

April 2, 2020

Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
400 7th St. SW
Washington, DC, 20219

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of HousingWorks RI (HWRI) at Roger Williams University, I am writing to express the organization's strong opposition to the proposed changes to the Community Reinvestment Act, which would result in significantly fewer loans, investments, and services to low- and moderate-income communities. This proposal would make redlining legal again, permitting banks to avoid investment in low-income and minority neighborhoods.

HousingWorks RI at Roger Williams University is a research and policy center that specializes in analyzing economic and demographic indicators of housing affordability and housing security. HousingWorks RI works to advance housing affordability as a public policy priority, drawing evidence-based connections between housing security, health and well-being, education outcomes, and overall economic stability. Our research team specializes in intersectional policy areas including federal and state housing policy, planning and urban development, healthcare and public health. As a result of our work, we understand and recognize the high value of the Community Reinvestment Act to our local community. Now, more than ever, it is critical that residents have the supports they need in order to thrive.

On behalf of the people and places that HousingWorks RI serves, I ask that you please revisit and revise this proposal, to reflect equitable community investment opportunities for all.

Sincerely,



Brenda Clement, Director
Providence, Rhode Island