.

Liabilities with a payment or maturity date of 364 days or less are stated at their principal value and longer dated liabilities generally will be carried at their fair value.

Valuations of foreign equity securities and total return swaps and exchange-traded futures contracts on non-North American equity indices may be adjusted from prices in effect at the close of trading on foreign exchanges to more accurately reflect their fair value as of the close of regular trading on the Exchange. Such fair valuations may be based on information provided by a pricing service.

Investments which are unable to be valued in accordance with the foregoing methodologies are valued at fair value using methods determined in good faith by or at the direction of the members of the Board. Such methods may include consideration of relevant factors, including but not limited to (i) the type of security, the existence of any contractual restrictions on the security's disposition, (ii) the price and extent of public trading in similar securities of the issuer or of comparable companies or entities, (iii) quotations or relevant information obtained from broker-dealers or other market participants, (iv) information obtained from the issuer, analysts, and/or the appropriate stock exchange (for exchange-traded securities), (v) an analysis of the company's or entity's financial condition, (vi) an evaluation of the forces that influence the issuer and the market(s) in which the security is purchased and sold (vii) an analysis of the terms of any transaction involving the issuer of such securities; and (viii) any other factors deemed relevant by the

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

investment adviser. The portfolio managers of one Eaton Vance fund that invests in Senior and Junior Loans may not possess the same information about a Senior or Junior Loan as the portfolio managers of another Eaton Vance fund. As such, at times the fair value of a Loan determined by certain Eaton Vance portfolio managers may vary from the fair value of the same Loan determined by other portfolio managers.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 22SAI dated [____], 2019

The Fund may invest in Eaton Vance Cash Reserves Fund, LLC (Cash Reserves Fund), an affiliated investment company managed by Eaton Vance. Cash Reserves Fund generally values its investment securities utilizing the amortized cost valuation technique in accordance with Rule 2a-7 under the 1940 Act. This technique involves initially valuing a portfolio security at its cost and thereafter assuming a constant amortization to maturity of any discount or premium. If amortized cost is determined not to approximate fair value, Cash Reserves Fund may value its investment securities in the same manner as debt obligations described above.

PORTFOLIO TRADING

Decisions concerning the execution of portfolio security transactions, including the selection of the market and the broker-dealer firm, are made by the investment adviser. The Fund is responsible for the expenses associated with its portfolio transactions. The investment adviser is also responsible for the execution of transactions for all other accounts managed by it. The investment adviser places the portfolio security transactions for execution with one or more broker-dealer firms. The investment adviser uses its best efforts to obtain execution of portfolio security transactions at prices which in the investment adviser's judgment are advantageous to the client and at a reasonably competitive spread or (when a disclosed commission is being charged) at reasonably competitive commission rates. In seeking such execution, the investment adviser will use its best judgment in evaluating the terms of a transaction, and will give consideration to various relevant factors, including without limitation the full range and quality of the broker-dealer firm's services, responsiveness of the firm to the investment adviser, the size and type of the transaction, the nature and character of the market for the security, the confidentiality, speed and certainty of effective execution required for the transaction, the general execution and operational capabilities of the broker-dealer firm, the reputation, reliability, experience and financial condition of the firm, the value and quality of the services rendered by the firm in this and other transactions, and the amount of the spread or commission, if any. In addition, the investment adviser may consider the receipt of Research Services (as defined below), provided it does not compromise the investment adviser's obligation to seek best overall execution for the Fund and is otherwise in compliance with applicable law. The investment adviser may engage in portfolio brokerage transactions with a broker-dealer firm that sells shares of Eaton Vance funds, provided such transactions are not directed to that firm as compensation for the promotion or sale of such shares.

Transactions on stock exchanges and other agency transactions involve the payment of negotiated brokerage commissions. Such commissions vary among different broker-dealer firms, and a particular broker-dealer may charge different commissions according to such factors as the difficulty and size of the transaction and the volume of business done with such broker-dealer. Transactions in foreign securities often involve the payment of brokerage commissions, which may be higher than those in the United States. There is generally no stated commission in the case of securities traded in the over-the-counter markets including transactions in fixed-income securities which are generally purchased and sold on a net basis (i.e., without commission) through broker-dealers and banks acting for their own account rather than as brokers. Such firms attempt to profit from such transactions by buying at the bid price and selling at the higher asked price of the market for such obligations, and the difference between the bid and asked price is customarily referred to as the spread. Fixed-income transactions may also be transacted directly with the issuer of the obligations. In an underwritten offering the price paid often includes a disclosed fixed commission or discount retained by the underwriter or dealer. Although spreads or commissions paid on portfolio security transactions will, in the judgment of the investment adviser, be reasonable in relation to the value of the services provided, commissions exceeding those which another firm might charge may be paid to broker-dealers who were selected to execute transactions on behalf of the investment adviser's clients in part for providing brokerage and research services to the investment adviser as permitted by applicable law.

Pursuant to the safe harbor provided in Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended ("Section 28(e)") and to the extent permitted by other applicable law, a broker or dealer who executes a portfolio transaction on behalf of the investment adviser client may receive a commission that is in excess of the amount of commission another broker or dealer would have charged for effecting that transaction if the investment adviser determines in

good faith that such compensation was reasonable in relation to the value of the brokerage and research services provided. This determination may be made on the basis of either that particular transaction or on the basis of the overall responsibility which the investment adviser and its affiliates have for accounts over which they exercise investment discretion. "Research Services" as used herein includes any and all brokerage and research services to the extent permitted by Section 28(e) and other applicable law. Generally, Research Services may include, but are not limited to, such matters as research, analytical and quotation services, data, information and other services products and materials which assist the investment adviser in the performance of its investment responsibilities. More specifically, Research Services may include general economic, political, business and market information, industry and company reviews, evaluations of securities and portfolio strategies and transactions, technical analysis of various aspects of the securities markets, recommendations as to the purchase and sale of securities and other portfolio transactions, certain financial, industry and trade publications, certain news and information services, and certain research oriented computer software, data bases and services. Any particular Research Service obtained through a broker-dealer may be used by the investment adviser in connection with client accounts other than those accounts which pay commissions to such broker-dealer, to the extent permitted by

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 23 SAI dated [____], 2019

applicable law. Any such Research Service may be broadly useful and of value to the investment adviser in rendering investment advisory services to all or a significant portion of its clients, or may be relevant and useful for the management of only one client's account or of a few clients' accounts, or may be useful for the management of merely a segment of certain clients' accounts, regardless of whether any such account or accounts paid commissions to the broker-dealer through which such Research Service was obtained. The investment adviser evaluates the nature and quality of the various Research Services obtained through broker-dealer firms and, to the extent permitted by applicable law, may attempt to allocate sufficient portfolio security transactions to such firms to ensure the continued receipt of Research Services which the investment adviser believes are useful or of value to it in rendering investment advisory services to its clients. The investment adviser may also receive brokerage and Research Services from underwriters and dealers in fixed-price offerings, when permitted under applicable law.

Research Services provided by (and produced by) broker-dealers that execute portfolio transactions or from affiliates of executing broker-dealers are referred to as "Proprietary Research." Except for trades executed in jurisdictions where such consideration is not permissible, the investment adviser may and does consider the receipt of Proprietary Research Services as a factor in selecting broker dealers to execute client portfolio transactions, provided it does not compromise the investment adviser's obligation to seek best overall execution. In jurisdictions where permissible, the investment adviser also may consider the receipt of Research Services under so called "client commission arrangements" or "commission sharing arrangements" (both referred to as "CCAs") as a factor in selecting broker dealers to execute transactions, provided it does not compromise the investment adviser's obligation to seek best overall execution. Under a CCA arrangement, the investment adviser may cause client accounts to effect transactions through a broker-dealer and request that the broker-dealer allocate a portion of the commissions paid on those transactions to a pool of commission credits that are paid to other firms that provide Research Services to the investment adviser. Under a CCA, the broker-dealer that provides the Research Services need not execute the trade. Participating in CCAs may enable the investment adviser to consolidate payments for research using accumulated client commission credits from transactions executed through a particular broker-dealer to periodically pay for Research Services obtained from and provided by other firms, including other broker-dealers that supply Research Services. The investment adviser believes that CCAs offer the potential to optimize the execution of trades and the acquisition of a variety of high quality Research Services that the investment adviser might not be provided access to absent CCAs. The investment adviser will only enter into and utilize CCAs to the extent permitted by Section 28(e) and other applicable law.

Fund trades executed by an affiliate of the investment adviser licensed in the United Kingdom may implicate laws of the United Kingdom, including rules of the UK Financial Conduct Authority, which govern client trading commissions and Research Services ("UK Law"). Broadly speaking, under UK Law the investment adviser may not accept any good or service when executing an order unless that good or service either is directly related to the execution of trades on behalf of its clients/customers or amounts to the provision of substantive research (as defined under UK Law). These requirements may also apply with respect to orders in connection with which the investment adviser receives goods and services under a CCA or other bundled brokerage arrangement. Fund trades may also implicate UK Law requiring the investment adviser to direct any research portion of a brokerage commission to an account controlled by the investment adviser.

The investment companies sponsored by the investment adviser or its affiliates may also allocate brokerage commissions to acquire information relating to the performance, fees and expenses of such companies and other investment companies, which information is used by the Trustees of such companies to fulfill their responsibility to oversee the quality of the services provided to various entities, including the investment adviser, to such companies. Such companies may also pay cash for such information.

Securities considered as investments for the Fund may also be appropriate for other investment accounts managed by the investment adviser or its affiliates. Whenever decisions are made to buy or sell securities by the Fund and one or more of such other accounts simultaneously, the investment adviser will allocate the security transactions (including "new" issues) in a manner which it believes to be equitable under the circumstances. As a result of such allocations,

there may be instances where the Fund will not participate in a transaction that is allocated among other accounts. If an aggregated order cannot be filled completely, allocations will generally be made on a pro rata basis. An order may not be allocated on a pro rata basis where, for example: (i) consideration is given to portfolio managers who have been instrumental in developing or negotiating a particular investment; (ii) consideration is given to an account with specialized investment policies that coincide with the particulars of a specific investment; (iii) pro rata allocation would result in odd-lot or de minimis amounts being allocated to a portfolio or other client; or (iv) where the investment adviser reasonably determines that departure from a pro rata allocation is advisable. While these aggregations and allocation policies could have a detrimental effect on the price or amount of the securities available to the Fund from time to time, it is the opinion of the members of the Board that the benefits from the investment adviser organization outweigh any disadvantage that may arise from exposure to simultaneous transactions.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 24SAI dated [____], 2019

The following table shows brokerage commissions paid during the fiscal years ended October 31, 2018, 2017 and 2016, as well as the amount of portfolio security transactions for the most recent fiscal year (if any) that were directed to firms that provided some Research Services to the investment adviser or its affiliates (see above), and the commissions paid in connection therewith.

Fiscal Year End	Brokerage Commission Paid	Amount of Transactions Directed to Firms Providing Research	Commissions Paid on Transactions Directed to Firms Providing Research
October 31, 2018	\$730,514	\$1,531,700,053	\$548,161
October 31, 2017	\$1,138,307	\$2,525,989,799	\$982,933
October 31, 2016	\$1,435,759	\$2,690,507,603	\$1,170,704

During the fiscal year ended October 31, 2018, the Fund held securities of its “regular brokers or dealers”, as that term is defined in Rule 10b-1 of the 1940 Act, and the value of such securities as of the Fund’s fiscal year end was as follows:

<u>Broker/Dealer</u>	<u>Amount</u>
JP Morgan Chase & Co.	\$65,531,159

TAXES

The Fund intends to elect to be treated and to qualify each year as a regulated investment company (“RIC”) under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the “Code”). Accordingly, the Fund intends to satisfy certain requirements relating to sources of its income and diversification of its assets and to distribute substantially all of its net income and net short-term and long-term capital gains (after reduction by any available capital loss carryforwards) in accordance with the timing requirements imposed by the Code, so as to maintain its RIC status and to avoid paying any federal income or excise tax. To the extent it qualifies for treatment as a RIC and satisfies the above-mentioned distribution requirements, the Fund will not be subject to federal income tax on income paid to its shareholders in the form of dividends or capital gain distributions.

In order to qualify for the special tax treatment accorded RICs and their shareholders, the Fund must, among other things:

- (a) derive at least 90% of its gross income from dividends, interest, payments with respect to certain securities loans, and gains from the sale or other disposition of stock, securities, and foreign currencies, or other income (including but not limited to gains from options, futures, or forward contracts) derived with respect to its business of investing in such stock, securities, or currencies, and net income derived from interests in qualified publicly traded partnerships (as defined below);
- (b) distribute with respect to each taxable year at least the sum of 90% of its investment company taxable income (as that term is defined in the Code without regard to the deduction for dividends paid--generally, taxable ordinary income and the excess, if any, of net short-term capital gains over net long-term capital losses) and 90% of its net tax-exempt interest income, for such year; and
- (c) diversify its holdings so that, at the end of each quarter of the Fund’s taxable year: (i) at least 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets is represented by cash and cash items, U.S. government securities, securities of other RICs, and other securities limited in respect of any one issuer to a value not greater than 5% of the value of the Fund’s total assets and not more than 10% of the outstanding voting securities of such issuer; and (ii) not more than 25% of the value of the Fund’s total assets is invested (x) in the securities (other than those of the U.S. government or other RICs)

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

of any one issuer or of two or more issuers that the Fund controls and that are engaged in the same, similar, or related trades or businesses, or (y) in the securities of one or more qualified publicly traded partnerships (as defined below).

