

S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

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2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

February 10, 2009

Introduced by Sen. PARKER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Banks -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the banking law, in relation to credit union memberships and general powers

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Subdivision 2 of section 451 of the banking law, as amended
2 by chapter 660 of the laws of 2004, is amended to read as follows:
3 2. The qualifications for membership.
4 [(a) Membership shall be limited to:
5 (1) persons having a common employer;
6 (2) persons and organizations who are members of the same trade,
7 industry, profession, club, union, society or other association;
8 (3) in the case of a credit union incorporated under this chapter as
9 of the effective date of this subdivision, and with the approval of the
10 superintendent, which approval shall not be given if it would be
11 destructive of competition within a municipality, more than one common
12 employer; provided, however, that an employer group with under three
13 thousand employees may be added upon receipt of a notice as provided in
14 subdivision two of section four hundred seventy-eight of this article;
15 (4) with the approval of the superintendent, and subject to the
16 provisions of paragraph (b) of this subdivision, more than one group
17 each of which has, within the group, a common bond of occupation,
18 including a common employer, or association; provided, however, that a
19 group of less than three thousand members, which is within reasonable
20 proximity to the credit union's service area or areas, may be added upon
21 receipt of a notice as provided in subdivision two of section four
22 hundred seventy-eight of this article; or

EXPLANATION--Matter in *ITALICS* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (5) persons and organizations within a well-defined local community,
2 neighborhood or rural district and who in the judgment of the super-
3 intendent have such a community of interest as will insure proper admin-
4 istration.

5 (b) In considering an application to add a group to a credit union
6 authorized under subparagraph four of paragraph (a) of this subdivision,
7 the superintendent shall not approve the addition unless the group is
8 within reasonable proximity to the credit union's service area or areas.
9 If the group has more than three thousand members, the superintendent
10 shall not approve such addition unless he or she determines that the
11 group could not feasibly or reasonably establish a new single common
12 bond credit union because:

13 (1) the group lacks sufficient volunteer and other resources to
14 support the efficient and effective operation of a credit union;

15 (2) the group does not meet the criteria which the superintendent has
16 determined to be important for the likelihood of success in establishing
17 and managing a new credit union, including demographic characteristics
18 such as geographical location of members, diversity of ages and income
19 levels, and other factors that may affect the financial viability and
20 stability of a credit union;

21 (3) the group would be unlikely to operate a safe and sound credit
22 union; or

23 (4) the group has been transferred from another credit union in
24 connection with a merger or consolidation recommended by a state or
25 federal regulator based on safety and soundness concerns or by the board
26 of the National Credit Union Administration in its capacity as conserva-
27 tor or liquidating agent.

28 (c) With the approval of the superintendent, a credit union may extend
29 membership to persons and organizations in an underserved local communi-
30 ty, neighborhood or rural district, where such area is determined by the
31 superintendent to be an "investment area" as defined in the federal
32 Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act of 1994 (12
33 U.S.C. 4703(16)) and any other requirements imposed by the superinten-
34 dent, including a requirement that the credit union establish and main-
35 tain an office or facility in such area.

36 (d) To the extent not expressly prohibited by the bylaws of the credit
37 union:

38 (1) in each instance where a person is a member or is directly eligi-
39 ble for membership, members of his or her immediate family or household
40 shall be eligible for membership. For the purposes of this subparagraph,
41 "immediate family" means a person's spouse, and their lineal ancestors
42 and descendants, including persons so related by adoption, siblings,
43 stepparents, stepchildren, and stepsiblings; and "household" means
44 persons living in the same residence and maintaining a single economic
45 unit;

46 (2) any employee of the credit union shall be eligible to membership;
47 and

48 (3) any member who leaves the field of membership and who has not
49 withdrawn or been expelled may retain membership.

50 (e) To the extent not expressly prohibited by the bylaws of the credit
51 union, any incorporated or unincorporated organization composed princi-
52 pally of persons eligible to membership in the credit union and the
53 organization's employees shall be eligible to membership in the credit
54 union.

55 (f) Any person who is eligible for membership by reason of the fact
56 that he or she is an employee either of a common employer or of a credit

1 union shall not become ineligible, after the termination of such employ-
2 ment, as long as he or she receives a pension or annuity from, or under,
3 a plan or other arrangement established by such common employer or cred-
4 it union.

