From: hope house [hous3868@bellsouth.net] Sent: Monday, December 13, 2004 5:12 PM

To: Comments, Regs Subject: rule change

My organization, Hope House, opposes the proposed rule change to the Community Reinvestment Act (No. 2004-53). The proposal would allow large savings and loans to opt out of complying with investment and banking services examinations under the CRA. These exams have been very useful in encouraging investment in low income housing and services to low income people. The proposal would also allow thrifts in rural areas to serve any income population, while the CRA was established to direct resources to low and moderate income communities. We strongly oppose the proposed changes.

PS: Hope House is a neighborhood-based organization in New Orleans which assists neighbors in with food, rent, utilities, clothing, adult education, and access to books, newspapers, magazines, computers and the internet. We also provide homeless families with transitional housing. We are very concerned about what appears to be governmental

Sincerely,
Don Everard, Director