With respect to gains from the sale or other disposition of foreign currencies, the Treasury Department can, by regulation, exclude from qualifying income foreign currency gains that are not directly related to the Fund's principal business of investing in stock (or options or futures with respect to stock of securities), but no regulations have been proposed or adopted pursuant to this grant of regulatory authority.

In general, for purposes of the 90% gross income requirement described in paragraph (a) above, income derived from a partnership will be treated as qualifying income only to the extent such income is attributable to items of income of the partnership which would be qualifying income if realized by the RIC. However, 100% of the net income derived from an interest in a "qualified publicly traded partnership" will be treated as qualifying income. A "qualified publicly traded partnership" is a publicly traded partnership that satisfies certain requirements with respect to the type of income it produces. In addition, although in general the passive loss rules of the Code do not apply to RICs, such rules do apply to

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 25 SAI dated [____], 2019

a RIC with respect to items attributable to an interest in a qualified publicly traded partnership. Finally, for purposes of paragraph (c) above, the term “outstanding voting securities of such issuer” will include the equity securities of a qualified publicly traded partnership. If the Fund invests in publicly traded partnerships, it might be required to recognize in its taxable year income in excess of its cash distributions from such publicly traded partnerships during that year. Such income, even if not reported to the Fund by the publicly traded partnerships until after the end of that year, would nevertheless be subject to the RIC income distribution requirements and would be taken into account for purposes of the 4% excise tax described below.

As a result of qualifying as a RIC, the Fund will not be subject to U.S. federal income tax on its net investment income (i.e., its investment company taxable income, as that term is defined in the Code, determined without regard to the deduction for dividends paid) and net capital gain (i.e., the excess of its net realized long-term capital gain over its net realized short-term capital loss), if any, that it distributes to its shareholders in each taxable year, provided that it distributes to its shareholders at least the sum of 90% of its net investment income and 90% of its net exempt interest income for such taxable year.

In order to avoid incurring a nondeductible 4% federal excise tax obligation, the Code requires that the Fund distribute (or be deemed to have distributed) by December 31 of each calendar year an amount at least equal to the sum of (i) 98% of its ordinary income for such year, (ii) 98.2% of its capital gain net income (which is the excess of its realized net long-term capital gain over its realized net short-term capital loss), generally computed on the basis of the one-year period ending on October 31 of such year, after reduction by any available capital loss carryforwards, and (iii) 100% of any ordinary income and capital gain net income from the prior year (as previously computed) that were not paid out during such year and on which the Fund paid no federal income tax. Under current law, provided that the Fund qualifies as a RIC for federal income tax purposes, the Fund should not be liable for any income, corporate excise or franchise tax in The Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

If the Fund fails to meet the annual gross income test described above, the Fund will nevertheless be considered to have satisfied the test if: (i) (a) such failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect; and (b) the Fund reports the failure; and (ii) the Fund pays an excise tax equal to the excess non-qualifying income. If the Fund fails to meet the asset diversification test described above with respect to any quarter, the Fund will nevertheless be considered to have satisfied the requirements for such quarter if the Fund cures such failure within 6 months and either: (i) such failure is de minimis; or (ii) (a) such failure is due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect; and (b) the Fund reports the failure and pays an excise tax.

If the Fund does not qualify as a RIC for any taxable year, the Fund's taxable income will be subject to corporate income taxes, and all distributions from earnings and profits, including distributions of net capital gain (if any), will be taxable to the shareholder as ordinary income. Such distributions generally would be eligible (i) to be treated as qualified dividend income in the case of individual and other noncorporate shareholders and (ii) for the dividends received deduction (“DRD”) in the case of corporate shareholders. In addition, in order to requalify for taxation as a RIC, the Fund may be required to recognize unrealized gains, pay substantial taxes and interest, and make certain distributions.

For U.S. federal income tax purposes, distributions paid out of the Fund's current or accumulated earnings and profits will, except in the case of distributions of qualified dividend income and capital gain dividends described below, be taxable as ordinary dividend income. Certain income distributions paid by the Fund (whether paid in cash or reinvested in additional Fund shares) to individual taxpayers are taxed at rates applicable to net long-term capital gains (20%, or 15% or 0% for individuals at certain income levels). This tax treatment applies only if certain holding period requirements and other requirements are satisfied by the shareholder and the dividends are attributable to qualified dividend income received by the Fund itself. For this purpose, “qualified dividend income” means dividends received by the Fund from United States corporations and “qualified foreign corporations,” provided that the Fund satisfies certain holding period and other requirements in respect of the stock of such corporations. There can be no assurance as to

what portion of the Fund's dividend distributions will qualify for favorable treatment.

A dividend will not be treated as qualified dividend income (at either the Fund or shareholder level): (1) if the dividend is received with respect to any share of stock held for fewer than 61 days during the 121-day period beginning on the date which is 60 days before the date on which such share becomes ex-dividend with respect to such dividend (or, in the case of certain preferred stock, 91 days during the 181-day period beginning 90 days before such date); (2) to the extent that the recipient is under an obligation (whether pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property; (3) if the recipient elects to have the dividend income treated as investment income for purposes of being able to deduct investment interest; or (4) if the dividend is received from a foreign corporation that is: (a) not eligible for the benefits of a comprehensive income tax treaty with the United States (with the exception of dividends paid on stock of such a foreign corporation readily tradable on an established securities market in the United States) or (b) treated as a passive foreign investment company.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 26SAI dated [____], 2019

In general, distributions of investment income designated by the Fund as derived from qualified dividend income will be treated as qualified dividend income by a shareholder taxed as an individual provided the shareholder meets the holding period and other requirements described above with respect to the Fund's shares. In any event, if the qualified dividend income received by the Fund during any taxable year is 95% or more of its gross income, then 100% of the Fund's dividends (other than properly designated capital gain dividends) will be eligible to be treated as qualified dividend income.

Dividends of investment company taxable income designated by the Fund and received by corporate shareholders of the Fund will qualify for the DRD to the extent of the amount of qualifying dividends received by the Fund from domestic corporations for the taxable year. A dividend received by the Fund will not be treated as a qualifying dividend (i) to the extent the stock on which the dividend is paid is considered to be "debt-financed" (generally, acquired with borrowed funds), (ii) if the Fund fails to meet certain holding period requirements for the stock on which the dividend is paid or (iii) to the extent that the Fund is under an obligation (pursuant to a short sale or otherwise) to make related payments with respect to positions in substantially similar or related property. Moreover, the DRD may be disallowed or reduced if the corporate shareholder fails to satisfy the foregoing requirements with respect to its shares of the Fund or by application of the Code.

For federal income tax purposes, net capital losses incurred by the Fund in a particular taxable year can be carried forward to offset net capital gains in any subsequent year until such loss carryforwards have been fully used, and such capital losses carried forward will retain their character as either short-term or long-term capital losses. To the extent subsequent net capital gains are offset by such losses, they would not result in federal income tax liability to the Fund and would not be distributed as such to shareholders.

Distributions of net capital gain, if any, designated as capital gains dividends are taxable to a shareholder as long-term capital gains, regardless of how long the shareholder has held Fund shares. A distribution of an amount in excess of the Fund's current and accumulated earnings and profits will be treated by a shareholder as a return of capital which is applied against and reduces the shareholder's basis in his or her shares. To the extent that the amount of any such distribution exceeds the shareholder's basis in his or her shares, the excess will be treated by the shareholder as gain from a sale or exchange of the shares. Distributions of gains from the sale of investments that the Fund owned for one year or less will be taxable as ordinary income.

The Fund may elect to retain its net capital gain or a portion thereof for investment and be taxed at corporate rates on the amount retained. In such case, it may designate the retained amount as undistributed capital gains in a notice to its shareholders who will be treated as if each received a distribution of his pro rata share of such gain, with the result that each shareholder will (i) be required to report his pro rata share of such gain on his tax return as long-term capital gain, (ii) receive a refundable tax credit for his pro rata share of tax paid by the Fund on the gain and (iii) increase the tax basis for his shares by an amount equal to the deemed distribution less the tax credit.

Common Shareholders receiving dividends or distributions in the form of additional Common Shares pursuant to a dividend reinvestment plan will be treated for U.S. federal income tax purposes as receiving a distribution in an amount equal to the amount of money that the shareholders receiving cash dividends or distributions will receive, and will have a cost basis in the Common Shares received equal to such amount. The Fund will inform shareholders of the source and tax status of all distributions promptly after the close of each calendar year.

The benefits of the reduced tax rates applicable to long-term capital gains and qualified dividend income may be impacted by the application of the alternative minimum tax to individual shareholders.

Certain net investment income received by an individual having adjusted gross income in excess of \$200,000 (or \$250,000 for married individuals filing jointly) will be subject to a tax of 3.8%. Undistributed net investment income of trusts and estates in excess of a specified amount also will be subject to this tax. Dividends and capital gains

distributed by the Fund, and gain realized on redemption of Fund shares, will constitute investment income of the type subject to this tax.

For the Fund's index call options that qualify as "section 1256 contracts," section 1256 of the Code generally will require any gain or loss arising from the lapse, closing out or exercise of such positions to be treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss. In addition, the Fund generally will be required to "mark-to-market" (i.e., treat as sold for fair market value) each outstanding index option position which it holds at the close of each taxable year (and on October 31 of each year for excise tax purposes). If a "section 1256 contract" held by the Fund at the end of a taxable year is sold in the following year, the amount of any gain or loss realized on such sale will be adjusted to reflect the gain or loss previously taken into account under the "mark-to-market" rules. In addition to most index call options, "section 1256 contracts" include certain other options contracts, certain regulated futures contracts, and certain other financial contracts.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 27SAI dated [____], 2019

The Fund's index call options that do not qualify as "section 1256 contracts" generally will be treated as equity options governed by section 1234 of the Code. Pursuant to section 1234 of the Code, if a written option expires unexercised, the premium received is short-term capital gain to the Fund. If the Fund enters into a closing transaction, the difference between the amount paid to close out its position and the premium received for writing the option is generally short-term capital gain or loss. If a call option written by the Fund that is not a "section 1256 contract" is cash settled, any resulting gain or loss will be short-term capital gain or loss.

The Code contains special rules that apply to "straddles," defined generally as the holding of offsetting positions with respect to personal property. For example, the straddle rules normally apply when a taxpayer holds stock and an offsetting option with respect to such stock or substantially identical stock or securities. In general, investment positions will be offsetting if there is a substantial diminution in the risk of loss from holding one position by reason of holding one or more other positions. The Fund expects that the index call options it writes will not be considered straddles for this purpose because the Fund's portfolio of common stocks will be sufficiently dissimilar from the components of the indices on which it has outstanding options positions under applicable guidance established by the Internal Revenue Service (the "Service"). Under certain circumstances, however, the Fund may enter into options transactions or certain other investments that may constitute positions in a straddle. If two or more positions constitute a straddle, recognition of a realized loss from one position must generally be deferred to the extent of unrecognized gain in an offsetting position. In addition, long-term capital gain may be recharacterized as short-term capital gain, or short-term capital loss as long-term capital loss. Interest and other carrying charges allocable to personal property that is part of a straddle are not currently deductible but must instead be capitalized. Similarly, "wash sale" rules apply to prevent the recognition of loss by the Fund from the disposition of stock or securities at a loss in a case in which identical or substantially identical stock or securities (or an option to acquire such property) is or has been acquired within a prescribed period.

The Code allows a taxpayer to elect to offset gains and losses from positions that are part of a "mixed straddle." A "mixed straddle" is any straddle in which one or more but not all positions are "section 1256 contracts." The Fund may be eligible to elect to establish one or more mixed straddle accounts for certain of its mixed straddle trading positions. The mixed straddle account rules require a daily "marking to market" of all open positions in the account and a daily netting of gains and losses from all positions in the account. At the end of a taxable year, the annual net gains or losses from the mixed straddle account are recognized for tax purposes. The net capital gain or loss is treated as 60% long-term and 40% short-term capital gain or loss if attributable to the "section 1256 contract" positions, or all short-term capital gain or loss if attributable to the non-"section 1256 contract" positions.

The Fund may recognize gain (but not loss) from a constructive sale of certain "appreciated financial positions" if the Fund enters into a short sale, offsetting notional principal contract, or forward contract transaction with respect to the appreciated position or substantially identical property. Appreciated financial positions subject to this constructive sale treatment include interests (including options and forward contracts and short sales) in stock and certain other instruments. Constructive sale treatment does not apply if the transaction is closed out not later than thirty days after the end of the taxable year in which the transaction was initiated, and the underlying appreciated securities position is held unhedged for at least the next sixty days after the hedging transaction is closed.

