_Regulatory Comments

From: Kate Siupinski <no-reply@cuanswers.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2015 4:26 PM
To: _Regulatory Comments
Subject: Risk-Based Capital Comment

To: Regulatory Comments
From: Kate Siupinski
Notre Dame FCU

04/08/2015

Dear Mr. Poliquin:

Our credit union's board of directors believes this rule is overreaching as many of the failures this proposed rule is trying to mitigate do not even take into consideration the reasons for the losses during the great recession. As has been depicted during the board meeting and in the proposal, over 40% of failures were the result of fraud; all of us have been following the St. Paul Croatian's fraud loss dilemma, which cost the insurance fund $170 million dollars to date. Economic policy had nothing to do with many of these losses, regardless of the shape of credit unions' balance sheets. The idea that passing a rule—a seemingly typical government reaction—can stop fraud, eliminate mismanagement and prevent external circumstances from decimating credit union's market environment is wrong. Effective supervision is not rule making, it is intelligent supervision and patient reorganization when problems arise. This is lacking in our cu regulatory community today.

Our credit union leadership team feels that while there is no question the NCUA did make changes in the RBC rule with respect to such items as the definition of "complex" credit unions, eliminating IRR, and extending the implementation timeframe, the impact to the industry if RBC2 is passed remains highly suspect and likely detrimental. Although the proposal was 450 pages, far too many were reviews of the comments and the NCUA's rebuttal or disregard of them. In a vacuum, the changes accepted by the NCUA would appear good but in fact are designed to draw credit union leadership away from impact of the rule as a whole. We believe that the RBC rule will increase costs to members, expand the right of the NCUA to interfere in the governance of credit unions through Prompt Corrective Action ("PCA"), and threaten the financial stability of the industry long term.

As mentioned by the Hon J. Mark McWatters, the NCUA cannot just "piggyback" on to the FDIC unless they have the authority from Congress to do so. The plain language of the statute contradicts the NCUA's interpretation. After all, if the NCUA was to be given the same PCA authority as the FDIC, Congress could have done exactly that. The clear intent of Congress was to create a separate system for our industry, and the NCUA must operate within those confines.

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.

Our credit union board and management team are making numerous decisions about the composition of our balance sheet and capital adequacy based on the needs of our unique membership and local community. These factors do not just take into consideration the asset type, but include the reasons for our charter to begin with, corresponding funding from liabilities, and unique economic needs of the communities they serve. These thousands of local decisions are driven by diverse business priorities, pricing and growth objectives as well as responses to unique local needs. We believe our decisions have resulted in varied portfolio strategies which enhance the balance sheet's overall soundness rather than a single approach nationwide to risk management. RBC2 puts that at risk.

I am a member of a credit union and I am opposed to the revised Risk-Based Capital regulation. Capital rules like the one NCUA is proposing have not worked in the past and proven to be more harmful than beneficial. What's more, they will simply add additional bureaucracy and regulatory burden on my credit union, which will hamper its ability to provide me and my fellow member-owners with high quality services, low interest rates, and greater dividends. Don't hurt my credit vnion-take Risk-Based Capital off the table. Thank you,

Kate Siupinski
Notre Dame FCU