



May 25, 2013

Thomas Curry, Comptroller of the Currency
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency
400 7th Street SW, Suite 3E-218
Washington, D.C. 20219
regs.comments@occ.treas.gov

Martin Gruenberg, Chairman
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street, NW.,
Washington, DC 20429
Comments@fdic.gov

RE: Proposed Guidance on Deposit Advance Products, OCC Docket ID OCC-2013-0005

Dear Comptroller Curry and Chairman Gruenberg:

Please accept these comments regarding Deposit Advance Products on behalf of Opportunity Fund. Opportunity Fund is a nonprofit financial institution providing microloans and savings accounts throughout the state of California. We partner closely with banks and other financial institutions to meet [the financial needs of low income community credit and other financial needs communities](#).

As lenders, we all have a responsibility to make sure a borrower can reasonably repay a loan before we make it. Unfortunately, due to the lack of underwriting and short repayment period, the existing marketplace product is not responsible and in fact traps many borrowers in a cycle of debt. We applaud the OCC and the FDIC for their focus on these flawed products and urge you to adopt the proposed guidance and begin enforcement immediately.

We generally agree with recommendations submitted by the California Reinvestment Coalition regarding specific limitations that should be placed on Deposit Advance Products including:

- Strong underwriting through minimum eligibility requirements and assessment of a customer's ability to repay.
- Reasonable repayment terms that allow for installment payments rather than requiring lump sum repayment which leads to re-borrowing.
- Product marketing that clearly states it is a credit product rather than a bank account feature.

We support the OCC and the FDIC recommendation that banks should offer reasonably priced small-dollar loans at reasonable terms to their customers, which if structured properly, can provide a safe and affordable means for borrowers to transition away from reliance on high-cost debt products that do not appropriately serve their needs.

Sincerely,

Eric Weaver
Founder & CEO