Gain or loss from a short sale of property is generally considered as capital gain or loss to the extent the property used to close the short sale constitutes a capital asset in the Fund's hands. Except with respect to certain situations where the property used to close a short sale has a long-term holding period on the date the short sale is entered into, gains on short sales generally are short-term capital gains. A loss on a short sale will be treated as a long-term capital loss if, on the date of the short sale, "substantially identical property" has been held by the Fund for more than one year. In addition, entering into a short sale may result in suspension of the holding period of "substantially identical property" held by the Fund.

Gain or loss on a short sale will generally not be realized until such time as the short sale is closed. However, as described above in the discussion of constructive sales, if the Fund holds a short sale position with respect to securities that have appreciated in value, and it then acquires property that is the same as or substantially identical to the property sold short, the Fund generally will recognize gain on the date it acquires such property as if the short sale were closed on such date with such property. Similarly, if the Fund holds an appreciated financial position with respect to securities and then enters into a short sale with respect to the same or substantially identical property, the Fund generally will recognize gain as if the appreciated financial position were sold at its fair market value on the date it enters into the short sale.

The subsequent holding period for any appreciated financial position that is subject to these constructive sale rules will be determined as if such position were acquired on the date of the constructive sale.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 28SAI dated [____], 2019

The Fund's transactions in futures contracts and options will be subject to special provisions of the Code that, among other things, may affect the character of gains and losses realized by the Fund (i.e., may affect whether gains or losses are ordinary or capital, or short-term or long-term), may accelerate recognition of income to the Fund and may defer Fund losses. These rules could, therefore, affect the character, amount and timing of distributions to shareholders. These provisions also (a) will require the Fund to mark-to-market certain types of the positions in its portfolio (i.e., treat them as if they were closed out), and (b) may cause the Fund to recognize income without receiving cash with which to make distributions in amounts necessary to satisfy the 90% distribution requirement for qualifying to be taxed as a regulated investment company and the 98% distribution requirement for avoiding excise taxes. The Fund will monitor its transactions, will make the appropriate tax elections and will make the appropriate entries in its books and records when it acquires any futures contract, option or hedged investment in order to mitigate the effect of these rules and prevent disqualification of the Fund from being taxed as a regulated investment company.

In particular, the Fund expects to write call options with respect to certain securities held by the Fund. Depending on whether such options are exercised or lapse, or whether the securities or options are sold, the existence of these options will affect the amount and timing of the recognition of income and whether the income qualifies as long-term capital gain.

Further, the Fund's transactions in options are subject to special and complex federal income tax provisions that may, among other things, (i) convert dividends that would otherwise constitute qualified dividend income into short-term capital gain or ordinary income taxed at the higher rate applicable to ordinary income, (ii) treat dividends that would otherwise be eligible for the corporate DRD as ineligible for such treatment, (iii) disallow, suspend or otherwise limit the allowance of certain losses or deductions, (iv) convert long-term capital gain into short-term capital gain or ordinary income, (v) convert an ordinary loss or deduction into a capital loss (the deductibility of which is more limited) and (vi) cause the Fund to recognize income or gain without a corresponding receipt of cash.

Any loss realized upon the sale or exchange of Fund shares with a holding period of six months or less will be treated as a long-term capital loss to the extent of any capital gain distributions received with respect to such shares. In addition, all or a portion of a loss realized on a sale or other disposition of Fund shares may be disallowed under "wash sale" rules to the extent the shareholder acquires other shares of the same Fund (whether through the reinvestment of distributions or otherwise) within a period of 61 days beginning 30 days before and ending 30 days after the date of disposition of the Common Shares. Any disallowed loss will result in an adjustment to the shareholder's tax basis in some or all of the other shares acquired.

Sales charges paid upon a purchase of shares cannot be taken into account for purposes of determining gain or loss on a sale of the shares before the 91st day after their purchase to the extent a sales charge is reduced or eliminated in a subsequent acquisition of shares of the Fund (or of another fund), during the period beginning on the date of such sale and ending on January 31 of the calendar year following the calendar year in which such sale was made, pursuant to the reinvestment or exchange privilege. Any disregarded amounts will result in an adjustment to the shareholder's tax basis in some or all of any other shares acquired.

Dividends and distributions on the Fund's shares are generally subject to federal income tax as described herein to the extent they do not exceed the Fund's realized income and gains, even though such dividends and distributions may economically represent a return of a particular shareholder's investment. Such distributions are likely to occur in respect of shares purchased at a time when the Fund's net asset value reflects gains that are either unrealized, or realized but not distributed. Such realized gains may be required to be distributed even when the Fund's net asset value also reflects unrealized losses. Certain distributions declared in October, November or December and paid in the following January will be taxed to shareholders as if received on December 31 of the year in which they were declared. In addition, certain other distributions made after the close of a taxable year of the Fund may be "spilled back"

and treated as paid by the Fund (except for purposes of the non-deductible 4% federal excise tax) during such taxable year. In such case, shareholders will be treated as having received such dividends in the taxable year in which the distributions were actually made.

Dividends and interest received, and gains realized, by the Fund on foreign securities may be subject to income, withholding or other taxes imposed by foreign countries and U.S. possessions (collectively “foreign taxes”) that would reduce the return on its securities. Tax conventions between certain countries and the United States, however, may reduce or eliminate foreign taxes, and many foreign countries do not impose taxes on capital gains in respect of investments by foreign investors. If more than 50% of the value of the Fund’s total assets at the close of its taxable year consists of securities of foreign issuers, the Fund will be eligible to, and may, file an election with the Service that will enable its shareholders, in effect, to receive the benefit of the foreign tax credit with respect to any foreign taxes paid by it. Pursuant to the election, the Fund would treat those taxes as dividends paid to its shareholders and each shareholder (1) would be required to include in gross income, and treat as paid by such shareholder, a proportionate share of those taxes, (2) would be required to treat such share of those taxes and of any dividend paid by the Fund that represents income from foreign or U.S. possessions sources as such shareholder’s own income from those sources, and (3) could either deduct the foreign taxes deemed paid in computing taxable income or, alternatively, use the foregoing information in calculating the foreign tax credit against federal income tax. The Fund will report to its shareholders shortly after each taxable year

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 29SAI dated [____], 2019

their respective shares of foreign taxes paid and the income from sources within, and taxes paid to, foreign countries and U.S. possessions if it makes this election. An individual who has no more than \$300 (\$600 for married persons filing jointly) of creditable foreign taxes included on Forms 1099 and all of whose foreign source income is “qualified passive income” may elect each year to be exempt from the complicated foreign tax credit limitation, in which event such individual would be able to claim a foreign tax credit without needing to file the detailed Form 1116 that otherwise is required.

The Fund may invest in the stock of “passive foreign investment companies” (“PFICs”). A PFIC is any foreign corporation (with certain exceptions) that, in general, meets either of the following tests: (1) at least 75% of its gross income is passive or (2) an average of at least 50% of its assets produce, or are held for the production of, passive income. Under certain circumstances, the Fund will be subject to federal income tax on a portion of any “excess distribution” received on the stock of a PFIC or of any gain from disposition of that stock (collectively “PFIC income”), plus interest thereon, even if the Fund distributes the PFIC income as a taxable dividend to its shareholders. The balance of the PFIC income will be included in the Fund’s investment company taxable income and, accordingly, will not be taxable to it to the extent it distributes that income to its shareholders.

If the Fund invests in a PFIC and elects to treat the PFIC as a “qualified electing fund” (“QEF”), then in lieu of the foregoing tax and interest obligation, the Fund will be required to include in income each year its pro rata share of the QEF’s annual ordinary earnings and net capital gain --which it may have to distribute to satisfy the distribution requirement and avoid imposition of the excise tax -- even if the QEF does not distribute those earnings and gain to the Fund. In most instances it will be very difficult, if not impossible, to make this election because of certain of its requirements.

The Fund may elect to “mark to market” its stock in any PFIC. “Marking-to-market,” in this context, means including in ordinary income each taxable year the excess, if any, of the fair market value of a PFIC’s stock over the Fund’s adjusted basis therein as of the end of that year. Pursuant to the election, the Fund also would be allowed to deduct (as an ordinary, not capital, loss) the excess, if any, of its adjusted basis in PFIC stock over the fair market value thereof as of the taxable year-end, but only to the extent of any net mark-to-market gains (reduced by any prior deductions) with respect to that stock included by the Fund for prior taxable years under the election. The Fund’s adjusted basis in each PFIC’s stock with respect to which it has made this election will be adjusted to reflect the amounts of income included and deductions taken thereunder.

Under section 988 of the Code, gains or losses attributable to fluctuations in exchange rates between the time the Fund accrues income or receivables or expenses or other liabilities denominated in a foreign currency and the time the Fund actually collects such income or receivables or pays such liabilities are generally treated as ordinary income or loss. Similarly, gains or losses on foreign currency forward contracts and the disposition of debt securities denominated in a foreign currency, to the extent attributable to fluctuations in exchange rate between the acquisition and disposition dates, are also treated as ordinary income or loss.

Amounts paid by the Fund to individuals and certain other shareholders who have not provided the Fund with their correct taxpayer identification number (“TIN”) and certain certifications required by the Service as well as shareholders with respect to whom the Fund has received certain information from the Service or a broker may be subject to “backup” withholding of federal income tax arising from the Fund’s taxable dividends and other distributions as well as the gross proceeds of sales of shares, at a rate of 24%. An individual’s TIN is generally his or her social security number. Backup withholding is not an additional tax. Any amounts withheld under the backup withholding rules from payments made to a shareholder may be refunded or credited against such shareholder’s federal income tax liability, if any, provided that the required information is furnished to the Service.

Non-U.S. investors not engaged in a U.S. trade or business with which their investment in the Fund is effectively connected will be subject to U.S. federal income tax treatment that is different from that described above. Such

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

non-U.S. investors may be subject to withholding tax at the rate of 30% (or a lower rate under an applicable tax treaty) on amounts treated as ordinary dividends from the Fund. Capital gain distributions, if any, are not subject to the 30% withholding tax. Exemptions from this withholding tax are also provided for dividends properly designated as interest related dividends or as short-term capital gain dividends paid by the Fund with respect to its qualified net interest income or qualified short-term gain. Unless an effective IRS Form W-8BEN or other authorized withholding certificate is on file, backup withholding will apply to certain other payments from the Fund. Non-U.S. investors should consult their tax advisors regarding such treatment and the application of foreign taxes to an investment in the Fund.

Under recent legislation known as FATCA, beginning in 2014, a 30% U.S. withholding tax may apply to any U.S.-source “withholdable payments” made to a non-U.S. entity unless the non-U.S. entity enters into an agreement with either the Service or a governmental authority in its own country, as applicable, to collect and provide substantial information regarding the entity’s owners, including “specified United States persons” and “United States owned foreign entities,” or otherwise demonstrates compliance with or exemption from FATCA. The term “withholdable payment” includes any payment of interest (even if the interest is otherwise exempt from the withholding rules described above), dividends, and

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 30SAI dated [____], 2019

the gross proceeds of a disposition of stock (including a liquidating distribution from a corporation) or debt instruments, in each case with respect to any U.S. investment. The withholding tax regime went into effect on July 1, 2014 with respect to U.S.-source income, and it is scheduled to begin in 2019 with respect to U.S.-source investment sale proceeds, however recently proposed regulations from the U.S. Treasury Department indicate an intent to eliminate the requirement under FATCA of withholding on gross proceeds and to defer withholding on certain other types of withholdable payments. The U.S. Treasury Department has indicated that taxpayers may rely on these proposed regulations pending their finalization. A specified United States person is essentially any U.S. person, other than publicly traded corporations, their affiliates, tax-exempt organizations, governments, banks, real estate investment trusts, RICs, and common trust funds. A United States owned foreign entity is a foreign entity with one or more “substantial United States owners,” generally defined as United States person owning a greater than 10% interest. Non-U.S. investors should consult their own tax advisers regarding the impact of this recent legislation on their investment in the Fund.

If a shareholder realizes a loss on disposition of the Fund’s shares in any single tax year of \$2 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$10 million or more for a corporate shareholder, or, in any combination of tax years, \$4 million or more for an individual shareholder or \$20 million or more for a corporate shareholder, the shareholder must file with the Service a disclosure statement on Form 8886. Direct shareholders of portfolio securities are in many cases excepted from this reporting requirement, but under current guidance, shareholders of a RIC are not excepted. Future guidance may extend the current exception from this reporting requirement to shareholders of most or all RICs.

The foregoing briefly summarizes some of the important federal income tax consequences to Common Shareholders of investing in Common Shares, reflects the federal tax law as of the date of this Statement of Additional Information, and does not address special tax rules applicable to certain types of investors, such as corporate and foreign investors. Unless otherwise noted, this discussion assumes that an investor is a U.S. shareholder and holds Common Shares as a capital asset. This discussion is based upon present provisions of the Code, the regulations promulgated thereunder, and judicial and administrative ruling authorities, all of which are subject to change or differing interpretations by the courts or the Service retroactively or prospectively. Investors should consult their tax advisers regarding other federal, state or local tax considerations that may be applicable to their particular circumstances, as well as any proposed tax law changes.

