

3 February, 2016

Gerard S. Poliquin
Secretary of the Board
National Credit Union Administration
1775 Duke Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3428

RE: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking Regarding Associational Common Bond

Dear Mr. Poliquin,

I, on behalf of Flasher Community Credit Union, appreciate the opportunity to provide comment to the National Credit Union Administration (NCUA) with regard to the proposed amendments to the Chartering and Field of Membership Manual regarding Associational Common Bond.

We are a community chartered credit union in Flasher, North Dakota. We have over 800 members that we serve in our rural area.

I applaud the NCUA for taking such positive steps to reduce the unnecessary regulatory burden. I fully support the NCUA's proposed rule to amend the Chartering and Field of Membership Manual.

Despite what others in the financial industry may argue, our credit union continues to operate for the same purpose and upon the same beliefs as those credit unions did when the Federal Credit Union Act was signed into law, namely, "This credit union is a member-owned, democratically operated, not-for-profit organization managed by a volunteer board of directors, with the specified mission of meeting the credit and savings needs of consumers, especially persons of modest means. The purpose of this credit union is to promote thrift among its members by affording them an opportunity to accumulate their savings and to create for them a source of credit for provident or productive purposes."

I believe that everyone should have the opportunity to be a member-owner of a credit union. This proposed rule will maximize access by removing undue burdens and restrictions on a Federal Credit Union's ability to provide services to consumers who are eligible for FCU membership, particularly those of modest means and those who may not currently be members of a credit union.

People have wanted to join our credit union but we had to turn them away because they are outside our field of membership. Most of them are very surprised that credit unions are limited on their field of membership. They want to become members of a credit union that actually see them as individuals and not just a number.

Thank you for this opportunity to share our comments and concerns.

Sincerely,

Darla Schafer, manager
Flasher Community Credit Union