

United States House of Representatives  
Committee on Financial Services  
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 2, 2012

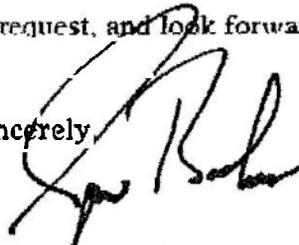
The Honorable Ben S. Bernanke  
Chairman  
Federal Reserve Board  
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20551

Dear Chairman Bernanke:

I write today to request that you consider an extension of the comment period for the Basel III proposed rules. The current comment period expires on September 7th, and I ask that you extend this period ninety days beyond the conclusion of the current comment period. As you know, this rule is extremely complex, so additional time for commenting is certainly justified. Additionally, I feel that a longer comment period will lead to more substantive comments, which in turn will be much more useful to reviewers. The more thorough the comments provided, the better I believe the rule will be when finalized.

I appreciate your consideration of this request, and look forward to receiving a favorable response.

Sincerely,



SPENCER BACHUS  
Chairman