State and Local Taxes. Shareholders should consult their own tax advisers as to the state or local tax consequences of investing in the Fund.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Fund is an organization of the type commonly known as a “Massachusetts business trust.” Under Massachusetts law, shareholders of such a trust may, in certain circumstances, be held personally liable as partners for the obligations of the trust. The Declaration of Trust contains an express disclaimer of shareholder liability in connection with Fund property or the acts, obligations or affairs of the Fund. The Declaration of Trust, in coordination with the Fund’s By-laws, also provides for indemnification out of Fund property of any shareholder held personally liable for the claims and liabilities to which a shareholder may become subject by reason of being or having been a shareholder. Thus, the risk of a shareholder incurring financial loss on account of shareholder liability is limited to circumstances in which the Fund itself is unable to meet its obligations. The Fund has been advised by its counsel that the risk of any shareholder incurring any liability for the obligations of the Fund is remote.

The Declaration of Trust provides that the Trustees will not be liable for errors of judgment or mistakes of fact or law; but nothing in the Declaration of Trust protects a Trustee against any liability to the Fund or its shareholders to which he or she would otherwise be subject by reason of willful misfeasance, bad faith, gross negligence, or reckless disregard of the duties involved in the conduct of his or her office. Voting rights are not cumulative, which means that the holders of more than 50% of the shares voting for the election of Trustees can elect 100% of the Trustees and, in

such event, the holders of the remaining less than 50% of the shares voting on the matter will not be able to elect any Trustees.

The Declaration of Trust provides that no person shall serve as a Trustee if shareholders holding two-thirds of the outstanding shares have removed him from that office either by a written declaration filed with the Fund's custodian or by votes cast at a meeting called for that purpose. The Declaration of Trust further provides that the Trustees of the Fund shall promptly call a meeting of the shareholders for the purpose of voting upon a question of removal of any such Trustee or Trustees when requested in writing to do so by the record holders of not less than 10 per centum of the outstanding shares.

The Fund's Prospectus, any related Prospectus Supplement, and this SAI do not contain all of the information set forth in the Registration Statement that the Fund has filed with the SEC. The complete Registration Statement may be obtained from the SEC upon payment of the fee prescribed by its Rules and Regulations.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 31 SAI dated [____], 2019

CUSTODIAN

State Street Bank and Trust Company (“State Street”), State Street Financial Center, One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, is the custodian of the Fund and will maintain custody of the securities and cash of the Fund. State Street maintains the Fund’s general ledger and computes net asset value per share at least weekly. State Street also attends to details in connection with the sale, exchange, substitution, transfer and other dealings with the Fund’s investments, and receives and disburses all funds. State Street also assists in preparation of shareholder reports and the electronic filing of such reports with the SEC.

INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

[_____], independent registered public accounting firm, audits the Fund’s financial statements and provides other audit, tax and related services.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The audited financial statements and the report of the independent registered public accounting firm of the Fund, for the fiscal year ended [], are incorporated herein by reference from the Fund’s most recent Annual Report to Common Shareholders filed with the SEC (Accession No. [_____]) on Form N-CSR pursuant to Rule 30b2-1 under the 1940 Act.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 32SAI dated [____], 2019

APPENDIX A

RATINGS

The ratings indicated herein are believed to be the most recent ratings available at the date of this SAI for the securities listed. Ratings are generally given to securities at the time of issuance. While the rating agencies may from time to time revise such ratings, they undertake no obligation to do so, and the ratings indicated do not necessarily represent ratings which would be given to these securities on a particular date.

MOODY'S INVESTORS SERVICE, INC. ("Moody's")

Ratings assigned on Moody's global long-term and short-term rating scales are forward-looking opinions of the relative credit risks of financial obligations issued by non-financial corporates, financial institutions, structured finance vehicles, project finance vehicles, and public sector entities. Long-term ratings are assigned to issuers or obligations with an original maturity of one year or more and reflect both the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. Short-term ratings are assigned to obligations with an original maturity of thirteen months or less and reflect the likelihood of a default on contractually promised payments and the expected financial loss suffered in the event of a default.

GLOBAL LONG-TERM RATINGS SCALE

Aaa: Obligations rated Aaa are judged to be of the highest quality, subject to the lowest level of credit risk.

Aa: Obligations rated Aa are judged to be of high quality and are subject to very low credit risk.

A: Obligations rated A are considered upper-medium grade and are subject to low credit risk.

Baa: Obligations rated Baa are judged to be medium-grade and subject to moderate credit risk and as such may possess certain speculative characteristics

Ba: Obligations rated Ba are judged to be speculative and are subject to substantial credit risk.

B: Obligations rated B are considered speculative and are subject to high credit risk.

Caa: Obligations rated Caa are judged to be speculative of poor standing and are subject to very high credit risk.

Ca: Obligations rated Ca are highly speculative and are likely in, or very near, default, with some prospect of recovery of principal and interest.

C: Obligations rated C are the lowest rated and are typically in default, with little prospect for recovery of principal or interest.

Note: Moody's appends numerical modifiers, 1, 2, and 3 to each generic rating classification from Aa through Caa. The modifier 1 indicates that the obligation ranks in the higher end of its generic rating category; the modifier 2 indicates a mid-range ranking; and the modifier 3 indicates a ranking in the lower end of that generic rating category.

GLOBAL SHORT-TERM RATING SCALE

Moody's short term ratings are opinions of the ability of issuers to honor short-term financial obligations. Ratings may be assigned to issuers, short-term programs or to individual short-term debt instruments. Such obligations generally

have an original maturity not exceeding thirteen months, unless explicitly noted.

P-1: Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-1 have a superior ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

P-2: Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-2 have a strong ability to repay short-term debt obligations.

P-3: Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Prime-3 have an acceptable ability to repay short-term obligations.

NP: Issuers (or supporting institutions) rated Not Prime do not fall within any of the Prime ratings categories.

ISSUER RATINGS

Issuer Ratings are opinions of the ability of entities to honor senior unsecured debt and debt like instruments. As such, Issuer Ratings incorporate any external support that is expected to apply to all current and future issuance of senior unsecured financial obligations and contracts, such as explicit support stemming from a guarantee of all senior unsecured financial obligations and contracts, and/or implicit support for issuers subject to joint default analysis (e.g. banks and government-related issuers). Issuer Ratings do not incorporate support arrangements, such as guarantees, that apply only to specific (but not to all) senior unsecured financial obligations and contracts.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 33 SAI dated [____], 2019

US MUNICIPAL SHORT-TERM OBLIGATION RATINGS AND DEMAND OBLIGATION RATINGS

SHORT-TERM OBLIGATION RATINGS

While the global short-term ‘prime’ rating scale is applied to US municipal tax-exempt commercial paper, these programs are typically backed by external letters of credit or liquidity facilities and their short-term prime ratings usually map to the long-term rating of the enhancing bank or financial institution and not to the municipality’s rating. Other short-term municipal obligations, which generally have different funding sources for repayment, are rated using two additional short-term rating scales (i.e., the MIG and VMIG scales discussed below).

The Municipal Investment Grade (MIG) scale is used to rate US municipal bond anticipation notes of up to three years maturity. Municipal notes rated on the MIG scale may be secured by either pledged revenues or proceeds of a take-out financing received prior to note maturity. MIG ratings expire at the maturity of the obligation, and the issuer’s long-term rating is only one consideration in assigning the MIG rating. MIG ratings are divided into three levels—MIG 1 through MIG 3—while speculative grade short-term obligations are designated SG.

MIG 1 This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by established cash flows, highly reliable liquidity support, or demonstrated broad-based access to the market for refinancing.

MIG 2 This designation denotes strong credit quality. Margins of protection are ample, although not as large as in the preceding group.

MIG 3 This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Liquidity and cash-flow protection may be narrow, and market access for refinancing is likely to be less well-established.

SG This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Debt instruments in this category may lack sufficient margins of protection.

Demand Obligation Ratings

In the case of variable rate demand obligations (VRDOs), a two-component rating is assigned; a long or short-term rating and demand obligation rating. The first element represents Moody’s evaluation of the degree of risk associated with scheduled principal and interest payments. The second element represents Moody’s evaluation of the degree of risk associated with the ability to receive purchase price upon demand (“demand feature”). The second element uses a rating from a variation of the MIG scale called the Variable Municipal Investment Grade (VMIG) scale. VMIG ratings of demand obligations with unconditional liquidity support are mapped from the short-term debt rating (or counterparty assessment) of the support provider, or the underlying obligor in the absence of third party liquidity support, with VMIG 1 corresponding to P-1, VMIG 2 to P-2, VMIG 3 to P-3 and SG to not prime. Transitions of VMIG ratings of demand obligations with conditional liquidity support, as shown in the diagram below, differ from transitions on the Prime scale to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if to reflect the risk that external liquidity support will terminate if the issuer’s long-term rating drops below investment grade.

VMIG 1: This designation denotes superior credit quality. Excellent protection is afforded by the superior short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

VMIG 2: This designation denotes strong credit quality. Good protection is afforded by the strong short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

VMIG 3: This designation denotes acceptable credit quality. Adequate protection is afforded by the satisfactory short-term credit strength of the liquidity provider and structural and legal protections that ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

SG: This designation denotes speculative-grade credit quality. Demand features rated in this category may be supported by a liquidity provider that does not have an investment grade short-term rating or may lack the structural and/or legal protections necessary to ensure the timely payment of purchase price upon demand.

S&P GLOBAL RATINGS (“S&P”)

ISSUE CREDIT RATINGS DEFINITIONS

S&P’s issue credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to a specific financial obligation, a specific class of financial obligations, or a specific financial program (including ratings on medium-term note programs and commercial paper programs). It takes into consideration the creditworthiness of guarantors, insurers, or other forms of credit enhancement on the obligation and takes into account the currency in which the obligation is denominated. The opinion reflects S&P’s view of the obligor’s capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due, and may assess terms, such as collateral security and subordination, which could affect ultimate payment in the event of default.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 34SAI dated [____], 2019

Issue credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term. Short-term ratings are generally assigned to those obligations considered short-term in the relevant market. Short-term ratings are also used to indicate the creditworthiness of an obligor with respect to put features on long-term obligations. Medium-term notes are assigned long-term ratings.

LONG-TERM ISSUE CREDIT RATINGS:

Issue credit ratings are based, in varying degrees, on S&P's analysis of the following considerations:

Likelihood of payment—capacity and willingness of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on an obligation in accordance with the terms of the obligation;

Nature of and provisions of the financial obligation and the promise that it is imputed; and

Protection afforded by, and relative position of, the financial obligation in the event of bankruptcy, reorganization, or other arrangement under the laws of bankruptcy and other laws affecting creditors' rights.

Issue ratings are an assessment of default risk, but may incorporate an assessment of relative seniority or ultimate recovery in the event of default. Junior obligations are typically rated lower than senior obligations, to reflect the lower priority in bankruptcy, as noted above. (Such differentiation may apply when an entity has both senior and subordinated obligations, secured and unsecured obligations, or operating company and holding company obligations.)

AAA: An obligation rated 'AAA' has the highest rating assigned by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is extremely strong.

AA: An obligation rated 'AA' differs from the highest-rated obligors only to a small degree. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is very strong.

A: An obligation rated 'A' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher-rated categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is still strong.

BBB: An obligation rated 'BBB' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

BB, B, CCC, CC and C

Obligations rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', 'CC', and 'C' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'C' the highest. While such obligations will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

BB: An obligation rated 'BB' is less vulnerable to non-payment than other speculative issues. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties or exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

B: An obligation rated 'B' is more vulnerable to nonpayment than obligations rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. Adverse business, financial or economic conditions

will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

CCC: An obligation rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation. In the event of adverse business, financial or, economic conditions, the obligor is not likely to have the capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

CC: An obligation rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment. The 'CC' rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but S&P expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

C: An obligation rated 'C' is currently highly vulnerable to nonpayment, and the obligation is expected to have lower relative seniority or lower ultimate recovery compared to obligations that are rated higher.

D: An obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within five business days in the absence of a stated grace period or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 35 SAI dated [____], 2019

NR: This indicates that no rating has been requested, or that there is insufficient information on which to base a rating, or that S&P does not rate a particular obligation as a matter of policy.

Plus (+) or Minus (-): 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.

SHORT-TERM ISSUE CREDIT RATINGS

A-1: A short-term obligation rated 'A-1' is rated in the highest category by S&P. The obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is strong. Within this category, certain obligations are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments on the obligation is extremely strong.

A-2: A short-term obligation rated 'A-2' is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligations in higher rating categories. However, the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitment on the obligation is satisfactory.

A-3: A short-term obligation rated 'A-3' exhibits adequate protection parameters. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

B: A short-term obligation rated 'B' is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

C: A short-term obligation rated 'C' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment and is dependent upon favorable business, financial and economic conditions for the obligor to meet its financial commitment on the obligation.

D: A short-term obligation rated 'D' is in default or in breach of an imputed promise. For non-hybrid capital instruments, the 'D' rating category is used when payments on an obligation are not made on the date due, unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of a similar action and where default on an obligation is a virtual certainty, for example due to automatic stay provisions. An obligation's rating is lowered to 'D' if it is subject to a distressed exchange offer.

