

January 27, 2023

The Honorable Don Beyer 1119 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Beyer,

On behalf of Virginia's 105 credit unions and their 15 million members, we are writing to express our strong support for H.R. 582 - the Credit Union Board Modernization Act. This legislation will allow federal credit union Boards of Directors to meet every other month rather than the current monthly requirement. The bill modernizes outdated requirements and will not only help credit unions focus more time and resources on member service but will also help credit unions retain skilled volunteer board members to provide guidance and oversight to management.

Current law requires the Board of Directors of a federal credit union to meet at least monthly. Monthly meetings can place a burden on credit union staff and board members, who are volunteers, and can make it difficult to attract and retain board members willing to serve. This legislation will allow credit unions to shift employee time and resources from planning monthly board meetings to providing valuable service to their members and communities. It also lowers a hurdle that could keep skilled and experienced members from serving on the board. These changes will have the most positive impact on smaller credit unions with fewer employees and those in rural areas.

This legislation contains appropriate safeguards to mitigate risks of ineffective oversight. Credit unions must maintain low risk ratings on their NCUA examinations to be eligible for the reduced meeting requirements. Boards of new credit unions will be required to meet monthly for the first five years of the credit union's operations. Finally, boards will still maintain the ability to meet monthly if they choose to do so and can call meetings at any time as needed.

In Virginia, the law allows for each state-chartered credit union to set their own frequency for required board meetings in their bylaws. A large share of state-charted credit unions allow for board meetings less frequently than every month, many on a quarterly or every other month frequency. Therefore, this legislation will bring federally chartered credit unions more in line with state-chartered credit unions on board meeting policy.

We strongly support this legislation and believe it will modernize and improve credit union governance. We ask that you support H.R. 582 – the Credit Union Board Modernization Act. If you have any questions regarding interchange, please use the Virginia Credit Union League as a resource. You can contact me directly at <a href="mailto:chunt@vacul.org">chunt@vacul.org</a>.

Sincerely,

Carrie R. Hunt

President/CEO, Virginia Credit Union League

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