

Franklin Dynamic Municipal Bond ETF

Commentary | as of June 30, 2025

Key Takeaways

- **Markets:** There were large swings in financial market sentiment across the second quarter of 2025. In early April, US President Donald Trump announced significant increases in US tariff rates as part of his "Liberation Day." Subsequently, a temporary pause (in many cases 90 days) in increased levies helped calm some of the market nerves. The passage of the "One Big Beautiful Bill" spending package after quarter-end further reduced the uncertainties that had been a strong headwind to municipal (muni) bond markets as it affirmed the tax-exempt status of muni securities.
- **Contributors:** Security selection in BBB rated bonds and security selection in AAA rated bonds.
- **Detractors:** Security selection in A rated bonds, overweight allocation to muni bonds rated below investment grade and overweight allocation to muni bonds with 20 years to maturity.
- **Outlook:** Municipal bond valuations continue to appear attractive to us, particularly on a tax-adjusted basis, with yields near multi-year highs. In a more challenging environment, strong bottom-up research and disciplined security selection will be essential to identifying relative value and potentially preserving portfolio quality.

Performance Review

- Over the quarter, Franklin Dynamic Municipal Bond ETF underperformed its benchmark, the Bloomberg Municipal 1-15 Year Index.
- The fund's yield curve positioning detracted from relative performance during the second quarter, primarily driven by our overweight to muni bonds with 20 years to maturity and underweight to muni bonds with two to five years to maturity.
- Rating allocations detracted from relative returns for the period, owing to our overweight to bonds rated below investment grade. Security selection detracted from relative results, particularly due to selection in A and AA rated securities. Meanwhile, selection in BBB and AAA rated securities added to returns.

Outlook

- We still feel that technical conditions in the market favor investors. Fund flows have moved to be positive, and the additional supply of munis has been well absorbed. The summer months typically see an increase in coupon payments and maturing bonds, which will require reinvestment that should provide a strong base to support valuations.
- Fundamentals remain broadly stable, with Moody's reporting that credit upgrades continued to outpace downgrades. However, as the economy slows and inflationary pressures ease, tax revenue growth at the state and local level is expected to moderate, placing greater importance on credit selectivity going forward.
- Municipal bond valuations continue to appear attractive to us, particularly on a tax-adjusted basis. In a more challenging environment, strong bottom-up research and disciplined security selection will be essential to identifying relative value and potentially preserving portfolio quality.

Fund Characteristics

	Fund
Distribution Frequency	Monthly
Effective Duration	6.69 Years
30-Day SEC Yield (Fund)—With Waiver	4.29%
30-Day SEC Yield (Fund)—Without Waiver	4.29%

State / U.S. Territory Allocation (% of Total)

State	Fund
Texas	14.88
Florida	11.76
Illinois	11.45
Alabama	7.51
California	7.21
New York	6.03
Pennsylvania	3.14
Washington	2.64
Other	30.06
Cash & Cash Equivalents	5.34

Average annual total returns and fund expenses (%) - as of June 30, 2025

Product	Ticker	Listed Exchange	3-Mo*	6-Mo*	YTD*	1-Yr	3-Yr	5-Yr	10-Yr	Inception	Gross Expenses	Net Expenses	Inception Date
Market Price Return	FLMI	NYSE Arca	0.35	0.94	0.94	3.51	4.73	2.38	—	2.51	0.30	0.30	8/31/2017
NAV Returns	—	—	0.48	0.86	0.86	3.18	4.75	2.34	—	2.50	0.30	0.30	8/31/2017
Benchmark	—	—	0.70	1.09	1.09	2.63	2.70	0.86	—	1.80	—	—	—

*Cumulative total returns

Benchmark(s)