ISSUER CREDIT RATINGS DEFINITIONS

S&P's issuer credit rating is a forward-looking opinion about an obligor's overall creditworthiness. This opinion focuses on the obligor's capacity and willingness to meet its financial commitments as they come due. It does not apply to any specific financial obligation, as it does not take into account the nature of and provisions of the obligation, its standing in bankruptcy or liquidation, statutory preferences, or the legality and enforceability of the obligation.

Counterparty credit ratings, corporate credit ratings and sovereign credit ratings are all forms of issuer credit ratings.

Issuer credit ratings can be either long-term or short-term.

LONG-TERM ISSUER CREDIT RATINGS

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

AAA: An obligor rated 'AAA' has extremely strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. 'AAA' is the highest issuer credit rating assigned by S&P.

AA: An obligor rated 'AA' has very strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. It differs from the highest-rated obligors only to a small degree.

A: An obligor rated 'A' has strong capacity to meet its financial commitments but is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in higher-rated categories.

BBB: An obligor rated 'BBB' has adequate capacity to meet its financial commitments. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitments.

BB, B, CCC and CC

Obligor rated 'BB', 'B', 'CCC', and 'CC' are regarded as having significant speculative characteristics. 'BB' indicates the least degree of speculation and 'CC' the highest. While such obligors will likely have some quality and protective characteristics, these may be outweighed by large uncertainties or major exposures to adverse conditions.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 36SAI dated [____], 2019

BB: An obligor 'BB' is less vulnerable in the near term than other lower-rated obligors. However, it faces major ongoing uncertainties and exposure to adverse business, financial, or economic conditions that could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

B: An obligor rated 'B' is more vulnerable than the obligors rated 'BB', but the obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments. Adverse business, financial, or economic conditions will likely impair the obligor's capacity or willingness to meet its financial commitments.

CCC: An obligor rated 'CCC' is currently vulnerable, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions to meet its financial commitments.

CC: An obligor rated 'CC' is currently highly vulnerable. The 'CC' rating is used when a default has not yet occurred, but S&P's expects default to be a virtual certainty, regardless of the anticipated time to default.

R: An obligor rated 'R' is under regulatory supervision owing to its financial condition. During the pendency of the regulatory supervision the regulators may have the power to favor one class of obligations over others or pay some obligations and not others.

SD and D: An obligor rated 'SD' (selective default) or 'D' is in default on one or more of its financial obligations including rated and unrated financial obligations but excluding hybrid instruments classified as regulatory capital or in non-payment according to terms. An obligor is considered in default unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within five business days of the due date in the absence of a stated grace period, or within the earlier of the stated grace period or 30 calendar days. A 'D' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the default will be a general default and that the obligor will fail to pay all or substantially all of its obligations as they come due. An 'SD' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the obligor has selectively defaulted on a specific issue or class of obligations but it will continue to meet its payment obligations on other issues or classes of obligations in a timely manner. An obligor's rating is lowered to 'D' or 'SD' if it is conducting a distressed exchange offer.

NR: An issuer designated as NR is not rated.

Plus (+) or Minus (-): 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.

SHORT-TERM ISSUER CREDIT RATINGS

A-1: An obligor rated 'A-1' has strong capacity to meet its financial commitments. It is rated in the highest category by S&P. Within this category, certain obligors are designated with a plus sign (+). This indicates that the obligor's capacity to meet its financial commitments is extremely strong.

A-2: An obligor rated 'A-2' has satisfactory capacity to meet its financial commitments. However, it is somewhat more susceptible to the adverse effects of changes in circumstances and economic conditions than obligors in the highest rating category.

A-3: An obligor rated 'A-3' has adequate capacity to meet its financial obligations. However, adverse economic conditions or changing circumstances are more likely to lead to a weakened capacity of the obligor to meet its financial commitments.

B: An obligor rated 'B' is regarded as vulnerable and has significant speculative characteristics. The obligor currently has the capacity to meet its financial commitments; however, it faces major ongoing uncertainties which could lead to the obligor's inadequate capacity to meet its financial commitments.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

C: An obligor rated 'C' is currently vulnerable to nonpayment that would result in a 'SD' or 'D' issuer rating, and is dependent upon favorable business, financial, and economic conditions for it to meet its financial commitments.

R: An obligor rated 'R' is under regulatory supervision owing to its financial condition. During the pendency of the regulatory supervision the regulators may have the power to favor one class of obligations over others or pay some obligations and not others.

SD and D: An obligor rated 'SD' (selective default) or 'D' has failed to pay one or more of its financial obligations (rated or unrated), excluding hybrid instruments classified as regulatory capital or in nonpayment according to terms, when it came due. An obligor is considered in default unless S&P believes that such payments will be made within any stated grace period. However, any stated grace period longer than five business days will be treated as five business days. A 'D' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the default will be a general default and that the obligor will fail to pay all or substantially all of its obligations as they come due. An 'SD' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the obligor has selectively defaulted on a specific issue or class of obligations, excluding hybrid instruments classified as regulatory capital, but it will continue to meet its payment obligations on other issues or classes of obligations in a timely manner. An obligor's rating is lowered to 'D' or 'SD' if it is conducting a distressed exchange offer.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 37SAI dated [____], 2019

NR: An issuer designated as NR is not rated.

MUNICIPAL SHORT-TERM NOTE RATINGS

SHORT-TERM NOTES: An S&P U.S. municipal note ratings reflects S&P opinions about the liquidity factors and market access risks unique to notes.

Notes due in three years or less will likely receive a note rating. Notes with an original maturity of more than three years will most likely receive a long-term debt rating. In determining which type of rating, if any, to assign, S&P's analysis will review the following considerations: Amortization schedule--the larger the final maturity relative to other maturities, the more likely it will be treated as a note; and Source of payment--the more dependent the issue is on the market for its refinancing, the more likely it will be treated as a note.

Municipal Short-Term Note rating symbols are as follows:

SP-1: Strong capacity to pay principal and interest. An issue determined to possess a very strong capacity to pay debt will be given a plus (+) designation.

SP-2: Satisfactory capacity to pay principal and interest, with some vulnerability to adverse financial and economic changes over the term of the notes.

SP-3: Speculative capacity to pay principal and interest.

FITCH RATINGS

LONG-TERM CREDIT RATINGS

Investment Grade

AAA: Highest credit quality. 'AAA' ratings denote the lowest expectation of credit risk. They are assigned only in case of exceptionally strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. The capacity is highly unlikely to be adversely affected by foreseeable events.

AA: Very high credit quality. 'AA' ratings denote expectations of very low credit risk. They indicate very strong capacity for payment of financial commitments. This capacity is not significantly vulnerable to foreseeable events.

A: High credit quality. 'A' ratings denote expectations of low credit risk. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered strong. The capacity may, nevertheless, be more vulnerable to changes in circumstances or in economic conditions that is the case for higher ratings.

BBB: Good credit quality. 'BBB' ratings indicate that expectations of default risk are currently low. The capacity for payment of financial commitments is considered adequate but adverse business or economic conditions are more likely to impair this capacity.

BB: Speculative. 'BB' ratings indicate an elevated vulnerability to default risk, particularly in the event of adverse changes in business or economic conditions over time; however, business or financial flexibility exist that supports the servicing of financial commitments.

B: Highly speculative. 'B' ratings indicate that material default risk is present, but a limited margin of safety remains. Financial commitments are currently being met; however, capacity for continued payment is vulnerable to

deterioration in the business and economic environment.

CCC: Substantial credit risk. Default is a real possibility.

CC: Very high levels of credit risk. Default of some kind appears probable.

C: Near default. A default or default-like process has begun, or the issuer is in standstill, or for a closed funding vehicle, payment capacity is irrevocably impaired. Conditions that are indicative of a 'C' category rating for an issuer include:

- The issuer has entered into a grace or cure period following non-payment of a material financial obligation;
- The issuer had entered into a temporary negotiated waiver or standstill agreement following a payment default on a material financial obligation;
- The formal announcement by the issuer or their agent of distressed debt exchange;
- A closed financing vehicle where payment capacity is irrevocably impaired such that it is not expected to pay interest and/or principal in full during the life of the transaction, but where no payment default is imminent.

RD: Restricted Default. 'RD' ratings indicate an issuer that in Fitch's opinion has experienced:

- An uncured payment default on a bond, loan or other material financial obligation, but

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 38SAI dated [____], 2019

- Has not entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation, or other formal winding-up procedure, and
- Has not otherwise ceased operating.

This would include:

- The selective payment default on specific class or currency of debt;
- The uncured expiry of any applicable grace period, cure period or default forbearance period following a payment default on a bank loan, capital markets security or other material financial obligation;
- The extension of multiple waivers of forbearance periods upon a payment default on one or more material financial obligations, either in series or in parallel; ordinary execution of a distressed debt exchange on one or more material financial obligations.

D: Default. 'D' ratings indicate an issuer that in Fitch's opinion has entered into bankruptcy filings, administration, receivership, liquidation or other formal winding-up procedure or that has otherwise ceased business.

- Default ratings are not assigned prospectively to entities or their obligations; within this context, non-payment on an instrument that contains a deferral feature or grace period will generally not be considered a default until after the expiration of the deferral or grace period, unless a default is otherwise driven by bankruptcy or other similar circumstance, or by a distressed debt exchange.
- In all cases, the assignment of default rating reflects the agency's opinion as to the most appropriate rating category consistent with the rest of its universe of ratings and may differ from the definition of default under the terms of an issuer's financial obligations or local commercial practice.

Notes to Long-Term ratings:

The modifiers "+" or "-" may be appended to a rating to denote relative status within major rating categories. Such suffixes are not added to the 'AAA' Long-Term IDR category, or to Long-Term IDR categories below 'B'.

Short-Term Credit Ratings Assigned to Obligations in Corporate, Public and Structured Finance

A short-term issuer or obligation rating is based in all cases on the short-term vulnerability to default of the rated entity or security stream and relates to the capacity to meet financial obligations in accordance with the documentation governing the relevant obligation. Short-Term Ratings are assigned to obligations whose initial maturity is viewed as "short term" based on market convention. Typically, this means up to 13 months for corporate, sovereign, and structured obligations, and up to 36 months for obligations in U.S. public finance markets.

F1: Highest short-term credit quality. Indicates the strongest intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments; may have an added "+" to denote any exceptionally strong credit feature.

F2: Good short-term credit quality. Good intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments.

F3: Fair short-term credit quality. The intrinsic capacity for timely payment of financial commitments is adequate.

B: Speculative short-term credit quality. Minimal capacity for timely payment of financial commitments, plus vulnerability to near term adverse changes in financial and economic conditions.

C: High short-term default risk. Default is a real possibility.

RD: Restricted default. Indicates an entity that has defaulted on one or more of its financial commitments, although it continues to meet other financial obligations. Typically applicable to entity ratings only.

D: Indicates a broad-based default event for an entity, or the default of a short-term obligation.

DESCRIPTION OF INSURANCE FINANCIAL STRENGTH RATINGS

Moody's Investors Service, Inc. Insurance Financial Strength Ratings

Moody's Insurance Financial Strength Ratings are opinions of the ability of insurance companies to repay punctually senior policyholder claims and obligations and also reflect the expected financial loss suffered in the event of default. Specific obligations are considered unrated unless they are individually rated because the standing of a particular insurance obligation would depend on an assessment of its relative standing under those laws governing both the obligation and the insurance company.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 39SAI dated [____], 2019

S&P Insurer Financial Strength Ratings

An S&P insurer financial strength rating is a forward-looking opinion about the financial security characteristics of an insurance organization with respect to its ability to pay under its insurance policies and contracts in accordance with their terms. Insurer financial strength ratings are also assigned to health maintenance organizations and similar health plans with respect to their ability to pay under their policies and contracts in accordance with their terms.

This opinion is not specific to any particular policy or contract, nor does it address the suitability of a particular policy or contract for a specific purpose or purchaser. Furthermore, the opinion does not take into account deductibles, surrender or cancellation penalties, timeliness of payment, nor the likelihood of the use of a defense such as fraud to deny claims.

Insurer financial strength ratings do not refer to an organization's ability to meet nonpolicy (i.e., debt) obligations. Assignment of ratings to debt issued by insurers or to debt issues that are fully or partially supported by insurance policies, contracts, or guarantees is a separate process from the determination of insurer financial strength ratings, and follows procedures consistent with those used to assign an issue credit rating. An insurer financial strength rating is not a recommendation to purchase or discontinue any policy or contract issued by an insurer.

Long-Term Insurer Financial Strength Ratings

Category Definition

AAA

An insurer rated 'AAA' has extremely strong financial security characteristics. 'AAA' is the highest insurer financial strength rating assigned by S&P.

AA

An insurer rated 'AA' has very strong financial security characteristics, differing only slightly from those rated higher.

A

An insurer rated 'A' has strong financial security characteristics, but is somewhat more likely to be affected by adverse business conditions than are insurers with higher ratings.

BBB

An insurer rated 'BBB' has good financial security characteristics, but is more likely to be affected by adverse business conditions than are higher-rated insurers.

BB; CCC; and CC

An insurer rated 'BB' or lower is regarded as having vulnerable characteristics that may outweigh its strengths. 'BB' indicates the least degree of vulnerability within the range; 'CC' the highest.

