

08/01/2008 11:35:06 AM

**Subject:** Regulation AA

Federal Reserve Board Docket No. R-1314

Dear Federal Reserve Board Docket No. R-1314,

I am out of work on Disability, a mother of two small children, and sometimes it is difficult for me to pay all of my bills on time. I have credit cards and despite my situation, I still get penalized with outrageous interest rates when i am late making my payment, which then incurs a fee which puts me over my limit which allows the credit card company to raise my interest rates to the highest possible percentage. And then the percentage DOES NOT go back down once i make my regular payments. How is that reasonable? The credit card companies need to be reigned in. There needs to be a longer grace period and more notification that the bill is due and payment is expected and that if payment is not received that the interest will increase significantly. There also needs to be a system of checks and balances. The companies need to be aware of special situations, like mine, and I need to be given a fair opportunity to respond to notifications and a fair period of time to pay my bill without being penalized. We, as consumers and customers of the credit card companies, are entitled to fair practice and this is a pure example of unfair practice. And whom does the unfair practice benefit? The banks and credit card companies, not the consumer.

I appreciate the opportunity to file comments in support of Regulation AA - Unfair or Deceptive Acts or Practices [R-1314], the recent proposal to curb unfair and deceptive credit card and overdraft practices. I support the credit card aspects of the rule, while also suggesting that protection is needed against additional unfair credit card practices beyond those covered in this proposed rule. I believe that stronger protection against unfair practices in bank overdraft programs is also needed.

Sincerely,  
Ariana O'Neal  
Rio Rancho, NM 87144