

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934
(AMENDMENT NO. 5)*

ANN TAYLOR STORES CORPORATION
(Name of Issuer)

Common Stock, par value \$.0068 per share
(Title Of Class of Securities)

036115103
(CUSIP Number)

*The remainder of this cover page shall be filled out for a reporting person's initial filing on this form with respect to the subject class of securities, and for any subsequent amendment containing information which would alter the disclosures provided in a prior cover page.

The information required in the remainder of this cover page shall not be deemed to be "filed" for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ("Act") or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act (however, see the Notes).

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []
(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 6,159,018

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,159,018

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,159,018

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.17%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

HC, CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY 6,159,018

EACH
REPORTING
PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,159,018

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,159,018

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.17%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

HC, CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES -----
6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY 6,155,118
EACH

REPORTING
PERSON WITH -----
7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION
Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY 6,155,118
EACH

REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
6,155,118

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*
[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON
Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B- II,
L.P.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES -----
6 SHARED VOTING POWER

BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY 6,155,118
EACH

REPORTING
PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

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6,155,118

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CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Cayman Islands

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON WITH

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

6,155,118

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

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6,155,118

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CERTAIN SHARES*

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24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

ML IBK Positions, Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

6,155,118

PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

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[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

KECALP Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH 6 SHARED VOTING POWER

6,155,118

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

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CERTAIN SHARES*
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24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH
6,155,118
EACH

REPORTING
PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

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CERTAIN SHARES*
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24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH
REPORTING PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES
BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY
EACH
REPORTING
PERSON WITH

6 SHARED VOTING POWER

6,155,118

7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*
[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

CO

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

Merchant Banking L.P. III

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF
SHARES -----
6 SHARED VOTING POWER

BENEFICIALLY
OWNED BY 6,155,118
EACH

REPORTING
PERSON WITH 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER

None

8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER

6,155,118

9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON

6,155,118

10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES
CERTAIN SHARES*

[]

11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

24.15%

12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*

PN

*SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

CUSIP NO. 036115103 13G

1 NAME OF REPORTING PERSON
S.S. OR I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON

MLCP Associates L.P. No. I

2 CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP*
Joint Filing

(a) []

(b) []

3 SEC USE ONLY

4 CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

Delaware

5 SOLE VOTING POWER

None

NUMBER OF SHARES BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON WITH

 6 SHARED VOTING POWER
 6,155,118

 7 SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
 None

 8 SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER
 6,155,118

 9 AGGREGATE AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON
 6,155,118

 10 CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES*
 []

 11 PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9
 24.15%

 12 TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON*
 PN

 *SEE INSTRUCTION BEFORE FILLING OUT!

SCHEDULE 13G

Item 1 (a) Name of Issuer:

 AnnTaylor Stores Corporation

 Item 1 (b) Address of Issuer's Principal Executive Offices:

 142 West 57th Street
 New York, New York 10019

 Item 2 (a) Names of Persons Filing:

 Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
 Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.
 Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.
 Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P.
 Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
 ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
 ML IBK Positions, Inc.
 KECALP Inc.
 Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987
 Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989
 Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.
 Merchant Banking L.P. No. III
 MLCP Associates L.P. No. I

 Item 2 (b) Address of Principal Business Office, or, if none, Residence:

 Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.
 Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.
 ML IBK Positions, Inc.
 250 Vesey Street
 World Financial Center, North Tower
 New York, New York 10281

 Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc.
 Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P.

Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No.
B-II, L.P.
MLCP Associates L.P. No. I
KECALP Inc.
Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987
Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989
Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.
Merchant Banking L.P. No. III
225 Liberty Street
New York, NY 10080

ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
P.O. Box 25, Roseneath
The Grange, St. Peter Port
Guernsey, Channel Islands

Item 2 (c) Citizenship:

Delaware, except ML Offshore LBO Partners No.
B-II, which is a Cayman Islands partnership.

Item 2 (d) Title of Class of Securities:

Common Stock, par value \$.0068 per share

Item 2 (e) CUSIP Number

036115103

Item 3 If this statement is filed pursuant to Rules
13d-1

(b), or 13d-2(b), check whether the person filing
is a

- (a) [] Broker or Dealer registered under Section
16 of the Act
- (b) [] Bank as defined in section 3(a)(6) of the
Act
- (c) [] Insurance Company as defined in section
3(a)(19) of the Act
- (d) [] Investment Company registered under
section 8 of the Investment Company Act
- (e) [] Investment Adviser registered under
section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act
of 1940
- (f) [] Employee Benefit Plan, Pension Fund which
is subject to the provisions of the
Employee Retirement Income Security Act of
1974 or Endowment Fund; see Sec. 240.13d-
1(b)(1)(ii)(F)
- (g) [] Parent Holding Company, in accordance with
Sec. 240.13d-1(b)(ii)(G) (Note: See Item
7)
- (h) [] Group, in accordance with Sec. 240.13d-
1(b)(1)(ii)(H)

Item 4 Ownership

(a) Amount Beneficially Owned:

