From: Megan Farley Hyla [megan@wlihn.org] Sent: Wednesday, January 19, 2005 1:58 PM

To: Comments, Regs Subject: No. 2004-53

I am writing on behalf of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance, a non-profit organization that works to assure safe, decent and affordable homes for all. The Housing Alliance strongly opposes the rule changes to the Community Reinvestment Act (No. 2004-53).

This proposed rule change would allow thrifts in rural areas to serve any income population, undermining the very purpose of the Community Reinvestment Act. It would also allow large savings and loans to opt out of complying with investment and banking services examinations which have been very helpful to encourage investment in low income housing.

The Housing Alliance understands the need for reducing administrative burdens on financial institutions. However, this proposal would weaken carefully crafted legislation that has made an overwhelmingly positive impact in our state.

For these reasons the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance opposes the proposed changes to the Community Reinvestment Act.

Sincerely,

Megan Hyla

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