

Jennifer J. Johnson
Secretary
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW.
Washington, DC 20551

Re: Docket No. R-1404 and RIN No. 7100 AD63

February 14, 2011

Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System,

My bank is a community-based institution. We provide savings and checking accounts, which include the use of a debit card. Providing debit card services to my customers is a very important aspect of my relationship with my customer, and one which involves significant expense. Our bank is opposed to the proposed rule because the proposal does not permit our bank to cover the cost of providing debit card transactions, which will create new maintenance and other fees on checking accounts.

I am a bank employee who is concerned about the economic consequences of this new rule. My company might be forced to eliminate many of our free services, such as free checking, or charge accounts for debit cards, so that we will be able to compensate for the lost revenue from reduced interchange fees. This hurts the consumers this rule was intended to protect.

The fact is that retailers receive tremendous benefits when they accept debit cards for payment, including higher sales, lower costs and guaranteed payment. That's why millions of retailers have chosen to accept debit cards and that number is growing.

I don't want to be forced to pay higher fees, give up my rewards, and lose my free checking account, just so retailers can have an extra \$15 billion in profits.

Sincerely,



Idelia G. Laurel