

PRUDENTIAL FINANCIAL INC

Form 424B3

May 07, 2008

This pricing supplement, which is not complete, relates to an automatically effective Registration Statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended. We may not sell the notes until we deliver a final pricing supplement. This pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus supplement and prospectus are not an offer to sell these notes in any jurisdiction where such an offer would not be permitted.

Subject to completion, dated May 05, 2008.

PRICING SUPPLEMENT NO. 226 DATED []

Filed under Rule 424(b)(3)

(To Prospectus dated March 16, 2006

Registration Statement(s) No. 333-132469, 333-132469-01

and Prospectus Supplement dated March 16, 2006)

and 333-132469-02

Prudential Financial, Inc.

[\$]

Inflation-Protected InterNotes[®] Due May 10, 2018

This pricing supplement relates to \$[] principal amount of Inflation-Protected InterNotes[®], or the notes, of Prudential Financial, Inc. You should read this pricing supplement in conjunction with the Prospectus dated March 16, 2006 and Prospectus Supplement dated March 16, 2006. Unless otherwise defined herein, capitalized terms used herein have the meanings given to them in the accompanying prospectus, as supplemented.

We will pay interest on the notes on the tenth calendar day of each month, which we refer to as an Interest Payment Date, beginning June 10, 2008. Until June 10, 2008, the annual interest rate payable on the notes will be 6.00%. Thereafter, the annual interest rate will be equal to the Inflation Index Adjustment, which will be determined as described in this pricing supplement under Certain Note Terms, plus 2.02%, or 202 basis points. However, at no time will the annual interest rate for any interest payment period be less than zero.

We will base the Inflation Index Adjustment for each interest payment period on the percentage change in the U.S. Consumer Price Index, or CPI, as defined in this pricing supplement under Certain Note Terms. The Inflation Index Adjustment may be a positive or negative rate in any interest payment period. We will calculate the Inflation Index Adjustment monthly and reset the interest rate on the notes monthly.

The notes will mature and be payable at 100% of their principal amount on May 10, 2018, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon through that date, and will not be subject to redemption prior to maturity. The notes will represent unsecured unsubordinated indebtedness of Prudential Financial, Inc. and will rank equally with its other unsecured unsubordinated indebtedness from time to time outstanding.

Investing in the notes involves certain risks, including those described in the Additional Risk Factors section beginning on page 2 of this pricing supplement, the Risk Factors section beginning on page S-6 of the accompanying prospectus supplement, and the Notes Regarding Forward-Looking Statements and Certain Risks section beginning on page 3 of the accompanying prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed on the adequacy or accuracy of this pricing supplement, the accompanying prospectus, or the prospectus supplement. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

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| | Proceeds, Before | | |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| | <u>Price to Public (1)</u> | <u>Agents' Discount</u> | <u>Expenses, to Us (2)</u> |
| Per Note | 100.000% | 1.500% | 98.500% |
| Total | \$[] | \$[] | \$[] |

(1) Plus accrued interest, if any, from May 15, 2008, if settlement occurs after that date.

(2) Net of accrued interest, if any, from May 15, 2008, if settlement occurs after that date.

The Agents expect to deliver the notes in book-entry form only, through the facilities of The Depository Trust Company, New York, New York, on or about May 15, 2008.

Joint Lead Managers and Lead Agents

Banc of America Securities LLC

Incapital LLC

Agents

Bear, Stearns & Co., Inc.
Citigroup Global Markets Inc.
Fidelity Capital Markets
Morgan Stanley
Raymond James
Muriel Siebert & Co., Inc.
Wachovia Securities, LLC

Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.
Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P.
Merrill Lynch & Co.
Ramirez & Co., Inc. (352)
RBC Dain Rauscher Inc.
UBS Securities LLC

Inflation Protected InterNotes® is a registered trademark of Incapital Holdings LLC.

ADDITIONAL RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the following discussion of risks, and the other information provided and incorporated by reference in this pricing supplement and the accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement. The notes will not be an appropriate investment for you if you are not knowledgeable about significant features of the notes, about our financial condition, operations and business or financial matters in general. You should not purchase the notes unless you understand, and know that you can bear, these risks.

During periods of reduced inflation or deflation, the interest rate applicable to the notes for any interest payment period could be lower than 2.02% and as low as zero.

During periods of reduced inflation, the amount of interest payable on the notes will decrease. Therefore, if the Inflation Index Adjustment were to decrease to 1.00% based on the observed change in the CPI, for example, the interest rate in that period would be 2.02% above the Inflation Index Adjustment, or 3.02%. In a period of deflation, the Interest Index Adjustment would be negative, which then could result in an interest rate below 2.02% and as low as zero. For example, if the Inflation Index Adjustment were 2.00%, the interest rate in that period would be 0.02%, and if the Inflation Index Adjustment were 3.02%, the interest rate in that period would also be zero. The calculation of the Inflation Index Adjustment in respect of the CPI incorporates an approximate three-month lag, as described under Certain Note Terms Ref CPI, which will affect the amount of interest payable on the notes and may have an impact on the trading prices of the notes, particularly during periods of significant and rapid changes in the CPI.

The yield on the notes may be lower than the yield on a standard debt security of comparable maturity.

The amounts we will pay you on Interest Payment Dates and the Maturity Date may be less than the return you could have earned on other investments. Because the level of the CPI as of each Interest Payment Date may be less than, equal to or only somewhat greater than its value as of the previous Interest Payment Date, and because interest payments after June 10, 2008 are determined by the level of the CPI, the effective yield to maturity on the notes may be less than that which would be payable on a conventional fixed-rate, non-callable debt security of Prudential Financial, Inc. of comparable maturity. In addition, any such return may not fully compensate you for any opportunity cost to you when other factors relating to the time value of money are taken into account.

CERTAIN NOTE TERMS

1. Aggregate Original Principal Amount: \$[]
2. Issue Date: May 15, 2008
3. Maturity Date: May 10, 2018
 - a. Amount Payable on the Maturity Date: 100% of principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon through that date
4. Interest Category: Floating Rate Notes
5. Trustee: The Bank of New York
6. Calculation Agent: Prudential Financial, Inc.
7. Interest:
 - a. Frequency of Interest Payments: Monthly, with an initial interest payment period from and including the Issue Date to but excluding June 10, 2008
 - b. Interest Payment Dates: The 10th calendar day of each month, commencing June 10, 2008, or if such date is not a Business Day, the next succeeding Business Day
 - c. Interest Rate: Until June 10, 2008, the Initial Interest Rate; thereafter, the Inflation Index Adjustment + Spread, subject to the Minimum Interest Rate Limitation
 - d. Initial Interest Rate: 6.00%
 - e. Day Count: 360-day year of twelve 30-day months
 - f. Inflation Index Adjustment:

The Inflation Index Adjustment (expressed as a percentage per year) for an interest payment period means the Ref CPI (determined as described below) applicable to such interest payment period (calculated as of the Interest Determination Date) divided by the year earlier Ref CPI (determined as described below), minus 1. The formula for calculating the Inflation Index Adjustment is as follows:

The Inflation Index Adjustment will be expressed as a percentage, rounded to the nearest one-hundredth of one percent.

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The Inflation Index Adjustment for purposes of the first coupon payment date of June 10, 2008 is 3.98%.

- g. Spread: 2.02% over Inflation Index Adjustment
- h. Interest Determination Date: 5th Business Day preceding the applicable Interest Payment Date
- i. Minimum Interest Rate Limitation: Zero per year for each interest payment period

(3)

CPI

Definition. CPI means the non-seasonally adjusted U.S. City Average All Items Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, which is published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor, as reported on Bloomberg page CPURNSA or any successor service.

Definition. The Ref CPI for any calendar month is the CPI for the third preceding calendar month. For example, the Ref CPI applicable to the March 10 Interest Payment Date is the CPI for December that is reported in January.

