Office of Public &

(703) 518-6336 jfairbanks@ncua.gov

Congressional Affairs



NCUA Media Release

Matz Encourages Credit Unions to Educate Families about Building Wealth

America Saves and Military Saves Week Runs Feb. 25 through March 2

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (Feb. 13, 2013) – National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) Board Chairman Debbie Matz today encouraged credit unions to help educate members and their families about the importance of saving during the annual America Saves and Military Saves Week, which starts Feb. 25.

"Having a savings account is the first step towards financial stability, but a recent study indicated a little more than 29 percent of America's households do not have a savings account," Chairman Matz said. "People need to learn more about how to save and have a place to save. This year's campaign is a perfect opportunity for credit unions to educate and empower their members and their families so they can balance their budgets, buy a home, or put money aside for their children's educations."

This year's America Saves and Military Saves Week runs from Feb. 25 through March 2. America Saves Week and Military Saves Week are national campaigns that unite government, nonprofit and corporate groups to encourage individuals and families to save and build personal wealth. American Saves Week is coordinated by America Saves and the America Savings Education Council. Military Saves is part of the Defense Department's Financial Readiness Campaign and has been a partner with the department since 2003.

Both programs encourage saving, debt reduction and wealth building and are managed by the <u>Consumer Federation of America</u>. Credit unions can partner with local campaigns to offer motivational workshops and obtain posters, brochures and other resources.

For additional information about saving, borrowing and managing credit, consumers can visit NCUA's MyCreditUnion.gov.

NCUA is the independent federal agency created by the U.S. Congress to regulate, charter and supervise federal credit unions. With the backing of the full faith and credit of the U.S. Government, NCUA operates and manages the National Credit Union Share Insurance Fund, insuring the deposits of nearly 94 million account holders in all federal credit unions and the overwhelming majority of state-chartered credit unions.

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