

Good afternoon Co-Chairs Johnson and Jenson and members of the Committee. My name is Scott Burgess, and I am the President/CEO of Rivermark Community Credit Union, a \$550 million dollar State Chartered credit union headquartered in Beaverton, Oregon, serving approximately 63,000 Oregonians across 11 counties. I'm here today to share with you my perspective of the good work being done by the Division of Finance and Corporate Securities, a Division of DCBS.

The Division of Finance and Corporate Securities is responsible for oversight of 18 State Chartered Credit Unions, of which Rivermark is one. These 18 credit unions hold a total of \$10.5 billion in assets, serve 900,000 members and employ approximately 2,500 Oregonians. The Division is committed to the safety and soundness of credit unions and also works closely with all of us to ensure compliance with regulations. They conduct comprehensive examinations of every credit union within a 2 year period, and many exams are conducted every calendar year, based on asset size.

There are 3 key points that I want to make today relating to my perspective of the Division of Finance and Corporate Securities, our regulator:

- 1) It is very important that we preserve a strong State charter, and thus a strong dual charter system (both Federal and State)
 - a. Charter choice for credit unions is critical, enabling credit unions to choose the charter that best meets their member needs.
 - b. The State Charter is so much more nimble than the Federal Charter, enabling more responsive and responsible updates to our State Credit Union Act. As you may know, State Chartered Credit Unions periodically go to the legislature to enact legislation that will help us better serve our members during times of rapidly changing and challenging economic times. This type of responsiveness on the Federal side is much more cumbersome and difficult, and a one-size-fits all regulatory environment is not always what is best for Oregonians. We work closely with our regulator as we develop legislative concepts.
- 2) The examination process with our State regulator is fair, with an emphasis on safety and soundness, ensuring State Chartered Credit Unions are well run with a focus on responsibly serving our members. From the perspective of Rivermark, examinations are viewed as an opportunity to partner with our regulator to identify ways in which we can better serve our members, while operating in a safe and sound manner.
- 3) Our regulator is a great partner to work with. The collaborative nature of how they approach their work with State Chartered Credit Unions is very evident, and indicative of the importance they place in being communicative and transparent. They not only understand and effectively regulate State Chartered Credit Unions, but they also understand that everyone wins, especially members, when we have a strong, vibrant group of member-focused State Credit Unions. The relationship is so important for mutual success and our regulator understands that. A great example of the positive relationship we have with our regulator is reflected in the periodic Credit Union CEO Outreach programs coordinated by our regulator. During these programs, the Division has a great opportunity to share with Credit Unions information on key examination issues and economic trends. From my perspective, it reinforces the collaborative nature of how our regulator approaches their oversight of State Chartered Credit Unions.

In closing, it's my hope that the Division continues to have the resources they need in order to continue to do the good work that they have been doing. Credit Unions and members across the State of Oregon depend on a strong regulator who works well with those that they regulate. Thank you for the opportunity to speak with you today.