5 (g) The provisions of this subdivision shall not apply to a corporate
6 credit union.] THE MEMBERSHIP OF A CREDIT UNION SHALL BE DETERMINED BY
7 THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SUCH CREDIT UNION AND SHALL CONSIST OF PERSONS
8 WHO HAVE BEEN DULY ADMITTED MEMBERS.

9 S 2. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (c) of subdivision 6 of section 454
10 of the banking law, as added by chapter 660 of the laws of 2004, is
11 amended to read as follows:

12 (i) [No credit union may make any member business loan that would
13 result in a total amount of such loans outstanding at that credit union
14 at any one time equal to more than the lesser of 1.75 times the actual
15 net worth of the credit union, or 1.75 times the minimum net worth
16 required under 12 U.S.C. 1790d(c)(1)(A) for a credit union to be well
17 capitalized.] (A) NO CREDIT UNION SHALL MAKE ANY MEMBER A BUSINESS LOAN
18 THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE NET MEMBER BUSINESS LOAN BALANCE TO ANY ONE
19 MEMBER EXCEEDING THE GREATER OF

20 (1) TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE CREDIT UNION'S NET WORTH, OR

21 (2) TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS.

22 (B) THE AGGREGATE LIMIT ON A CREDIT UNION'S NET BUSINESS LOAN BALANCES
23 SHALL BE THE GREATER OF:

24 (1) TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE CREDIT UNION'S TOTAL ASSETS, OR

25 (2) THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED FOR FEDERAL CREDIT UNIONS.

26 S 3. Subparagraph (i) of paragraph (a) of subdivision 18 of section
27 454 of the banking law, as amended by chapter 679 of the laws of 2003,
28 is amended to read as follows:

29 (i) Those securities authorized as permissible investments for savings
30 banks by subdivisions one, two, three, four, twelve, [paragraph] PARA-
31 GRAPHS (a) AND (B) of subdivision twelve-a, [and] SUBPARAGRAPH FIVE OF
32 PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION NINE, subdivisions fifteen, seventeen,
33 PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION TWENTY, SUBPARAGRAPHS ONE AND ONE-A OF
34 PARAGRAPH (A) OF SUBDIVISION TWENTY-ONE, SUBDIVISIONS TWENTY-FOUR-D,
35 twenty-seven [and], TWENTY-EIGHT, twenty-eight-a, TWENTY-NINE AND THIRTY
36 of section two hundred thirty-five of this chapter.

37 S 4. Subdivision 2 of section 461 of the banking law, as added by
38 chapter 608 of the laws of 1996, is amended to read as follows:

39 2. Subject to such regulations as the superintendent may adopt, any
40 credit union, may open and maintain within or without the state, in any
41 locality in which [a substantial portion of] its actual potential
42 membership is employed, ATTENDING SCHOOL or residing, one or more
43 stations for the conduct of its business [provided that before any such
44 station or stations shall be opened or maintained or removed to a new
45 location:

46 (a) Its board of directors shall submit to the superintendent a writ-
47 ten application setting forth the reasons therefor and the proposed
48 location of such station or stations.

49 (b) The superintendent shall have given his written approval thereto].

50 S 5. Subdivision 1 of section 454 of the banking law, as amended by
51 chapter 679 of the laws of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

52 1. To issue and receive payments on, shares, share drafts, and share
53 certificates, subject to such terms, rates, and conditions as are estab-
54 lished by its board of directors, from:

55 (A) its members;

1 (B) NONMEMBERS WHO OR WHICH MAY BE NATURAL PERSONS, CORPORATIONS,
2 LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANIES, PARTNERSHIPS OR OTHER LEGAL ENTITIES;

3 (C) AN OFFICER, EMPLOYEE OR AGENT OF THOSE NONMEMBER UNITS OF THE
4 FEDERAL, STATE, INDIAN TRIBAL OR LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND POLITICAL SUBDI-
5 VISIONS; and

6 (D) from other credit unions, both state and federally chartered.

7 A member may designate any person or persons to own shares or share
8 certificates with him or her in joint tenancy with the right of survi-
9 vorship, but no joint tenant shall be permitted to vote, obtain loans,
10 or hold office, unless he or she is within the field of membership and
11 is a qualified member.

12 S 6. This act shall take effect immediately.