

# NATIONAL CREDIT UNION ADMINISTRATION - WASHINGTON, D.C. 20456

LS/HMU:cch 3500 JUN 13 1985

Charles L. Williams, III, Esquire Blalack and Williams 14673 Midway Road, Suite 107 Dallas, TX 75244

Dear Mr. Williams:

This is in response to your letter of May 29, 1985, to Hattie Ulan of this Office, concerning comment letters on the recent change to Part 721 of the NCUA Rules and Regulations, 12 C.F.R. Part 721. You requested copies of comment letters from those commenters affiliated with the State of Texas. We received comments from seven Federal credit unions located in Texas. Copies of those letters are enclosed.

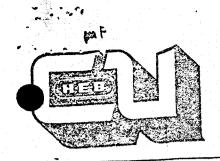
We hope that we have been of assistance.

Sincerely,

STEVEN R. BISKER
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure

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December 6, 1984

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CHAIRMAN

NCUA

Rosemary Brady National Credit Union Adm. Board 1776 G Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20456

Dear Ms. Brady:

In reference to the proposed rule: Federal Credit Union Insurance and Group Purchasing Activities, the following comments are submitted:

Reference, issue for comment: '

1. It is concurred that no reimbursement restrictions limit should exist. The rate should be negotiable with each Credit Union's particular involvement.

The cost of administration of one insurance program versus another is extremely variable. No Credit Union should be operating under a limitation that does not properly offset the investment of time and effort to administer an insurance program that is significant in the security of lending and savings practices.

I apologize for the delay in these comments, I hope they will be considered in the overall review of these particular issues.

Your time in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Timothy J. Bernas General Manager

H.E.B. Federal Credit Union

TJB/bp

GULF EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
P.O. BOX 2100
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252

AUG 13 1984

National Credit Union Administration Attn.: Ms. Rosemary Brady - Secretary 1776 "G" Street N.W. Washington, D.C. 20456

Re: Proposed Rule - F.C.U. Insurance and Group Purchasing Activities

August 6, 1984

Dear Ms. Brady:

My feelings are that the fears concerning "reverse competition" (where creditors seek out the insurance paying the highest commission) are perhaps overemphasized. Credit Unions primary function is "service" rather than "profit". I therefore feel the question would not become serious and regulation can be left to state and local bodies as well as the individual credit union boards.

I have no strong feelings on Compensation for Group Purchasing Plans. In my experience, the emphasis is service and any compensation is incidental. My concern here is that credit unions do have authority to effectively compete with as many services as seem necessary in a particular market place. Banks are expanding their services.

Respectfully,

Ray E. Knerr, Manager

REK/rp

#### GULF EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION P.O. BOX 2100 HOUSTON, TEXAS 77252

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November 14, 1984

National Credit Union Administration Board Attention: Rosemary Brady 1776 G Street, N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20456

Subject: Federal Credit Insurance and Group

Purchasing Activities

#### Gentlemen:

I would eliminate reimbursement restrictions on the theory that the market place will tend to regulate what can be done.

I very much suspect other financial institutions will provide credit unions some very strong competition in the years ahead.

Respectfully,

Ray E. Knerr, Manager

REK/rp

cc: Financial Services/Regulation Analysis Dept. Texas Credit Union League P. O. Box 225147 Dallas, TX 75265

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### CEM GO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

P.O. BOX 270879

DALLAS, TEXAS 75227 - 0579

(214) 381-7161

August 28, 1984

Ms. Rosemary Brady Secretary NCUA Board 1776 G Street North West Washington, DC 20456

Subject: Proposed Rule - Federal Credit Union Insurance and

Group Purchasing activities

Dear Ms. Brady,

The revision of #721.2-Reinbursement is excellent and I will whole-heartedly endorse.

Thank You.

Very Truly Yours,

Linda Jordan

Treasurer/Manager

LJ/kb

Page -2-Rosemary Brady 22 August 1984

#### RECOMMENDATION:

Remove the restrictions addressing reimbursement on credit and non-credit related insurance offerings.

Retain the restriction or group purchase and non-insurance related activities.

Retain the restrictive covenant on non-investment of officials, employees or members of their immediate family from receiving compensation or benefits from any activity under their basic policy.

Sincerely

BILL ELLERSON

Chairman

Board of Directors

BE/FB/bp

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### SECURITY SERVICE FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

CHAIRMAN CHAIRMAN THE CEIVED

Rosemary Brady
Secretary to the Board
National Credit Union Administration
1776 G Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20456

Dear Ms. Brady:

Reference proposed change to Part 721, NCUA Rules and Regulations. The following comments relate specifically to the three basic questions raised in the proposed rule.

- 1. We do not feel that retention of limits on reimbursements for extension of credit related insurance is an essential regulatory requirement. The incumbent responsibility of the Board of Directors is to weigh the value of the services offered. In an industry as highly regulated and competitive as the insurance industry is, it is unlikely that "reverse competition" would occur. A credit union that seeks out agencies paying the highest commission without due regard for the cost to its members is embarking on a self defeating program. That condition currently exists since rebate is based on premium volume, but apparently it is not an abuse that has attracted the attention of either members or examiners.
- 2. Based on the above, we recommend the removal of limits on reimbursements.
- 3. The proliferation of non-credit related insurance activities is a silent testimonial of their value to the insurance industry. The pittance these companies pay for the administration of these programs by user group credit unions; gas companies; retail stores further enhances their value. To our knowledge credit unions are the only institutions limited by regulation with respect to a reimbursement for their services. It is right and proper for reimbursements to be based on net premium in lieu of an arbitrarily fixed per annum unit return.

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## E.D.S. EMPLOYEES FEDERAL CREDIT UNION

Rosemary Brady, Secretary NCUA BOARD OF DIRECTORS 1776 G Street, N. W. Washington, D.C. 20456

Dear Rosemary Brady:

This letter is a response to your request for comment on limiting reimbursement to credit unions by insurance companies and other third party vendors.

I believe that such reimbursements should be limited to the greater of the credit union's actual out-of-pocket cost or 10 percent of the charge to the member.

The dominent influence of insurance companies on the credit union industry is shamefull. Even insurance companies "owned" by the credit unions are a "tail that wags the dog". If we truly benefit our members we should not (1) encourage them to buy insurance they do not need, (2) expect them to pay more than the pure cost of protection, (3) require them to pay for "free" insurance on savings balances, or (4) over insure risks already protected by group insurance through they employment.

I believe that any product offered by a credit union to it's members should be:

- a) a product of recognized quality or reputation
- b) sold at a price lower than can be obtained elsewhere
- c) suitable or needed by the majority of the membership.

NACUA examiners should investigate the cost and price of products offered and require credit union managers to justify any markup that exceeds cost by more than 10 percent.

I recommend that present regulations be continued.

Sincerely

Gien A. Scatterday

President