

From: Andrew Whittington
Subject: Reg I I - Debit card Interchange

Comments:

February 8, 2011

Federal Reserve

Dear Federal Reserve:

Thank you for taking a moment of your time to read this letter.
Prior to the FED establishing uniform bank rules regarding paper checks in the 1940's, banks charged enormous and unregulated fees to consumers to write checks and accept them. This system made paying bills uncumbersome and expensive for the end user, the US people. Since this time, plastic cards and electronic payments have increased to the point that paper checks will soon become obsolete. Plastic cards /electronic payments are less costly to process than paper checks. more environmentally friendly and more accurate as well. And yet, banks want to make a profit processeing electronic payments in the ways they took advantage of consumers prior to the 1940's standardization of checks. The reality is, debit cards are in essence, electronic checks. The money is in the bank. It is less costly to banks to process a debit transaction compared to paper checks. Don't confuse debit verses credit transactions. Banks make a profit on credit card transaction as they are making an instant loan. Debit cards are money consumers own and spend. So, it's time we realize no fees for debit tranactions is the same as it was necessary for checks. What will you prefer, Paper or Plastic? Sincerely, Andrew Whittington
Georgetown, Kentucky

Sincerely,

Andrew Whittington