

From: Dan Bell [dbell@kent.edu]
Sent: Friday, January 07, 2005 10:48 AM
To: Comments, Regs
Cc: tracey@CFED.org
Subject: No. 2004-53 & 2004-54

Office of Thrift Supervision,

Current proposals to drastically modify the Community Reinvestment Act would cause great harm to the efforts of community and economic development organizations' efforts to improve the lives of the US poor.

Community and economic development organizations provide great relief to the US government by helping the poor help themselves. Without these organizations, there would be greater demand for the government itself to directly provide welfare services to a greater number of poor living in deeper poverty.

These private sector non-profit organizations help reduce the number of people dependent on the state; but we cannot do it without financial resources of our own. CRA has encouraged many financial institutions to invest in community and economic development. Without CRA, these financial institutions would be less inclined to provide support.

Please resist efforts to weaken CRA.

Sincerely,

Dan Bell

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Dan Bell
Senior Program Coordinator
Ohio Employee Ownership Center
Kent State University
Kent, OH 44242
(330) 672-0333 << Direct number!
(330) 672-3028 general office number
(330) 672-4063 fax
dbell@kent.edu
<http://www.kent.edu/oeoc/>
<http://cog.kent.edu>