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RE: Credit Union Expansion

I continue to be shocked by the credit unions' brazen attempt to expand business and revenue by taking advantage of tax exempt status to compete directly against those entities that do pay taxes. These efforts are unfair and in direct conflict with the credit union mission of serving those that would not normally have access to consumer products.

It is more often than not that one hears the public refer to a credit union as a bank. If this antidote is not clear evidence that credit unions have expanded beyond their intended purpose, then one only need compare product offerings between a bank and credit union to see there is little difference.

The banking industry welcomes competition, but how can banks compete with entities that have upwards of a 40% cost advantage! In fact, this unfair competition forces banks to take unnecessary risks and encourage credit unions to perform at sub-optimal levels.

Studies show (2006 U.S. Government Accountability Office) that banks do a better job at serving the population of low and moderate income families. How is it possible that credit unions perform worse at the very task they were designed to execute and for which they enjoy tax exempt status?

Our rulemakers should not be discussion how to expand credit union powers but how to return the credit unions to their intended mission.

Branden P Hansen