

From: AA Federal Credit Union, Joyce Bridgette  
Subject: Reg I I - Debit card Interchange

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Comments:

Secretary Johnson

I am contacting you today concerning Debit Card Interchange Fees and Routing Docket No. 1404.

I am the Manager of AA Federal Credit Union, a small \$8.5 million Credit Union. Our credit union is very proud to offer most the same services as a large financial institution/credit union and still maintain little to no fees charged to the members for these services. It is getting harder and harder to do this with the cost of offering these services getting higher all the time.

Our credit union has been offering a Debit Card Program for a little over six years which is not a long time considering we have been opened for 50 years and we did not have an ATM card program when we started the Debit Cards. It was a big decision of ours to offer this very costly program to the members of our credit union. We had to come up with a program or risk losing our members to other financial institutions that offer the program. While it is a great service to offer it is also a very costly program. It is not a money maker by any means. If we were to lose the Interchange Income that we get with this program I do not think that we would be able to continue to offer the program . To continue to offer the program without the help of the Interchange Income would mean to start charging large fees that our Members cannot afford to pay. Our credit union members are mostly factory workers who are facing job layoffs and plant down sizing who already live paycheck to paycheck. They like THEIR Credit Union because they get the services that large financial institutions offer with little or no cost to them. Plus they get the personalized service that has been lost over the years no matter what kind of service is being offered.

I am hoping that consideration will be given to small asset credit unions or credit union as a whole for exemption to the loss of Debit Card Interchange Income. My member/owners financial stability depends on it.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Joyce Bridgette