BB

An insurer rated 'BB' has marginal financial security characteristics. Positive attributes exist, but adverse business conditions could lead to insufficient ability to meet financial commitments.

B

An insurer rated 'B' has weak financial security characteristics. Adverse business conditions will likely impair its ability to meet financial commitments.

CCC

An insurer rated 'CCC' has very weak financial security characteristics, and is dependent on favorable business conditions to meet financial commitments.

CC

An insurer rated 'CC' has extremely weak financial security characteristics and is likely not to meet some of its financial commitments.

R

An insurer rated 'R' is under regulatory supervision owing to its financial condition. During the pendency of the regulatory supervision, the regulators may have the power to favor one class of obligations over others or pay some obligations and not others. The rating does not apply to insurers subject only to non-financial actions such as market conduct violations.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 40SAI dated [____], 2019

SD or D

An insurer rated 'SD' (selective default) or 'D' is in default on one or more of its insurance policy obligations but is not under regulatory supervision that would involve a rating of 'R'. The 'D' rating also will be used upon the filing of a bankruptcy petition or the taking of similar action if payments on a policy obligation are at risk. A 'D' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the default will be a general default and that the obligor will fail to pay substantially all of its obligations in full in accordance with the policy terms. An 'SD' rating is assigned when S&P believes that the insurer has selectively defaulted on a specific class of policies but it will continue to meet its payment obligations on other classes of obligations. A selective default includes the completion of a distressed exchange offer. Claim denials due to lack of coverage or other legally permitted defenses are not considered defaults.

NR

An insurer designated 'NR' is not rated.

Plus (+) or Minus (-): 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.

Fitch Insurer Financial Strength Rating

The Insurer Financial Strength (IFS) Rating provides an assessment of the financial strength of an insurance organization. The IFS Rating is assigned to the insurance company's policyholder obligations, including assumed reinsurance obligations and contract holder obligations, such as guaranteed investment contracts. The IFS Rating reflects both the ability of the insurer to meet these obligations on a timely basis, and expected recoveries received by claimants in the event the insurer stops making payments or payments are interrupted, due to either the failure of the insurer or some form of regulatory intervention. In the context of the IFS Rating, the timeliness of payments is considered relative to both contract and/or policy terms but also recognizes the possibility of reasonable delays caused by circumstances common to the insurance industry, including claims reviews, fraud investigations and coverage disputes.

The IFS Rating does not encompass policyholder obligations residing in separate accounts, unit-linked products or segregated funds, for which the policyholder bears investment or other risks. However, any guarantees provided to the policyholder with respect to such obligations are included in the IFS Rating.

Expected recoveries are based on the agency's assessments of the sufficiency of an insurance company's assets to fund policyholder obligations, in a scenario in which payments have ceased or been interrupted. Accordingly, expected recoveries exclude the impact of recoveries obtained from any government sponsored guaranty or policyholder protection funds. Expected recoveries also exclude the impact of collateralization or security, such as letters of credit or trusteed assets, supporting select reinsurance obligations.

IFS Ratings can be assigned to insurance and reinsurance companies in any insurance sector, including the life & annuity, non-life, property/casualty, health, mortgage, financial guaranty, residual value and title insurance sectors, as well as to managed care companies such as health maintenance organizations.

The IFS Rating does not address the quality of an insurer's claims handling services or the relative value of products sold.

The IFS Rating uses the same symbols used by the agency for its International and National credit ratings of long-term or short-term debt issues. However, the definitions associated with the ratings reflect the unique aspects of the IFS Rating within an insurance industry context.

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

Obligations for which a payment interruption has occurred due to either the insolvency or failure of the insurer or some form of regulatory intervention will generally be rated between 'B' and 'C' on the Long-Term IFS Rating scales (both International and National). International Short-Term IFS Ratings assigned under the same circumstances will align with the insurer's International Long-Term IFS Ratings.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 41 SAI dated [____], 2019

APPENDIX B

Eaton Vance Funds

Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures

I. Overview

The Boards of Trustees (the “Board”) of the Eaton Vance Funds have determined that it is in the interests of the Funds’ shareholders to adopt these written proxy voting policy and procedures (the “Policy”). For purposes of this Policy:

“Fund” means each registered investment company sponsored by the Eaton Vance organization; and “Adviser” means the adviser or sub-adviser responsible for the day-to-day management of all or a portion of the Fund’s assets.

II. Delegation of Proxy Voting Responsibilities

The Board hereby delegates to the Adviser responsibility for voting the Fund’s proxies as described in this Policy. In this connection, the Adviser is required to provide the Board with a copy of its proxy voting policies and procedures (“Adviser Procedures”) and all Fund proxies will be voted in accordance with the Adviser Procedures, provided that in the event a material conflict of interest arises with respect to a proxy to be voted for the Fund (as described in Section IV below) the Adviser shall follow the process for voting such proxy as described in Section IV below.

The Adviser is required to report any material change to the Adviser Procedures to the Board in the manner set forth in Section V below. In addition, the Board will review the Adviser Procedures annually.

III. Delegation of Proxy Voting Disclosure Responsibilities

Pursuant to Rule 30b1-4 promulgated under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the “1940 Act”), the Fund is required to file Form N-PX no later than August 31st of each year. On Form N-PX, the Fund is required to disclose, among other things, information concerning proxies relating to the Fund’s portfolio investments, whether or not the Fund (or its Adviser) voted the proxies relating to securities held by the Fund and how it voted on the matter and whether it voted for or against management.

To facilitate the filing of Form N-PX for the Fund:

The Adviser is required to record, compile and transmit in a timely manner all data required to be filed on Form N-PX for the Fund that it manages. Such data shall be transmitted to Eaton Vance Management, which acts as administrator to the Fund (the “Administrator”) or the third party service provider designated by the Administrator; and the Administrator is required to file Form N-PX on behalf of the Fund with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“Commission”) as required by the 1940 Act. The Administrator may delegate the filing to a third party service party provided each such filing is reviewed and approved by the Administrator.

IV. Conflicts of Interest

The Board expects the Adviser, as a fiduciary to the Fund it manages, to put the interests of the Fund and its shareholders above those of the Adviser. When required to vote a proxy for the Fund, the Adviser may have material business relationships with the issuer soliciting the proxy that could give rise to a potential material conflict of interest for the Adviser.² In the event such a material conflict of interest arises, the Adviser, to the extent it is aware or reasonably should have been aware of the material conflict, will refrain from voting any proxies related to companies giving rise to such material conflict until it notifies and consults with the appropriate Board, or any committee, sub-committee or group of Independent Trustees identified by the Board (as long as such committee, sub-committee

or group contains at least two or more Independent Trustees) (the “Board Members”), concerning the material conflict. For ease of communicating with the Board Members, the Adviser is required to provide the foregoing notice to the Fund’s Chief Legal Officer who will then notify and facilitate a consultation with the Board Members.

Once the Board Members have been notified of the material conflict:

They shall convene a meeting to review and consider all relevant materials related to the proxies involved. This meeting shall be convened within 3 business days, provided that it an effort will be made to convene the meeting sooner if the proxy must be voted in less than 3 business days;

In considering such proxies, the Adviser shall make available all materials requested by the Board Members and make reasonably available appropriate personnel to discuss the matter upon request.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 42SAI dated [____], 2019

The Board Members will then instruct the Adviser on the appropriate course of action with respect to the proxy at issue.

If the Board Members are unable to meet and the failure to vote a proxy would have a material adverse impact on the Fund(s) involved, the Adviser will have the right to vote such proxy, provided that it discloses the existence of the material conflict to the Chairperson of the Board as soon as practicable and to the Board at its next meeting. Any determination regarding the voting of proxies of the Fund that is made by the Board Members shall be deemed to be a good faith determination regarding the voting of proxies by the full Board.

V. Reports and Review

The Administrator shall make copies of each Form N-PX filed on behalf of the Fund available for the Boards' review upon the Boards' request. The Administrator (with input from the Adviser for the Fund) shall also provide any reports reasonably requested by the Board regarding the proxy voting records of the Fund.

The Adviser shall report any material changes to the Adviser Procedures to the Board as soon as practicable and the Boards will review the Adviser Procedures annually.

The Adviser also shall report any changes to the Adviser Procedures to the Fund Chief Legal Officer prior to implementing such changes in order to enable the Administrator to effectively coordinate the Fund's disclosure relating to the Adviser Procedures.

To the extent requested by the Commission, the Policy and the Adviser Procedures shall be appended to the Fund's statement of additional information included in its registration statement.

The Eaton Vance Funds may be organized as trusts or corporations. For ease of reference, the Funds may be referred to herein as Trusts and the Funds' Board of Trustees or Board of Directors may be referred to collectively herein as the Board.

An Adviser is expected to maintain a process for identifying a potential material conflict of interest. As an example only, such potential conflicts may arise when the issuer is a client of the Adviser and generates a significant amount of fees to the Adviser or the issuer is a distributor of the Adviser's products.

If a material conflict of interest exists with respect to a particular proxy and the proxy voting procedures of the relevant Adviser require that proxies are to be voted in accordance with the recommendation of a third party proxy voting vendor, the requirements of this Section IV shall only apply if the Adviser intends to vote such proxy in a manner inconsistent with such third party recommendation.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 43 SAI dated [____], 2019

APPENDIX C

EATON VANCE MANAGEMENT

BOSTON MANAGEMENT AND RESEARCH

EATON VANCE INVESTMENT COUNSEL

EATON VANCE TRUST COMPANY

EATON VANCE MANAGEMENT (INTERNATIONAL) LIMITED

EATON VANCE ADVISERS INTERNATIONAL LTD.

PROXY VOTING POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. Introduction

Eaton Vance Management, Boston Management and Research, Eaton Vance Investment Counsel, Eaton Vance Management (International) Limited, Eaton Vance Advisers International Ltd. and Eaton Vance Trust Company (each an “Adviser” and collectively the “Advisers”) have each adopted and implemented policies and procedures that each Adviser believes are reasonably designed to ensure that proxies are voted in the best interest of clients, in accordance with its fiduciary duties and, to the extent applicable, Rule 206(4)-6 under the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. The Advisers’ authority to vote the proxies of their clients is established by their advisory contracts or similar documentation, such as the Eaton Vance Funds Proxy Voting Policy and Procedures. These proxy policies and procedures reflect the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”) requirements governing advisers and the long-standing fiduciary standards and responsibilities for ERISA accounts set out in the Department of Labor Bulletin 94-2 C.F.R. 2509.94-2 (July 29, 1994).

II. Overview

Each Adviser manages its clients’ assets with the overriding goal of seeking to provide the greatest possible return to such clients consistent with governing laws and the investment policies of each client. In pursuing that goal, each Adviser seeks to exercise its clients’ rights as shareholders of voting securities to support sound corporate governance of the companies issuing those securities with the principle aim of maintaining or enhancing the companies’ economic value.

The exercise of shareholder rights is generally done by casting votes by proxy at shareholder meetings on matters submitted to shareholders for approval (for example, the election of directors or the approval of a company’s stock option plans for directors, officers or employees). Each Adviser has established guidelines (“Guidelines”) as described below and generally will utilize such Guidelines in voting proxies on behalf of its clients. The Guidelines are largely based on those developed by the Agent (defined below) but also reflect input from the Global Proxy Group (defined below) and other Adviser investment professionals and are believed to be consistent with the views of the Adviser on the various types of proxy proposals. These Guidelines are designed to promote accountability of a company’s management and board of directors to its shareholders and to align the interests of management with those of shareholders. The Guidelines provide a framework for analysis and decision making but do not address all potential issues.

Except as noted below, each Adviser will vote any proxies received by a client for which it has sole investment discretion through a third-party proxy voting service (“Agent”) in accordance with the Guidelines in a manner that is reasonably designed to eliminate any potential conflicts of interest, as described more fully below. The Agent is currently Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. Where applicable, proxies will be voted in accordance with client-specific guidelines or, in the case of an Eaton Vance Fund that is sub-advised, pursuant to the sub-adviser’s proxy voting policies and procedures. Although an Adviser retains the services of the Agent for research and voting recommendations, the Adviser remains responsible for proxy voting decisions.

III. Roles and Responsibilities

A. Proxy Administrator

The Proxy Administrator and/or her designee coordinate the consideration of proxies referred back to the Adviser by the Agent, and otherwise administers these Procedures. In the Proxy Administrator’s absence, another employee of the Adviser may perform the Proxy Administrator’s responsibilities as deemed appropriate by the Global Proxy Group. The Proxy Administrator also may designate another employee to perform certain of the Proxy Administrator’s duties hereunder, subject to the oversight of the Proxy Administrator.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 44SAI dated [____], 2019

B. Agent

The Agent is responsible for coordinating with the clients' custodians and the Advisers to ensure that all proxy materials received by the custodians relating to the portfolio securities are processed in a timely fashion. Each Adviser shall instruct the custodian for its clients to deliver proxy ballots and related materials to the Agent. The Agent shall vote and/or refer all proxies in accordance with the Guidelines. The Agent shall retain a record of all proxy votes handled by the Agent. With respect to each Eaton Vance Fund memorialized therein, such record must reflect all of the information required to be disclosed in the Fund's Form N-PX pursuant to Rule 30b1-4 under the Investment Company Act of 1940, to the extent applicable. In addition, the Agent is responsible for maintaining copies of all proxy statements received by issuers and to promptly provide such materials to an Adviser upon request.