Ref CPI_n : Ref CPI applicable to month n, or the third month preceding the month in which an Interest Payment Date occurs

Ref CPI_{n-12}: Ref CPI applicable to the month 12 months preceding the month n

Example. Assuming that the hypothetical CPI for December 2006 and December 2007 are 201.8 and 210.0, respectively, a principal amount of \$1,000 and a Spread of 2.02%, the Inflation Index Adjustment and interest payment for March 10, 2008 would be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} & 210.0 \\ = & \frac{210.0}{201.8} - 1 \\ & = 4.06\% \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Interest Rate Formula} &= (4.06\% + 2.02\%) \times \$1,000 \times 30/360 \\ &= \$5.07 \end{aligned}$$

CPI Contingencies. If the CPI for a particular month is revised, the previously reported CPI will continue to be used to calculate interest payments on the notes.

In the event that the CPI is (1) discontinued, (2) in the judgment of the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, fundamentally altered in a manner which is materially adverse to the interests of investors in U.S. Treasury Inflation-Linked Treasury Notes as described in the 61 Federal Register 50924-01, or the Reference Treasury Securities, or (3) in the judgment of the Secretary of the U.S. Treasury, altered by legislation or executive order of the President of the United States in a manner which is materially adverse to the interests of investors in the Reference Treasury Securities, the U.S. Treasury has indicated in its Appendix B to 31 Code of Federal Regulations Part 356 that, after consulting with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, or any successor agency, it will substitute an appropriate alternate index for the CPI for the Reference Treasury Securities. In such event, such alternate index will replace the CPI going forward and the index as so calculated and/or published by the U.S. Treasury or such other applicable agency shall be deemed to be a Substitute Index.

The U.S. Treasury has indicated that a change to the CPI would be considered fundamental if it affected the character of the CPI. Technical changes made by the Bureau of Labor Statistics to the CPI to improve its accuracy as a measure of the cost of living would not be considered fundamental changes. Technical changes include, but are not limited to, changes in: (1) the specific items (e.g., apples or major appliances) to be priced for the CPI; (2) the way individual price quotations are aggregated to construct component price indices for these items (aggregation of item sub-strata); (3) the method for combining these component price indices to obtain the comprehensive, all-items CPI (aggregation of item strata); and (4) the procedures for incorporating new goods into the index and making adjustments for quality changes in existing goods. Technical changes to the CPI previously made or announced by the Bureau of Labor Statistics include introducing probability sampling to select the precise items for which prices are collected and the stores in which collection takes place, and changing the way in which price movements of major components, such as shelter costs for homeowners in the early 1980s and medical care costs beginning in 1997, are measured.

In the event that (1) the CPI for a particular month is not reported, (2) the CPI for the base reference period is no longer published, or (3) the U.S. Treasury has failed to substitute an appropriate alternate index for the CPI in the circumstances contemplated in the preceding paragraph, in each case, as of the Interest Determination Date preceding an Interest Payment Date, the Inflation Index Adjustment for such Interest Payment Date shall be the Inflation Index Adjustment last determined with respect to the first Interest Payment Date closest preceding such Interest Payment Date.

The following table sets forth the CPI from January 2003 to March 2008, as reported by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

| Month | 2008 | 2007 | 2006 | 2005 | 2004 | 2003 |
|-----------|---------|---------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| January | 211.080 | 202.416 | 198.3 | 190.7 | 185.2 | 181.7 |
| February | 211.693 | 203.499 | 198.7 | 191.8 | 186.2 | 183.1 |
| March | 213.528 | 205.352 | 199.8 | 193.3 | 187.4 | 184.2 |
| April | -- | 206.686 | 201.5 | 194.6 | 188.0 | 183.8 |
| May | -- | 207.949 | 202.5 | 194.4 | 189.1 | 183.5 |
| June | -- | 208.352 | 202.9 | 194.5 | 189.7 | 183.7 |
| July | -- | 208.299 | 203.5 | 195.4 | 189.4 | 183.9 |
| August | -- | 207.917 | 203.9 | 196.4 | 189.5 | 184.6 |
| September | -- | 208.490 | 202.9 | 198.8 | 189.9 | 185.2 |
| October | -- | 208.936 | 201.8 | 199.2 | 190.9 | 185.0 |
| November | -- | 210.177 | 201.5 | 197.6 | 191.0 | 184.5 |
| December | -- | 210.036 | 201.8 | 196.8 | 190.3 | 184.3 |

As previously stated, movements in the CPI that have occurred in the past are not necessarily indicative of changes that may occur in the future, which may be wider or more confined than those that have occurred historically.