See Item 9 of Cover Pages. Pursuant to Section 240.13d-4,
Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., Merrill
Lynch Capital Partners, Inc., Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I,
L.P., KECALP Inc., and Merrill Lynch MBP Inc. (the "Reporting
Companies") disclaim beneficial ownership of the securities of
AnnTaylor Stores Corporation referred to herein, and the filing
of this Schedule 13G shall not be construed as an admission that
the Reporting Companies are, for the purposes of Section 13(d) or
13(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Act"), the
beneficial owner of any securities of AnnTaylor Stores
Corporation covered by this statement.

b) Percent of Class:

See Item 11 of Cover Pages

(c) Number of shares as to which such person has:

(i) sole power to vote or to direct the vote:

See Item 5 of Cover Pages

(ii) shared power to vote or to direct the vote:

See Item 6 of Cover Pages

(iii) sole power to dispose or to direct the disposition of:

See Item 7 of Cover Pages

(iv) shared power to dispose or to direct disposition of:

See Item 8 of Cover Pages

Item 5 Ownership Five Percent or Less of a Class.

Not applicable

Item 6 Ownership of More than Five Percent on
Behalf of -----

Another Person.

Certain wholly-owned subsidiaries of Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., and Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., either directly or as general partner of various limited partnerships have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from, or the proceeds from the sale of the class of securities reported herein. See Exhibit A.

Item 7 Identification and Classification of the
Subsidiary -----

Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on
by the -----

Parent Holding Company.

See Exhibit A

Item 8 Identification and Classification of Members of
the Group. -----

See Exhibit B

Item 9 Notice of Dissolution of Group.

Not Applicable

Item 10 Certification.

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

Signature.

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.
MERRILL LYNCH GROUP, INC.
ML IBK POSITIONS, INC.
KECALP INC.
MERRILL LYNCH MBP INC.

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Attorney-in-Fact*

MERRILL LYNCH CAPITAL
PARTNERS, INC.

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Vice President &
Secretary

MERRILL LYNCH LBO PARTNERS NO
B-I, L.P.

By: Merrill Lynch Capital
Partners, Inc.
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Vice President &
Secretary

MERRILL LYNCH CAPITAL
APPRECIATION PARTNERSHIP NO.
B-II, L.P.

By: Merrill Lynch LBO
Partners No. B-I,
its general partner
By: Merrill Lynch Capital
Partners, Inc.,
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Vice President &
Secretary

ML OFFSHORE LBO PARTNERS NO. B-
II

By: Merrill Lynch LBO
Partners No. B-I,
its investment general
partner
By: Merrill Lynch Capital
Partners, Inc.,
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Vice President &
Secretary

MERCHANT BANKING L.P. No. III
By: Merrill Lynch MBP, Inc.
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Attorney-in-Fact*

MERRILL LYNCH KECALP L.P. 1987
By: KECALP Inc.,
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Attorney-in-Fact*

MERRILL LYNCH KECALP L.P. 1989
By: KECALP Inc.,

its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Attorney-in-Fact*

MLCP ASSOCIATES L.P. NO.
I

By: Merrill Lynch Capital
Partners, Inc.,
its general partner

Date: February 12, 1997

By: /s/ Marcia L. Tu

Marcia L. Tu
Vice President &
Secretary

- - - - -
* See Powers of Attorney attached.

EXHIBIT A TO SCHEDULE 13G

ITEM 7 DISCLOSURE RESPECTING SUBSIDIARIES

Two of the persons filing this report, Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc., a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at World Financial Center, North Tower, 250 Vesey Street, New York, New York ("ML&Co."), and Merrill Lynch Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at World Financial Center, North Tower, 250 Vesey Street, New York, New York ("ML Group"), are parent holding companies pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G). Pursuant to the instructions in Item 7 of Schedule 13G, the relevant subsidiaries of ML&Co. are ML Group, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith, Incorporated ("MLPF&S"), Merrill Lynch Capital Partners, Inc. ("MLCP"), KECALP Inc. ("KECALP"), Merrill Lynch MBP Inc. ("MLMBP") and ML IBK Positions, Inc. ("MLIBK"). The relevant subsidiaries of ML Group are MLCP, KECALP, MLMBP and MLIBK.

ML Group, a wholly-owned direct subsidiary of ML&Co. may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 24.17% of the securities of AnnTaylor Stores Corporation (the "Securities") by virtue of its control of its wholly-owned subsidiaries MLCP, KECALP, MLMBP and MLIBK.

MLPF&S is a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML&Co. and a broker-dealer registered pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. MLPF&S may be deemed the beneficial owner of .009% of the securities of AnnTaylor Stores Corporation as a result of acting as a sponsor of five unit investment trusts, none of which individually or together owns more than 5% of the class of securities reported herein.

MLCP, a Delaware corporation, may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of 18.82% Securities by virtue of its status as general partner of (i) MLCP Associates L.P. No. I which is the record owner .12% of the Securities and (ii) a limited partnership, Merrill Lynch LBO Partners No. B-I, L.P., that acts as general partner of Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, which is the record owner of 11.81% of the Securities, and ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II, which is the record owner of 6.89% of the Securities.

