

From: Mr. Evan Cordes, Arden Hills, MN

Subject: Electronic Fund Transfers

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Comments:

Mar 17, 2009

Federal Reserve Board Email comments

Dear Email comments,

As a college student, I have gotten hit with these bank over-draft fees several times. We deposit our loan checks, and have to wait for them to clear, however- since our checks are often large, they take several days to clear. During this time, we are also required to make large purchases, such as books, and often rent. In between these purchases, we must also eat and spend as necessary on basic amenities.

Normally, this wouldn't be a problem, but with bank overdrafts, when these small charges are made before our tuition checks clear, without a chance to fix or pay in some other way, we're forced to pay exorbitant fees, which pile up if you make several purchases a day under the mistaken assumption your tuition check has cleared.

This fall, my tuition check lagged in being cleared by Bank of America, and while I had some reserves in my savings, I went about spending, buying dinner, some groceries, school supplies, and small things like gas for my car and a candy bar. When I got home that night, I checked my bank account so I could shuffle funds to pay rent the next week.

However, instead of denying these charges, allowing me to pay with cash or a credit card, Bank of America allowed all of these purchases to go through, processing the ones that happened before 3pm to be charged that day, with a \$30 per charge late fee, But then, processed the others the next day, at \$45 a charge! My single day outing went from a \$50 affair, to nearly a \$400 day.

By allowing banks to structure their fee system like this, the banks are easily able to profit off of the poor, and harm those who most need protecting, so please, pass this regulation, providing actual protection to individuals so that these kinds of things don't happen and people don't become in debt for far more than they should.

Please allow me the chance to opt-in to overdraft services. This is the only way that I will truly feel protected.

Sincerely,

Mr. Evan Cordes  
Arden Hills, MN 55112-1944