

April 25, 2008

Mary Rupp
Secretary of the Board
National Credit Union Administration
1775 Duke Street
Alexandria, VA 22314-3428

Subject: Comments on Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Parts 708(a)
708(b)

Dear Ms. Rupp:

We have reviewed the subject proposed rules, and respectfully offer our comments for NCUA consideration. In general, we do not agree or support existing regulations regarding conversions to an MSB, and we similarly do not agree with or support new regulations for credit union "mergers or conversions into financial institutions other than an MSB."

Credit union boards are elected by the members, and are trusted custodians of members' interests. Consistent with all other matters and decisions faced by credit unions, their dedicated elected officials are uniquely qualified to make the most informed decisions that best represent the interests of members. Boards, through their active involvement in high level credit union management affairs, are familiar with requisite issues related to strategic planning, the marketplace, and chartering. This approach has proven successful as credit unions are consistently recognized as the best way for consumers to meet their financial needs. This success is attributable to the flexibility provided to boards to direct the operations of their respective credit unions, and we oppose the proposed rules which serve to effectively dilute board authority without proper and proven cause.

Furthermore, we especially object to any effort to create new regulations affecting mergers between two federally insured credit unions. Current regulations are more than adequate and working well, empowering NCUA with all reasonable and necessary oversight authority. Instances of inappropriate merger activities are not apparent, as in our experience that only disgruntled merger bidders who were not selected and/or losing competing credit unions are the source of complaints NCUA receives related to mergers, not members before the merger the transaction is completed, and not members after the merger transaction is completed.

In regards to developing a fiduciary standard of care, creating a standard that differs significantly from case and state law within any jurisdiction is confusing, and could result in rules that are "more restrictive" than that required of other types of financial institutions for similar charter change transactions. As was an issue in developing rules

or credit union conversions to an MSB, rules for credit unions should be no more restrictive than rules that govern charter changes for other financial institution charters. Consequently, we respectfully suggest that credit union boards only need a good and supportable reason for making decisions related to merger or other charter changes, and no more NCUA regulation is needed or warranted.

We do not support required merger dividends, nor do we support requiring that credit unions justify merger proposals that do not include a merger dividend to members. The value of a merging credit union is best left to market forces without government intervention. Requiring justification of the market value of a merging credit union is impractical, as those without requisite knowledge of applicable valuation models, methodologies, and related issues may not be able to accurately draw conclusions about market value.

In closing, NCUA has sufficient authority to regulate charter changes, and should continue to use existing rules to address issues and concerns on a case-by-case basis without creating an entirely new body of burdensome regulations. Additionally, as stated previously, we find the proposal of new regulations for mergers between credit unions especially unnecessary and inappropriate.

Thank you for considering the comments of Security Service Federal Credit Union. If you have any questions or require clarification, President & CEO David Reynolds or I are available at your convenience.

Sincerely,



ROBERT L. EGGER
Chairman of the Board