Pricing Supplement Dated 10/2/2006 (To Prospectus dated February 16, 2006, and Prospectus Supplement dated February 16, 2006) Filed pursuant to ⊠ Rule 424(b)(2) Registration Statement Nos.

o Rule 424(b)(5) 333-129763 and 333-129763-01

CUSIP: 74254PNQ1



Principal Life Insurance Company

Principal[®] Life CoreNotes[®] (Callable) (That are also Asset-Backed Securities) Issued Through and Obligations of Principal Life Income Fundings Trust 2006-71 (the "Trust" and "Issuing Entity")

The description of this pricing supplement of the particular terms of the Principal [®] Life CoreNotes [®] offered hereby, and the Funding Agreement (specified below) issued by Principal Life Insurance Company ("Principal Life") to the Trust, the payment obligations of which are fully and unconditionally guaranteed by the Guarantee (specified below) issued by Principal Financial Group, Inc. to the Trust, supplements the description of the general terms and provisions of the notes, the funding agreements and the guarantees set forth in the accompanying prospectus and prospectus supplement, to which reference is hereby made.

1. The Notes

Principal Amount: **TBD Purchasing Agent Discount:** 1.500% Issue Price: 100.0% Original Issue Date: 10/12/2006 Net Proceeds to the Trust: TBD Stated Maturity Date: 10/17/2016

Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 4/15/2007

Initial Interest Payment Date: 4/15/2007

Regular Record Date: 15 calendar days prior to the Interest Payment Date

Type of Interest Rate: o Floating Rate

5.70% Interest Rate:

Discount Note: o Yes ⊠ No.

Terms of Survivor's Option:

Annual Put Limitation: ⊠ \$2,000,000 or 2%; or Individual Put Limitation: ⊠ \$250,000; or o \$ Trust Put Limitation:

⊠ 2%; or

Redemption Provisions: If, Yes, o No.

Initial Redemption Date: 10/15/2008

☑ In whole only and not in part Redemption: o May be in whole or in part

Additional Other Terms: Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date

Repayment: o Yes ⊠ No.

Authorized Denominations: \$1,000

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"CoreNotes®" is a registered service mark of Merrill Lynch & Co.

Ratings:

The Notes issued under the Program are rated AA by Standard & Poor's ("S&P"). Principal Life expects the Notes to be rated Aa2 by Moody's Investors Service, Inc. ("Moody's").

Purchasing Agent(s) Purchasing Notes as Principal:

☑ Yes o No. If, Yes,

Purchasing Agent(s) Principal Amount

Merrill Lynch TBD

Total: TBD

State of Organization of the Trust: New York

Additional/Other Terms: None

2. The Funding Agreement

Funding Agreement Issuer: Principal Life Insurance Company

Funding Agreement No.:

Deposit:

TBD

Net Deposit:

TBD

Effective Date: 10/12/2006
Stated Maturity Date: 10/17/2016

Interest Payment Dates: The 15th day of every sixth month commencing on 4/15/2007

Initial Interest Payment Date: 4/15/2007

Type of Interest Rate:

☑ Fixed Rate o Floating Rate

Interest Rate: 5.70%

Discount Funding Agreement: o Yes ⊠ No.

Terms of Survivor's Option:

⊠ 2%; or \$_____

Redemption:

☑ Yes o No. If, Yes,

Initial Redemption Date: 10/15/2008

Redemption:

In whole only and not in part

o May be in whole or in part

Additional Other Terms: Any redemption date will be an Interest Payment Date falling on or after the Initial Redemption Date

Repayment: o Yes $\ oximes$ No.

Ratings:

The Funding Agreement issued under the Program is rated AA by S&P. Principal Life expects the Funding Agreement to be rated Aa2 by Moody's.

Additional/Other Terms: None

3. The Guarantee

Guarantee Issuer: Principal Financial Group, Inc.

Effective Date: 10/12/2006

Additional/Other Terms: None