

Regulatory Comments

From: Stephanie Powers <no-reply@cuanswers.com>
Sent: Friday, February 27, 2015 7:02 PM
To: _Regulatory Comments
Subject: Risk-Based Capital Comment

To: Regulatory Comments
From: Stephanie Powers
CU*NorthWest

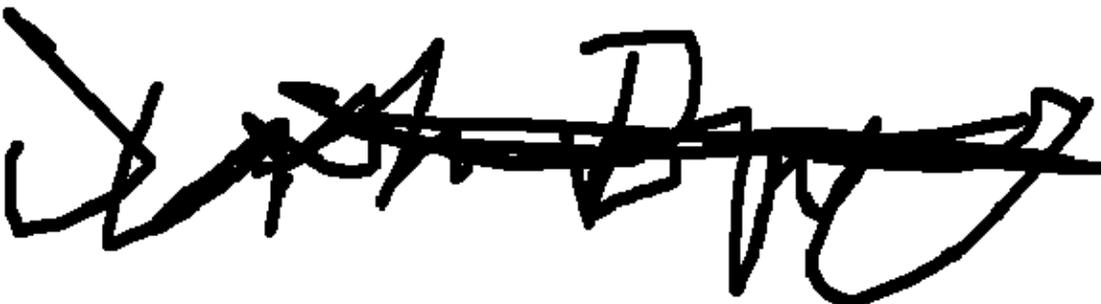
02/27/2015

Dear Mr. Poliquin:

History has shown that the cooperative model of credit unions is a successful one. The diverse nature of our charters has meant that despite little capital—except member good will and loyalty—the forefathers and current stakeholders of the industry have built the second largest financial system in America today, serving close to 40 million households with savings of nearly \$1 trillion. The proposed rule will serve to hinder that diversity by placing credit unions into more general categories. Protect the true nature of credit unions by ending this rule so we can celebrate the charters that made this industry possible, from the \$60 billion Navy FCU to any of the \$1-5 million “family” credit unions. From the farming communities of South Dakota serving family farms with loans to the taxi drivers from NYC to San Francisco. From the raw recruit in San Diego to the forward deployed military professional in Diego Garcia, Korea, or Afghanistan. From the auto worker in Detroit or Tennessee to the high tech communities of Silicon Valley.

The NCUA is straining hard to justify its legal interpretation of a Rule that has significant practical problems. The \$100,000 asset size cut off is arbitrary. The risk weighting is arbitrary. Adherence to this rule could cause credit unions to build up concentrations in assets that turn out to be risky. Why doesn't the NCUA allow for a rule that allows for supplemental capital, which would likely be far greater benefit to the industry and greatly reduce the risk to the Share Insurance Fund? Finally, why should the industry accept RBC when it suffers from these problems and may very well be an overextension of the NCUA's authority in any event?

I would like to recommend that the NCUA truly believes that this rule will uncover the outliers and those credit unions that should operate with higher levels of capital than make this rule a test similar to those currently being performed like the 17/4. The OCC has numerous ratios and tests which they perform based upon call report information such as the canary ratios. These ratios are designed to uncover outliers and direct supervision in these areas to review.

A large, bold, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Stephanie Powers', written across the bottom of the page.

Stephanie Powers
CU*NorthWest