KECALP and MLMBP are wholly-owned subsidiaries of ML Group and each act as general partners of limited partnerships that are record owners of the Securities. No one limited partnership is the record holder of more than 5% of the Securities.

MLIBK, a wholly-owned subsidiary of ML Group, is the record owner of less than 5% of the Securities.

Those partnerships that are the record owners of the Securities and MLIBK may be deemed to be members of a group and therefore may be deemed to beneficially own all the Securities

held by the group. In addition, the general partners and the parent corporations may be deemed to beneficially own all of the shares deemed beneficially owned by members of the group. Each entity disclaims beneficial ownership of the Securities not held of record by it.

EXHIBIT B

The following entities may be deemed to be members of a group. All of such entities disclaim membership in such group, except Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P. and ML Offshore LBO Partners No. B-II. See Exhibit A.

Merrill Lynch Capital Appreciation Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
ML Offshore LBO Partnership No. B-II, L.P.
MLCP Associates L.P. No. I
ML IBK Positions, Inc.
Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1987
Merrill Lynch KECALP L.P. 1989
Merchant Banking L.P. No. III

EXHIBIT C

POWER OF ATTORNEY
TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 AND 16
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND RULES
THEREUNDER, BY AND ON BEHALF OF

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints MARCIA L. TU its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to Merrill Lynch & Co., Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 30th day of November 1994.

MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

By /s/Barry S.Friedberg

Barry S. Friedberg
Executive VicePresident

POWER OF ATTORNEY

TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 AND 16
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND RULES
THEREUNDER, BY AND ON BEHALF OF

MERRILL LYNCH GROUP, INC.

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby
constitutes and appoints MARCIA L. TU its true and lawful
attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the
undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other
documents relating to Merrill Lynch Group, Inc.'s direct or
indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed
with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission
pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of
1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the
"Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the
undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with
the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act
including, but not limited to, executing documents required by
said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing
thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission
and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in
connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such
attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of,
or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that
the documents executed by such attorney-in- fact on behalf of the
undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such
form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-
in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full
power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing
whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the
exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully
to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or
could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming
all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be
done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and
powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the
foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the
request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the
undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16
of the Exchange Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of
Attorney to be executed as of this 8th day of December 1994.

MERRILL LYNCH GROUP, INC.

By: /s/Rosemary T. Berkery

Rosemary T. Berkery
Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 AND 16
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND RULES
THEREUNDER, BY AND ON BEHALF OF

ML IBK POSITIONS, INC.

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints MARCIA L. TU its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to ML IBK Positions, Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 30th day of November 1994.

ML IBK POSITIONS, INC.

By: /s/James V. Caruso

James V. Caruso
Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY

TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 AND 16 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND RULES THEREUNDER, BY AND ON BEHALF OF

KECALP INC.

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints MARCIA L. TU its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to KECALP Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by

said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 30th day of November 1994.

KECALP INC.

By: /s/James V. Caruso

James V. Caruso
Vice President

POWER OF ATTORNEY
TO PREPARE AND EXECUTE DOCUMENTS PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 13 AND 16
OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934, AS AMENDED, AND RULES
THEREUNDER, BY AND ON BEHALF OF

MERRILL LYNCH MBP INC.

KNOW ALL BY THESE PRESENTS, that the undersigned hereby constitutes and appoints MARCIA L. TU its true and lawfully attorney-in-fact to:

(1) to prepare and execute, for and on behalf of the undersigned, any and all forms, schedules, reports and other documents relating to Merrill Lynch MBP Inc.'s direct or indirect ownership of securities that are required to be filed with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Section 13 and 16 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and the rules thereunder (collectively, the "Exchange Act");

(2) do and perform any and all acts for and on behalf of the undersigned which may be necessary or desirable to comply with the requirements of Sections 13 and 16 of the Exchange Act including, but not limited to, executing documents required by said sections of the Exchange Act and effecting the timely filing thereof with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission and any other authority; and

(3) take any other action of any type whatsoever in connection with the foregoing which, in the opinion of such attorney-in-fact, may be of benefit to, in the best interest of, or legally required by, the undersigned, it being understood that the documents executed by such attorney-in-fact on behalf of the undersigned pursuant to this Power of Attorney shall be in such form and shall contain such terms and conditions as such attorney-in-fact may approve in his discretion.

The undersigned hereby grants to such attorney-in-fact full power and authority to do and perform all and every act and thing whatsoever requisite, necessary and proper to be done in the exercise of any of the rights and powers herein granted, as fully to all intents and purposes as such attorney-in-fact might or

could do if personally present, hereby ratifying and confirming all that such attorney-in-fact shall lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue of this power of attorney and the rights and powers herein granted. The undersigned acknowledges that the foregoing attorney-in-fact, in serving in such capacity at the request of the undersigned, is not assuming any of the undersigned's responsibilities to comply with Sections 13 or 16 of the Exchange Act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned has caused this Power of Attorney to be executed as of this 30th day of November 1994.

MERRILL LYNCH MBP INC.

By: /s/ James V. Caruso

James V. Caruso
Vice President