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BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 July 20, 2001

ury 20, 2001

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 59

DATED: July 17, 2001

Rule 424(b)(3)

File No. 333-52902

(To Prospectus dated January 11, 2001,

and Prospectus Supplement dated January 11, 2001)

\$9,015,893,162
THE BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC.
MEDIUM-TERM NOTES, SERIES B

Principal Amount: \$25,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x]

Original Issue Date: 7/20/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes []

Maturity Date: 7/22/2002 CUSIP#: 073928US0

Option to Extend Maturity: No [x]

Yes [] Final Maturity Date:

Redeemable On Price(s) Date(s) Price(s)

N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A

Applicable Only to Fixed Rate Notes:

Interest Rate:

Interest Payment Dates:

Applicable Only to Floating Rate Notes:

Interest Rate Basis: Maximum Interest Rate: N/A

[] Commercial Paper Rate Minimum Interest Rate: N/A

[x] Federal Funds Rate Interest Reset Date(s): Daily

[] Treasury Rate Interest Reset Period: Daily

[] LIBOR Telerate

[] Prime Rate

[] CMT Rate

Initial Interest Rate: 3.8475% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly

Index Maturity: N/A

Spread (plus or minus): + 0.16%

* On the 22nd of October, January, April and at Maturity.

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The distribution of Notes will conform to the requirements set forth in Rule 2720 of the NASD Conduct Rules.