After June 10, 2008, the interest payable on the notes on any interest payment date will be reduced in the event that the CPI used to calculate the interest then payable on the notes is less than the CPI used to calculate the interest payable on the notes on the preceding Interest Payment Date.

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The consumer price index is the non-seasonally adjusted U.S. City Average All Items Consumer Price Index published monthly by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. The Bureau of Labor Statistics makes available almost all consumer price index data and press releases immediately at the time of release. This material may be accessed electronically by means of the Bureau of Labor Statistics home page on the Internet at <http://www.bls.gov>.

According to the publicly available information provided by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the consumer price index is a measure of the average change in consumer prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services, including food, clothing, shelter, fuels, transportation, drugs and charges for the services of doctors and dentists. User fees (such as water and sewer service) and sales and excise taxes paid by the consumer are also included. Income taxes and investment items such as stocks, bonds and life insurance are not included. The consumer price index includes expenditures by urban wage earners and clerical workers, professional, managerial and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, retirees and others not in the labor force. In calculating the consumer price index, price changes for the various items are averaged together with weights that represent their significance in the spending of urban households in the United States. The contents of the market basket of goods and services and the weights assigned to the various items are updated periodically to take into account changes in consumer expenditure patterns. The consumer price index is expressed in relative terms based on a reference period for which the level is set at 100 (currently the base reference period used by the Bureau of Labor Statistics is 1982-1984). For example, because the CPI for the 1982-1984 reference period is 100, an increase of 16.5 percent from that period would be shown as 116.5.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics has made numerous technical and methodological changes to the consumer price index over the last 25 years, and it is likely to continue to do so. Examples of recent methodological changes include:

- the use of regression models to adjust for the quality improvements in various goods (televisions, personal computers, etc.);
- the introduction of geometric averages to account for consumer substitution within consumer price index categories; and
- changing the housing/shelter formula to improve rental equivalence estimation.

These changes and any future changes could reduce the level of the consumer price index and therefore lower the interest payable on the notes.

The Bureau of Labor Statistics occasionally rebases the consumer price index. The current standard reference base period is 1982-1984 = 100. The consumer price index was last rebased in January 1988. Prior to the release of the consumer price index for January 1988, the standard reference base was 1967 = 100. If the Bureau of Labor Statistics rebases the consumer price index during the time the notes are outstanding, the calculation agent will continue to calculate inflation using the existing base year in effect for the consumer price index at the time of issuance of the notes as long as the old consumer price index is still published. The conversion to a new reference base does not affect the measurement of the percent changes in a given index series from one time period to another, except for rounding differences. Thus, rebasing might affect the published headline number often quoted in the financial press; however, the inflation calculation for the notes should not be adversely affected by any such rebasing because the old-based consumer price index can be calculated by using the percent changes of the new rebased consumer price index to calculate the levels of the old consumer price index (because the two series should have the same percentage changes).

The notes represent obligations of Prudential Financial, Inc. only. The U.S. government is not involved in any way in this offering and is under no obligation relating to the notes or to the holders of the notes.

8. Survivor's Option: YES

9. Further Issuances

Prudential Financial, Inc. may, from time to time, without the consent of the existing holders, issue additional notes with the same terms as the notes, except for the issue date, issue price, initial interest accrual date and, depending on the issue date, the initial interest payment date. Any such additional notes will bear the same CUSIP number and be fungible with the notes offered by this pricing supplement.

10. CUSIP Number: 74432AD56

Initial trades settle flat and clear SDFS: DTC Book Entry only, DTC number 0235, via RBC Dain Rauscher Inc.

CERTAIN UNITED STATES

FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES

Interest paid on the notes will be qualified stated interest, and will therefore generally be taxable as ordinary interest income to U.S. holders. For a further description of the U.S. federal income tax considerations relating to the notes, see "Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences" in the accompanying prospectus supplement.