BEAR STEARNS COMPANIES INC Form 424B3 June 21, 2001 PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 54 Rule 424(b)(3) File No. 333-52902 DATED: June 18, 2001 (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: \$100,000,000 Floating Rate Notes [x] Book Entry Notes [x] Original Issue Date: 6/21/2001 Fixed Rate Notes [] Certificated Notes [] Maturity Date: 6/20/2003 CUSIP#: 073928UM3 Option to Extend Maturity: No [x] Yes [] Final Maturity Date: OptionalOptionalRedemptionRepaymentRepaymentRedeemable OnPrice(s)Date(s)Price(s) 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 Reuters Interest Payment Date(s): * [] LIBOR Telerate [] Prime Rate [] CMT Rate Initial Interest Rate: 4.3375% Interest Payment Period: Quarterly Index Maturity: N/A Spread (plus or minus): + 0.40%

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* On the 20th of each September, December, March and June, including the maturity date.

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