

Maine Credit Union League

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July 28, 2014

The Honorable Angus King United States Senate 359 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Regulatory Easement for Lending Institutions that Enable a Vibrant Economy Act of 2014

Dear Senator King:

On behalf of Maine's 61 credit unions and 641,000 credit union members across the State, I am submitting this letter in support of the Regulatory Easement for Lending Institutions that Enable a Vibrant Economy Act of 2014 (RELIEVE Act). One of the biggest issues facing America's credit unions today is that of increased regulatory burden and the compliance demands that are invariably part of this process. Lending institutions, particularly credit unions, are faced with the realities of a more highly regulated environment that has arisen in the aftermath of the financial crisis of 2008 and are having a difficult time keeping pace with implementation of new rules and regulations.

Credit unions play a very important role in states and towns across America. As member owned and controlled cooperatives, credit unions are part of the fabric of the communities in which we serve and, as a result, we have always been cautious and careful to not take excessive risks. Credit unions have remained a well-capitalized source of financial stability through some of our nation's most challenging times and we strive to continue to offer our members the products and services they need to support their families and businesses.

We thank you for your support in examining and addressing the issue of increased regulatory burden on our industry, and we welcome any efforts to help ease that burden so that Maine's credit unions can continue to grow and serve those in our communities.

Since

John G. Murphy