

Regulatory Comments

From: Jessica Burch <no-reply@cuanswers.com>
Sent: Friday, March 06, 2015 3:18 PM
To: _Regulatory Comments
Subject: Risk-Based Capital Comment

To: Regulatory Comments
From: Jessica Burch
Southbay Credit Union

03/06/2015

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 should reconsider implementing a two-tiered RBNW that is at odds with the agency’s past interpretation of its powers, and which conflicts with the plain language and intent of Congress. Not only has an NCUA Board Member strongly dissented from the NCUA’s proposed Rule, but the legal foundation the NCUA is relying upon is weak. Much of the weaknesses in the NCUA’s arguments can be found directly in the memo prepared by the Paul Hastings, LLP, law firm, for the NCUA Board.

Our credit union believes the RBC2 rule would undermine the cooperative and diverse nature of our charters by creating a one size fits all over-reaching capital formula. This is a massive flaw of the NCUA’s structure as regulator and insurer. We believe this is a myopic view of cooperatives and only considers our equity funding mechanism. A cooperative is a like group of individuals banding together to own a business that is guaranteed to meet their similar financial needs. The arguments and logic of the rule misapplies what is done successfully at a local or institutional level, to an entire system. Because of this I would respectfully recommend the rule be thrown out and at best become a matrix the NCUA would use in the exam process only.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Burch', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jessica Burch
Southbay Credit Union