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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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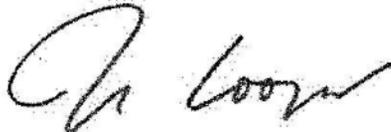
The Honorable Ben S. Bernanke
Chairman
Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Chairman Bernanke:

I am writing to respectfully request that the Board of Governors consider an extension of the comment period for the Basel III proposed rules. The current comment period expires on September 7, 2012. As you know, this rule is extremely complex, which justifies extending the current comment period by 90 days. I believe that an additional 90-day comment period will allow for a more complete and thorough review process, which will yield a more comprehensive and thoughtful final rule.

Thank you for your consideration and for your work on this important rule. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,



Jim Cooper
Member of Congress