

AMI BERA, M.D.

7<sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

WASHINGTON OFFICE  
1408 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20515  
PHONE: (202) 225-5716  
FAX: (202) 225-1298

DISTRICT OFFICE  
11070 WHITE ROCK ROAD  
RANCHO CORDOVA, CA 95670  
PHONE: (916) 635-0505  
FAX: (916) 635-0514

[HTTP://WWW.BERA.HOUSE.GOV](http://www.bera.house.gov)  
[AMI.BERA@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV](mailto:AMI.BERA@MAIL.HOUSE.GOV)

The Honorable Debbie Matz  
Chairman  
National Credit Union Administration  
1775 Duke Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

February 8, 2015

Dear Chairman Matz:

I write in support of the National Credit Union Administration's (NCUA) proposed revisions to the Chartering and Field of Membership Manual (FOM). As a former credit union board member, I am familiar with the appeals and competitive advantages of both the state and federal charters. Your proposed rule modernizes and updates the federal charter to align it with the appeals of several state charters, including California's. Competition among federal and state charters provides credit unions with valuable options in determining how best to serve their member-owners.

As a Member of Congress with a background in credit union operations, I am pleased to see that the modernization of the federal charter adheres to the Congressional intent of the Federal Credit Union Act (FCUA).

American consumers need access to affordable and honest financial services. Affording credit unions the opportunity to serve greater geographic statistical areas helps consumers find new access to the financial services they need. I am specifically pleased to see modernizations in the Trade Industry or Profession (TIP) charter, as well as the expansion of membership eligibility to include the boundaries of Congressional Districts.

These updates to the charter remain consistent with the intent of the Federal Credit Union Act and will greatly benefit the American consumer. With over 270,000 credit union members in California's 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, your new rule will have a positive impact on my constituents. Thank you for developing a thoughtful proposal to allow credit unions to continue to meet the needs of consumers, small businesses, and the underserved.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ami Bera".

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress