

From: Terri L. Foster, Orlando, FL
Subject: Electronic Fund Transfers

Comments:

Date: Mar 26, 2009

Proposal: Regulation E - Electronic Fund Transfers
Document ID: R-1343
Document Version: 1
Release Date: 12/18/2008
Name: Terri L Foster
Affiliation:
Category of Affiliation:
Address:
City: Orlando
State: FL
Country: UNITED STATES
Zip: 32828
PostalCode:

Comments:

I fully support allowing customers the choice of having overdraft protection on their debit cards. My 18-year-old son with his first checking account recently ran into trouble with this. Being his first account, he did not keep up with his balance as he should have. His first overdraft was at the bank's own ATM which allowed him to withdraw \$9.00 more than was in his account. The reason the bank gave for this later was that they allow one "freebie" overdraft, so do not stop the transaction. He did not pay for this overdraft, but because he thought there was still money there, went on to overdraw the account nine more times within five days in amounts from \$2.00 to \$10.00. What he spent totaled approximately \$65.00 but the overdraft fees were 9 x \$34.00, or \$298.00!!! The bank refunded four of them as a courtesy, but he was still on the hook for \$170.00 in fees. Was he wrong not to keep track of his balance? Certainly and you can bet he heard so from both his father and I. I find it almost a crime however that the bank's own ATM did not even warn him of the initial overdraft which would have prevented all of this. While it was learning opportunity for him, the bank should never have allowed the initial overdraft, nor the subsequent overdrafts.