Subject to the oversight of the Advisers, the Agent shall establish and maintain adequate internal controls and policies in connection with the provision of proxy voting services to the Advisers, including methods to reasonably ensure that its analysis and recommendations are not influenced by a conflict of interest, and shall disclose such controls and policies to the Advisers when and as provided for herein. Unless otherwise specified, references herein to recommendations of the Agent shall refer to those in which no conflict of interest has been identified. The Advisers are responsible for the ongoing oversight of the Agent as contemplated by SEC Staff Legal Bulletin No. 20 (June 30, 2014). Such oversight currently may include one or more of the following:

- periodic review of Agent's proxy voting platform and reporting capabilities (including recordkeeping);
- periodic review of a sample of ballots for accuracy and correct application of the Guidelines;
- periodic meetings with Agent's client services team;
- periodic in-person and/or web-based due diligence meetings;
- receipt and review of annual certifications received from the Agent; and/or
- annual review of due diligence materials provided by the Agent, including review of procedures and practices regarding potential conflicts of interests.

C. Global Proxy Group

The Adviser shall establish a Global Proxy Group which is responsible for establishing the Guidelines (described below) and reviewing such Guidelines at least annually. The Global Proxy Group shall also review recommendations to vote proxies in a manner that is contrary to the Guidelines and when the proxy relates to a conflicted company of the Adviser or the Agent as described below.

The members of the Global Proxy Group shall include the Chief Equity Investment Officer of Eaton Vance Management ("EVM") and selected members of the Equity Departments of EVM and Eaton Vance Advisers International Ltd. ("EVAI") and EVM's Global Income Department. The Proxy Administrator is not a voting member of the Global Proxy Group. Members of the Global Proxy Group may be changed from time to time at the Advisers' discretion. Matters that require the approval of the Global Proxy Group may be acted upon by its member(s) available to consider the matter.

IV. Proxy Voting

A. The Guidelines

The Global Proxy Group shall establish recommendations for the manner in which proxy proposals shall be voted (the "Guidelines"). The Guidelines shall identify when ballots for specific types of proxy proposals shall be voted or

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

referred to the Adviser. The Guidelines shall address a wide variety of individual topics, including, among other matters, shareholder voting rights, anti-takeover defenses, board structures, the election of directors, executive and director compensation, reorganizations, mergers, issues of corporate social responsibility and other proposals affecting shareholder rights. In determining the Guidelines, the Global Proxy Group considers the recommendations of the Agent as well as input from the Advisers' portfolio managers and analysts and/or other internally developed or third party research.

The Global Proxy Group shall review the Guidelines at least annually and, in connection with proxies to be voted on behalf of the Eaton Vance Funds, the Adviser will submit amendments to the Guidelines to the Fund Boards each year for approval.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 45 SAI dated [____], 2019

With respect to the types of proxy proposals listed below, the Guidelines will generally provide as follows:

1. Proposals Regarding Mergers and Corporate Restructurings/Disposition of Assets/Termination/Liquidation and Mergers

The Agent shall be directed to refer proxy proposals accompanied by its written analysis and voting recommendation to the Proxy Administrator and/or her designee for all proposals relating to Mergers and Corporate Restructurings.

2. Corporate Structure Matters/Anti-Takeover Defenses

As a general matter, the Advisers will normally vote against anti-takeover measures and other proposals designed to limit the ability of shareholders to act on possible transactions (except in the case of closed-end management investment companies).

3. Proposals Regarding Proxy Contests

The Agent shall be directed to refer contested proxy proposals accompanied by its written analysis and voting recommendation to the Proxy Administrator and/or her designee.

4. Social and Environmental Issues

The Advisers will vote social and environmental proposals on a “case-by-case” basis taking into consideration industry best practices and existing management policies and practices.

Interpretation and application of the Guidelines is not intended to supersede any law, regulation, binding agreement or other legal requirement to which an issuer or the Adviser may be or become subject. The Guidelines generally relate to the types of proposals that are most frequently presented in proxy statements to shareholders. In certain circumstances, an Adviser may determine to vote contrary to the Guidelines subject to the voting procedures set forth below.

B. Voting Procedures

Except as noted in Section V below, the Proxy Administrator and/or her designee shall instruct the Agent to vote proxies as follows:

1. Vote in Accordance with Guidelines

If the Guidelines prescribe the manner in which the proxy is to be voted, the Agent shall vote in accordance with the Guidelines, which for certain types of proposals, are recommendations of the Agent made on a case-by-case basis.

2. Seek Guidance for a Referred Item or a Proposal for which there is No Guideline

If (i) the Guidelines state that the proxy shall be referred to the Adviser to determine the manner in which it should be voted or (ii) a proxy is received for a proposal for which there is no Guideline, the Proxy Administrator and/or her designee shall consult with the analyst(s) covering the company subject to the proxy proposal and shall instruct the Agent to vote in accordance with the determination of the analyst. The Proxy Administrator and/or her designee will

maintain a record of all proxy proposals that are referred by the Agent, as well as all applicable recommendations, analysis and research received and the resolution of the matter. Where more than one analyst covers a particular company and the recommendations of such analysts for voting a proposal subject to this Section IV.B.2 conflict, the Global Proxy Group shall review such recommendations and any other available information related to the proposal and determine the manner in which it should be voted, which may result in different recommendations for clients (including Funds).

3. Votes Contrary to the Guidelines or Where Agent is Conflicted

In the event an analyst with respect to companies within his or her coverage area may recommend a vote contrary to the Guidelines, the Proxy Administrator and/or her designee will provide the Global Proxy Group with the Agent's recommendation for the Proposal along with any other relevant materials, including a description of the basis for the analyst's recommendation via email and the Proxy Administrator and/or designee will then instruct the Agent to vote the proxy in the manner determined by the Global Proxy Group. Should the vote by the Global Proxy Group concerning one or more recommendations result in a tie, EVM's Chief Equity Investment Officer will determine the manner in which the proxy will be voted. The Adviser will provide a report to the Boards of Trustees of the Eaton Vance Funds reflecting any votes cast on behalf of the Eaton Vance Funds contrary to the Guidelines, and shall do so quarterly. A similar process will be followed if the Agent has a conflict of interest with respect to a proxy as described in Section VI.B.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 46SAI dated [____], 2019

4. Do Not Cast a Vote

It shall generally be the policy of the Advisers to take no action on a proxy for which no client holds a position or otherwise maintains an economic interest in the relevant security at the time the vote is to be cast. In addition, the Advisers may determine not to vote (i) if the economic effect on shareholders' interests or the value of the portfolio holding is indeterminable or insignificant (*e.g.*, proxies in connection with securities no longer held in the portfolio of a client or proxies being considered on behalf of a client that is no longer in existence); (ii) if the cost of voting a proxy outweighs the benefits (*e.g.*, certain international proxies, particularly in cases in which share blocking practices may impose trading restrictions on the relevant portfolio security); or (iii) in markets in which shareholders' rights are limited, and the Adviser is unable to timely access ballots or other proxy information. Non-Votes may also result in certain cases in which the Agent's recommendation has been deemed to be conflicted, as provided for herein.

C. Securities on Loan

When a fund client participates in the lending of its securities and the securities are on loan at the record date for a shareholder meeting, proxies related to such securities generally will not be forwarded to the relevant Adviser by the fund's custodian and therefore will not be voted. In the event that the Adviser determines that the matters involved would have a material effect on the applicable fund's investment in the loaned securities, the Adviser will make reasonable efforts to terminate the loan in time to be able to cast such vote or exercise such consent. The Adviser shall instruct the fund's security lending agent to refrain from lending the full position of any security held by a fund to ensure that the Adviser receives notice of proxy proposals impacting the loaned security.

V. Recordkeeping

The Advisers will maintain records relating to the proxies they vote on behalf of their clients in accordance with Section 204-2 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended. Those records will include:

A copy of the Advisers' proxy voting policies and procedures;

Proxy statements received regarding client securities. Such proxy statements received from issuers are either in the SEC's EDGAR database or are kept by the Agent and are available upon request;

A record of each vote cast;

A copy of any document created by the Advisers that was material to making a decision on how to vote a proxy for a client or that memorializes the basis for such a decision; and

Each written client request for proxy voting records and the Advisers' written response to any client request (whether written or oral) for such records.

All records described above will be maintained in an easily accessible place for five years and will be maintained in the offices of the Advisers or their Agent for two years after they are created.

Notwithstanding anything contained in this Section V, Eaton Vance Trust Company shall maintain records relating to the proxies it votes on behalf of its clients in accordance with laws and regulations applicable to it and its activities. In addition, EVAIL shall maintain records relating to the proxies it votes on behalf of its clients in accordance with UK law.

VI. Assessment of Agent and Identification and Resolution of Conflicts with Clients

A. Assessment of Agent

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

The Advisers shall establish that the Agent (i) is independent from the Advisers, (ii) has resources that indicate it can competently provide analysis of proxy issues, and (iii) can make recommendations in an impartial manner and in the best interests of the clients and, where applicable, their beneficial owners. The Advisers shall utilize, and the Agent shall comply with, such methods for establishing the foregoing as the Advisers may deem reasonably appropriate and shall do so not less than annually as well as prior to engaging the services of any new proxy voting service. The Agent shall also notify the Advisers in writing within fifteen (15) calendar days of any material change to information previously provided to an Adviser in connection with establishing the Agent's independence, competence or impartiality.

B. Conflicts of Interest

As fiduciaries to their clients, each Adviser puts the interests of its clients ahead of its own. In order to ensure that relevant personnel of the Advisers are able to identify potential material conflicts of interest, each Adviser will take the following steps:

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 47SAI dated [____], 2019

Quarterly, the Eaton Vance Legal and Compliance Department will seek information from the department heads of each department of the Advisers and of Eaton Vance Distributors, Inc. (“EVD”) (an affiliate of the Advisers and principal underwriter of certain Eaton Vance Funds). Each department head will be asked to provide a list of significant clients or prospective clients of the Advisers or EVD.

A representative of the Legal and Compliance Department will compile a list of the companies identified (the “Conflicted Companies”) and provide that list to the Proxy Administrator.

The Proxy Administrator will compare the list of Conflicted Companies with the names of companies for which he or she has been referred a proxy statement (the “Proxy Companies”). If a Conflicted Company is also a Proxy Company, the Proxy Administrator will report that fact to the Global Proxy Group.

If the Proxy Administrator expects to instruct the Agent to vote the proxy of the Conflicted Company strictly according to the Guidelines contained in these Proxy Voting Policies and Procedures (the “Policies”) or the recommendation of the Agent, as applicable, he or she will (i) inform the Global Proxy Group of that fact, (ii) instruct the Agent to vote the proxies and (iii) record the existence of the material conflict and the resolution of the matter.

If the Proxy Administrator intends to instruct the Agent to vote in a manner inconsistent with the Guidelines, the Global Proxy Group will then determine if a material conflict of interest exists between the relevant Adviser and its clients (in consultation with the Legal and Compliance Department if needed). If the Global Proxy Group determines that a material conflict exists, prior to instructing the Agent to vote any proxies relating to these Conflicted Companies the Adviser will seek instruction on how the proxy should be voted from:

The client, in the case of an individual, corporate, institutional or benefit plan client;

In the case of a Fund, its board of directors, any committee, sub-committee or group of Independent Trustees (as long as such committee, sub-committee or group contains at least two or more Independent Trustees); or

The adviser, in situations where the Adviser acts as a sub-adviser to such adviser.

The Adviser will provide all reasonable assistance to each party to enable such party to make an informed decision.

If the client, Fund board or adviser, as the case may be, fails to instruct the Adviser on how to vote the proxy, the Adviser will generally instruct the Agent, through the Proxy Administrator, to abstain from voting in order to avoid the appearance of impropriety. If however, the failure of the Adviser to vote its clients’ proxies would have a material adverse economic impact on the Advisers’ clients’ securities holdings in the Conflicted Company, the Adviser may instruct the Agent, through the Proxy Administrator, to vote such proxies in order to protect its clients’ interests. In either case, the Proxy Administrator will record the existence of the material conflict and the resolution of the matter.

The Advisers shall also identify and address conflicts that may arise from time to time concerning the Agent. Upon the Advisers’ request, which shall be not less than annually, and within fifteen (15) calendar days of any material change to such information previously provided to an Adviser, the Agent shall provide the Advisers with such information as the Advisers deem reasonable and appropriate for use in determining material relationships of the Agent that may pose a conflict of interest with respect to the Agent’s proxy analysis or recommendations. Such information shall include, but is not limited to, a monthly report from the Agent detailing the Agent’s Corporate Securities Division clients and related revenue data. The Advisers shall review such information on a monthly basis. The Proxy Administrator shall instruct the Agent to refer any proxies for which a material conflict of the Agent is deemed to be present to the Proxy Administrator. Any such proxy referred by the Agent shall be referred to the Global Proxy Group for consideration accompanied by the Agent’s written analysis and voting recommendation. The Proxy Administrator will instruct the Agent to vote the proxy as recommended by the Global Proxy Group.