Benchmark =Bloomberg Municipal 1-15 Year Index

Performance data quoted represents past performance, which does not guarantee future results. Current performance may be lower or higher than the figures shown. Principal value and investment returns will fluctuate, and investors' shares, when redeemed, may be worth more or less than the original cost. Performance would have been lower if fees had not been waived in various periods. Total returns assume the reinvestment of all distributions and the deduction of all fund expenses. An investor cannot invest directly in an index, and unmanaged index returns do not reflect any fees, expense or sales charges. Returns for periods of less than one year are not annualized. For current month-end performance, please visit franklintempleton.com. Net Asset Value (NAV) returns are based on the NAV of the ETF; Market Price returns are based upon the official closing price of the ETF's shares. Returns are average annualized total returns, except for those periods of less than one year, which are cumulative. Market Price returns are calculated using the closing price as of 4 p.m. Eastern time on each trading day (when NAV is normally determined for most funds), and do not represent the returns you would receive if you traded shares at other times. Performance for the ETF and its benchmark index are as of the ETF's last trading day before the end of the period. Since shares of the Fund did not trade in the secondary market until after the Fund's inception, for the period from inception to the first day of secondary trading September 5, 2017, the NAV of the Fund is used as a proxy for the Market Price to calculate market returns. The total annual operating expenses are as of the fund's prospectus available at the time of publication. Actual expenses may be higher and may impact portfolio returns.

What are the Risks?

All investments involve risks, including possible loss of principal. Fixed income securities involve interest rate, credit, inflation and reinvestment risks, and possible loss of principal. As interest rates rise, the value of fixed income securities falls. **Low-rated, high-yield bonds** are subject to greater price volatility, illiquidity and possibility of default. **Changes in the credit rating** of a bond, or in the credit rating or financial strength of a bond's issuer, insurer or guarantor, may affect the bond's value. **Unrated debt securities** have less public information and independent credit analysis and they may be subject to a greater risk of illiquidity, price changes or default. An investor may be subject to the federal **Alternative Minimum Tax**, and state and local taxes may apply. These and other risks are discussed in the fund's prospectus.

Glossary

Investment grade is a rating that indicates that a municipal or corporate bond has a relatively low risk of default. BBB is medium credit quality rating. The **yield curve** shows the relationship between yields and maturity dates for a similar class of bonds.

Important Information

The information provided is not a complete analysis of every material fact regarding any country, market, industry, security or fund. Because market and economic conditions are subject to change, comments, opinions and analyses are rendered as of the date of this material and may change without notice. A portfolio manager's assessment of a particular security, investment or strategy is not intended as individual investment advice or a recommendation or solicitation to buy, sell or hold any security or to adopt any investment strategy; it is intended only to provide insight into the fund's portfolio selection process. Holdings are subject to change.

ETFs and ETPs trade like stocks, fluctuate in market value and may trade at prices above or below the ETFs/ETPs net asset value. Brokerage commissions and ETF expenses will reduce returns. ETF/ETP shares may be bought or sold throughout the day at their market price, not their Net Asset Value (NAV), on the exchange on which they are listed. Shares of ETFs/ETPs are tradable on secondary markets and may trade either at a premium or a discount to their NAV on the secondary market. **Canada:** This content is intended only for Canadian institutional investors that qualify as "permitted clients" as defined in National Instrument 31-103 - Registration Requirements, Exemptions and Ongoing Registrant Obligations. U.S. securities laws generally limit a non-U.S. fund's purchase of a U.S. registered mutual fund or ETF/ETP (a "U.S. Fund") to no more than 3% of the U.S. Fund's voting stock. You should consult your legal counsel prior to investing in a U.S. Fund.

The **Bloomberg Municipal 1-15 Year Bond Index** is a market value weighted index of investment-grade fixed-rate municipal bonds with maturities of 1-15 years. Source: Bloomberg Indices.

Effective Duration is a duration calculation for bonds with embedded options. Effective duration takes into account that expected cash flows will fluctuate as interest rates change. Duration measures the sensitivity of price (the value of principal) of a fixed-income investment to a change in interest rates. The higher the duration number, the more sensitive a fixed-income investment will be to interest rate changes. The **30-day SEC yield** is calculated using the net income (interest and dividends) per share earned over a trailing 30-day period (annualized), divided by the fund's share price at the end of that period. It may not equal the fund's actual income distribution rate, which reflects the fund's past dividends paid to shareholders.

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