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Comments:

I just watched a news segment on my local channel about banks charging overdraft fees for pending items even though the money in your bank still says available. I currently bank at Johnson Space Center Federal Credit Union. I, too, was slammed with these fees. I ordered some clothing from the internet and the company stated that a few of the items were on back-order and they would charge my account accordingly when they became available. A week went by and I went to do some light grocery shopping before my husbands check was direct deposited the next day. I was hit with insufficient funds for the grocery shopping and also an overdraft fee for a pending item. I noticed that the amount that was insufficient was for the amount of the items that were on back-order. I called JSCFCU about this and they stated that a pending item is the same as a charge, even though the person being owed money has not received it. I was floored to say the least. The company I ordered my clothing from was not supposed to charge my account, but since it was a pending item and my account stated that the amount was still in there, I should not have been charged for the bank fees. In fact, it still took another 2 weeks for the pending items to clear through my bank as I received

the clothing about 3 days after that. This is ridiculous. I raised a ruckus at my bank about it and was told "these are the rules". These should not be the rules. I try not to go into the red in my bank account and, at this day and age, it's impossible as the economy is so expensive. I always do a ledger in my check book and when the company I ordered clothing from stated that they would only charge me for the clothing that was available to send, that was what I took out of my account on my ledger. In fact, I received an e-mail exactly 4 weeks to the day of originally ordering the clothing to let me know that my bank had been charged the rest of the amount owing and the items had been mailed. Something needs to be done about this, seriously and quickly. The banks are making a fortune off us in these insufficient fund fees and overdraft fees. Please, Please make it stop!