⁽¹⁾ The Guidelines will prescribe how a proposal shall be voted or provide factors to be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Agent in recommending a vote pursuant to the Guidelines.

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund 48SAI dated [____], 2019

Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund

Statement of Additional Information

[_____], 2019

Investment Adviser and Administrator

Eaton Vance Management

Two International Place

Boston, MA 02110

Custodian

State Street Bank and Trust Company

State Street Financial Center, One Lincoln Street

Boston, MA 02111

Transfer Agent

American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC

6201 15th Avenue

Brooklyn, NY 11219

Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

[_____]

PART C

OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 25.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND EXHIBITS

(1) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS:

Included in Part A:

Financial Highlights.

Included in Part B:

Registrant's Certified Shareholder Report on Form N-CSR filed [_____] (Accession No. [_____]) and incorporated herein by reference.

(2) EXHIBITS:

- Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated October 5, 2005 is incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's initial Registration Statement on Form N-2 (File Nos. 333-129692 and 811-21832) as to the
- (a)(1) Registrant's common shares of beneficial interest ("Common Shares") filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 15, 2005 (Accession No. 0000898432-05-000931) ("Initial Common Shares Registration Statement").
 - (2) Amendment to Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated November 9, 2005 incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Initial Common Shares Registration Statement.
 - (3) Amendment to Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated October 16, 2006 incorporated herein by reference to the Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1 to the Registrant's Initial Common Shares Registration Statement as filed with the Commission on October 24, 2006 (Accession No. 0000950135-06-006428) ("Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1").
 - (4) Amendment to Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated August 11, 2008 filed herewith.
 - (b) Amended and Restated By-Laws adopted April 23, 2012 filed herewith.
 - (c) Not applicable.
 - (d) Form of Specimen Certificate for Common Shares of Beneficial Interest incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
 - (e) Dividend Reinvestment Plan incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
 - (f) Not applicable.
 - (g)(1) Investment Advisory Agreement dated November 14, 2005 incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
 - (2) Fee Reduction Agreement dated April 21, 2008 filed herewith.
 - (h)(1) Form of Underwriting Agreement incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
 - (2) Form of Master Agreement Among Underwriters incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1.
 - (i) The Securities and Exchange Commission has granted the Registrant an exemptive order that permits the Registrant to enter into deferred compensation arrangements with its independent Trustees. See in the matter of Capital Exchange Fund, Inc., Release No. IC- 20671 (November 1, 1994).

Edgar Filing: Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund - Form N-2

- (j) (1) Amended and Restated Master Custodian Agreement between Eaton Vance Funds and State Street Bank & Trust Company dated September 1, 2013 filed as Exhibit (g)(1) to Post-Effective Amendment No. 211 of Eaton Vance Mutual Funds Trust (File Nos. 002-90946, 811-04015) filed September 24, 2013 (Accession No. 0000940394-13-001073) and incorporated herein by reference.

C-1

- (2) Amended and Restated Services Agreement with State Street Bank & Trust Company dated September 1, 2010 filed as exhibit (g)(2) to Post-Effective Amendment No. 108 of Eaton Vance Special Investment Trust (File Nos. 02-27962, 811-1545) filed September 27, 2010 (Accession No. 0000940394-10-001000) and incorporated herein by reference.
- (3) Amendment Number 1 dated May 16, 2012 to Amended and Restated Services Agreement with State Street Bank & Trust Company dated September 1, 2010 filed as Exhibit (g)(3) to Post-Effective Amendment No. 39 of Eaton Vance Municipals Trust II (File Nos. 033-71320, 811-08134) filed May 29, 2012 (Accession No. 0000940394-12-000641) and incorporated herein by reference.
- (4) Amendment dated September 1, 2013 to Amended and Restated Services Agreement with State Street Bank & Trust Company filed as Exhibit (g)(4) to Post-Effective Amendment No. 211 of Eaton Vance Mutual Funds Trust (File Nos. 002-90946, 811-04015) filed September 24, 2013 (Accession No. 0000940394-13-001073) and incorporated herein by reference.
- (k) (1) Transfer Agency and Services Agreement dated April 13, 2017 filed as Exhibit (k)(1) to Pre-Effective Amendment No. 1 of Eaton Vance Floating-Rate 2022 Target Term Trust (File Nos. 333-216805, 811-23240) filed with the Commission on June 28, 2017 (Accession No. 0001193125-17-215501) and incorporated herein by reference.
- (2) Amended and Restated Administrative Services Agreement dated August 6, 2012 filed herewith.
- (3) Organizational and Expense Reimbursement Agreement incorporated herein by reference to the Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2 to the Registrant's Initial Common Shares Registration Statement as filed with the Commission on November 24, 2006 (Accession No. 0000950135-06-007108) ("Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2").
- (4) Form of Structuring Fee Agreement with Wachovia Capital Markets, LLC incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (5) Form of Structuring Fee Agreement with UBS Securities LLC incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (6) Form of Structuring Fee Agreement with Citigroup Global Markets Inc. incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (7) Form of Additional Compensation Agreement with qualifying underwriters incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (l) Opinion of Internal Counsel to be filed by pre-effective amendment.
- (m) Not applicable.
- (n) Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm to be filed by pre-effective amendment.
- (o) Not applicable.
- (p) Letter Agreement with Eaton Vance Management incorporated herein by reference to the Registrant's Pre-Effective Amendment No. 2.
- (q) Not applicable.
- (r) Codes of Ethics adopted by the Eaton Vance Funds and the Eaton Vance Entities effective October 1, 2018 filed as Exhibit (p)(1) to Post-Effective Amendment No. 304 of Eaton Vance Mutual Funds Trust (File Nos. 002-90946, 811-04015) filed October 17, 2018 (Accession No. 0000940394-18-001695) and incorporated herein by reference.
- (s) Power of Attorney dated October 10, 2018 filed herewith.

ITEM 26.

MARKETING ARRANGEMENTS

See Form of Distribution Agreement with respect to the Rule 415 shelf offering to be filed by pre-effective amendment.

See Form of Sub-Placement Agent Agreement to be filed by pre-effective amendment.

ITEM 27. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

The approximate expenses in connection with the offering are as follows:

Registration and Filing Fees	\$
FINRA Fees	\$
New York Stock Exchange Fees	\$
Costs of Printing and Engraving	\$
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$
Total	\$

ITEM 28. PERSONS CONTROLLED BY OR UNDER COMMON CONTROL

None.

ITEM 29. NUMBER OF HOLDERS OF SECURITIES

Set forth below is the number of record holders as of December 31, 2018, of each class of securities of the Registrant:

Title of Class	Number of Record Holders
Common Shares of Beneficial interest, par value \$0.01 per share	76,337

ITEM 30. INDEMNIFICATION

The Registrant's By-Laws, filed in the Registrant's Initial Common Shares Registration Statement, and the Form of Distribution Agreement to be filed by Amendment contain provisions limiting the liability, and providing for indemnification, of the Trustees and officers under certain circumstances.

Registrant's Trustees and officers are insured under a standard investment company errors and omissions insurance policy covering loss incurred by reason of negligent errors and omissions committed in their official capacities as such. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the provisions described in this Item 30, 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 Securities 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 director, officer or controlling person of the Registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or 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 Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

ITEM 31. BUSINESS AND OTHER CONNECTIONS OF INVESTMENT ADVISER

Reference is made to: (i) the information set forth under the caption "Investment advisory and other services" in the Statement of Additional Information; (ii) the Eaton Vance Corp. 10-K filed under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (File No. 001-8100); and (iii) the Form ADV of Eaton Vance Management (File No. 801-15930) filed with the Commission, all of which are incorporated herein by reference.

ITEM 32. LOCATION OF ACCOUNTS AND RECORDS

All applicable accounts, books and documents required to be maintained by the Registrant by Section 31(a) of the Investment Company Act of 1940 and the Rules promulgated thereunder are in the possession and custody of the Registrant's custodian, State Street Bank and Trust Company, State Street Financial Center, One Lincoln Street, Boston, MA 02111, and its transfer agent, American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, LLC, 6201 15th Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11219, with the exception of certain corporate documents and portfolio trading documents which are in the possession and custody of Eaton Vance Management, Two International Place, Boston, MA 02110. Registrant is informed that all applicable accounts, books and documents required to be maintained by registered investment advisers are in the custody and possession of Eaton Vance Management.

ITEM 33. MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Not applicable.

ITEM 34. UNDERTAKINGS

1. The Registrant undertakes to suspend offering of Common Shares until the prospectus is amended if (1) subsequent to the effective date of this Registration Statement, the net asset value declines more than 10 percent from its net asset value as of the effective date of this Registration Statement or (2) the net asset value increases to an amount greater than its net proceeds as stated in the prospectus.

2. Not applicable.

3. Not applicable.

4. The Registrant undertakes to

(a) file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to the registration statement:

(1) to include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act;

(2) to reflect in the prospectus any facts or events after the effective date of the registration statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in the registration statement;

(3) to include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in the registration statement or any material change to such information in the registration statement.

(b) that, for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each such post-effective amendment shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of those securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof;

(c) to remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering;

(d) that, for the purpose of determining liability under the Securities Act to any purchaser, if the Registrant is subject to Rule 430C: Each prospectus filed pursuant to Rule 497(b), (c), (d) or (e) under the Securities Act as part of a registration statement relating to an offering, other than prospectus filed in reliance on Rule 430A under the Securities Act, shall be deemed to be part of and included in the registration statement as of the date it is first used after effectiveness. Provided, however, that no statement made in a registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement or made in a document incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference into the

registration statement or prospectus that is part of the registration statement will, as to a purchaser with a time of contract of sale prior to such first use, supersede or modify any statement that was made in the registration statement or prospectus that was part of the registration statement or made in any such document immediately prior to such date of first use;

C-4

(e) that for the purpose of determining liability of the Registrant under the Securities Act to any purchaser in the initial distribution of securities: The undersigned Registrant undertakes that in a primary offering of securities of the undersigned Registrant pursuant to this registration statement, regardless of the underwriting method used to sell the securities to the purchaser, if the securities are offered or sold to such purchaser by means of any of the following communications, the undersigned Registrant will be a seller to the purchaser and will be considered to offer or sell such securities to the purchaser:

(1) any preliminary prospectus or prospectus of the undersigned Registrant relating to the offering required to be filed pursuant to Rule 497 under the Securities Act;

(2) the portion of any advertisement pursuant to Rule 482 under the Securities Act relating to the offering containing material information about the undersigned Registrant or its securities provided by or on behalf of the undersigned Registrant; and

(3) any other communication that is an offer in the offering made by the undersigned Registrant to the purchaser.

5. The Registrant undertakes that:

(a) for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, the information omitted from the form of prospectus filed as part of this Registration Statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in the form of prospectus filed by the Registrant pursuant to 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of the Registration Statement as of the time it was declared effective; and

(b) for the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

6. The Registrant undertakes to send by first class mail or other means designed to ensure equally prompt delivery, within two business days of receipt of an oral or written request, its Statement of Additional Information.

C-5

NOTICE

A copy of the Agreement and Declaration of Trust of Eaton Vance Tax-Managed Diversified Equity Income Fund is on file with the Secretary of State of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts and notice is hereby given that this instrument is executed on behalf of the Registrant by an officer of the Registrant as an officer and not individually and that the obligations of or arising out of this instrument are not binding upon any of the Trustees, officers or shareholders individually, but are binding only upon the assets and property of the Registrant.

C-6

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended the Registrant has duly caused this Amendment to the Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized in the City of Boston and the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on the 31st day of January 2019.

**EATON VANCE
TAX-MANAGED
DIVERSIFIED
EQUITY INCOME FUND**

By: /s/ Edward J. Perkin
Edward J. Perkin, *President*

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended this Registration Statement has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature Title

/s/
Edward J. Perkin
Perkin
Edward J.
Perkin
President (Chief Executive Officer)

/s/ James F. Kirchner
Kirchner
James F. Kirchner
Treasurer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

Signature	Signature	Title
Thomas E. Faust Jr.*	Thomas E. Faust Jr.*	Trustee
Thomas E. Faust Jr.	Helen Frame Peters	
Mark R. Fetting*	Mark R. Fetting*	Trustee
Mark R. Fetting	Keith Quinton	
Cynthia E. Frost*	Cynthia E. Frost*	Trustee
Cynthia E. Frost	Marcus L. Smith	

George J. Sutherland* Trustee
Gorman*
George J. Susan J. Sutherland
Gorman

Valerie A. Wennerholm* Trustee
Mosley*
Valerie A. Scott E. Wennerholm
Mosley

William Trustee
H. Park*
William
H. Park

/s/
*By: Maureen
A.
Gemma
Maureen A. Gemma (As
attorney-in-fact)

C-7

INDEX TO EXHIBITS

Exhibit No. Description

- (a)(4) Amendment to Agreement and Declaration of Trust dated August 11, 2008
- (b) Amended and Restated By-Laws adopted April 23, 2012
- (g)(2) Fee Reduction Agreement dated April 21, 2008
- (k)(2) Amended and Restated Administrative Services Agreement dated August 6, 2012
- (s) Power of Attorney dated October 10, 2018

C-8