

Kevin Bacon State Senator 3rd District

## Ohio Senate Senate Building 1 Capitol Square Columbus, Ohio 43215 (614) 466-8064

Committees:
Commerce and Labor - Chair
Insurance and Financial Institutions
- Vice Chair
Civil Justice
Finance - Medicaid Subcommittee
Public Safety, Local Government and
Veterans Affairs
State Government Oversight and Reform
Reference

Legislative and Regulatory Activities Division Office of the Comptroller of the Currency 400 7th Street, SW., Suite 3E-218 Mail Stop 9W-11 Washington, DC 20219

Senator Kevin Bacon May 21, 2013 Robert E. Feldman Executive Secretary Attention: Comments Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 550 17<sup>th</sup> Street, NW. Washington, DC 20429

Re: Docket ID OCC-2013-0005: Proposed Guidance on Deposit Advance Products Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 6714-01-P

To Whom It May Concern:

As the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC) and Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) continue to review proposed guidance on bank deposit advance products, I urge the agencies to fully consider the potential impact on the short-term credit marketplace and to ensure that any forthcoming regulations preserve and sustain competitive choices to benefit all American consumers. The proposed guidance can harm consumers more than it helps them.

As Chairman of the Ohio Senate Commerce & Labor Committee, I am apprehensive such expansive regulation does not adequately address consumers' need for short-term credit or reflect their experience, nor does it get to the root of the financial challenges confronting consumers. Financial challenges force consumers to examine their options and weigh their decisions against costs and consequences associated with missing bill payments or submitting them late, including bounced checks, late payments to credit card companies and utility reconnections. Providing

effective financial safeguards for Americans while preserving access to credit should be the overarching goal of any new regulation.

In answering the call to public service, we make a commitment to protect our constituents and all Americans, and to look out for their best interests through fair and balanced policymaking and enforcement. The need for short-term small dollar lending is clear, I encourage the OCC and FDIC to carefully consider consumers' short-term credit experience and perspective, with an eye toward rulemaking that consistently and fairly regulates the services consumers depend upon – from cash advances to overdraft protection – while preserving the important role of short-term credit in the American economy and empowering consumers to make sensible financial decisions.

Sincerely,

Kevin Bacon