



WE NEED YOUR HELP

Dear Credit Union Member:

I am writing to you about an issue that could negatively impact you and all members of our credit union.

The U.S. Senate recently approved the Financial Reform Bill which included a last minute amendment that could cripple our debit and credit card program by mandating government price controls on interchange fees and allow merchants to discriminate against certain credit and debit cards – particularly those offered by small issuers like our credit union. Interchange fees help pay the cost of processing credit and debit card payments, with a portion going to card issuers like Southland Federal Credit Union to cover risk, fraud, and operations costs. This amendment has significant unintended consequences for our credit union.

There are significant expenses involved in operating a card program, particularly for small issuers, but current law makes sure your credit union can offer cards on a level playing field. If this interchange amendment becomes law, our credit union may have to charge YOU more fees, increase interest rates on loans, or even suspend some products and services to offset the loss in interchange income. *It is important to note that nothing in the provision guarantees that consumers will receive any savings from reduced interchange rates.* In fact, the interchange provision will likely cost consumers more money. Large national merchants and big box retailers would make it impossible for small, local card issuers like credit unions to compete. In the end, merchants could refuse to accept your credit union debit card that you rely on for convenience.

To express your opposition to the interchange amendment, please contact your Member of Congress TODAY at www.cuvoice.com

Tell Congress you are fed up with giveaways to big box retailers. The best credit and debit cards in the country come from credit unions like ours. We want to keep it this way.

Please take five minutes to make your voice heard. Ask your Member of Congress to OPPOSE the Interchange Amendment that will hurt your credit union – and YOU. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Jonathan P. Matthews

Jonathan P. Matthews
Chief Executive Officer