



American Revolution Bicentennial

FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF DALLAS

DALLAS, TEXAS 75222

Circular No. 76-130
September 21, 1976

REGULATION B--EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY ACT

**Notice of Termination of Proposed Rule-Making
And Extension of Effective Date**

**TO ALL BANKS, OTHER CREDITORS,
AND OTHERS CONCERNED IN THE
ELEVENTH FEDERAL RESERVE DISTRICT:**

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System has determined that the present version of Section 202.6 is the most appropriate mechanism for regulating the designation and reporting requirements by creditors of credit information relating to joint accounts held by married persons. Therefore, the Board has decided not to adopt the amendments proposed on May 25, 1976.

However, the Board recognizes that, because of the uncertainty that has existed until now about the reporting requirements of Section 202.6, many creditors and the credit reporting industry are not prepared to comply with the provisions of the section by November 1, 1976. Therefore, the Board has decided to extend the effective date of the designation and reporting requirements of that section to June 1, 1977. The Board's proposed revision of Regulation B, which was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 20, 1976, will be amended to incorporate this change.

Printed on the following pages is the text of the Board's press release and notice. Enclosed is a copy of an amendment to Regulation B reflecting the extension to June 1, 1977 of the effective date of Section 202.6. Member banks and others who maintain Regulations Binders should file the amendment in their binders. Any questions concerning this matter should be directed to Richard B. West of our Regulations Department at (214) 651-6169.

Additional copies of this amendment will be furnished upon request to the Secretary's Office of this Bank (214) 651-6267.

Sincerely yours,

T. W. Plant

First Vice President

Enclosure



FEDERAL RESERVE

press release

For immediate release

September 2, 1976

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System today announced that it would retain the existing requirement in its Regulation B--Equal Credit Opportunity--for creditors to report credit histories in the names of both husband and wife when the account is shared.

At the same time, the Board postponed the effective date of the requirement from November 1, 1976, to June 1, 1977.

The provision of the Regulation concerned (Section 202.6) requires creditors to furnish credit information "in the name of each spouse." The Board asked on May 25, 1976, for public comment on a possible change of this language to permit creditors to report credit information relating to a shared account of a married couple "in a manner reflecting the participation of both spouses."

In view of generally unfavorable comment, the Board decided to retain the existing language which in effect calls for credit reporting agencies to maintain two separate files for married couples sharing an account, but to extend the effective date in order to give creditors more time for revision of their files and record keeping systems.

The Board's order in this matter is attached.

Extract From
FEDERAL REGISTER
VOL. 41, NO. 178,
Monday, September 13, 1976
p. 38759

Title 12—Banks and Banking
CHAPTER II—FEDERAL RESERVE
SYSTEM
SUBCHAPTER A—BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF
THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM
[Docket No. R-0038; (Reg. B)]
PART 202—EQUAL CREDIT
OPPORTUNITY

Termination of Proposed Rulemaking and
Extension of Effective Date

The purpose of this notice is to announce that the Board of Governors is terminating consideration of the amendments to § 202.6 of its Regulation B (Docket No. R-0038), which were published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on June 4, 1976 (41 FR 22592). In addition, the Board is extending the effective date of § 202.6 to June 1, 1977.

The existing language of § 202.6 (which the Board has decided to retain) requires a creditor to determine whether a particular account is one which both

spouses will use or for which both will be contractually liable. The creditor must then designate the account accordingly. Section 202.6(a)(2)(i) now provides that when the creditor reports information concerning the account to a consumer reporting agency, it must report the information "in a manner which will enable the agencies to provide access to information about the account in the name of each spouse."

The Board's proposed amendment to § 202.6 would have substituted the phrase "in a way which reflects the participation of each spouse" for "in the name of each spouse."

Upon review of the comments received in response to the publication of the proposed amendments, the Board has determined that the most appropriate mechanism for regulating the designation and reporting by creditors of credit information relating to joint accounts held by married persons is contained in the present version of § 202.6. Therefore, the Board has decided not to adopt the proposed amendments.

The Board recognizes, however, that, because of the uncertainty that has existed until now about the reporting requirements of § 202.6, many creditors and the credit reporting industry are not prepared to comply with the provisions of the section by November 1, 1976. Therefore, the Board has decided to extend the effective date of the designation and reporting requirements of § 202.6 to June 1, 1977. The Board's proposed revision of Regulation B, which was published in the FEDERAL REGISTER on July 20, 1976 (41 FR 29870), will be amended to incorporate this change.

§ 202.6 [Amended]

For the reasons stated in this notice and pursuant to the authority granted in section 703 of the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (Title VII of the Consumer Credit Protection Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.), the Board amends § 202.6 of Regulation B (12 CFR 202), effective October 6, 1976, as follows: (1) The date "June 1, 1977" is substituted for the date "November 1, 1976" wherever the latter appears in § 202.6; (2) the date "October 1, 1977" is substituted for the date "February 1, 1977" where the latter appears twice in § 202.6(b)(1)(ii); and (3) the phrase "June 1977" is substituted for the phrase "November 1976" where the latter appears in § 202.6(b)(1)(ii).

By order of the Board of Governors,
September 2, 1976.

THEODORE E. ALLISON,
Secretary of the Board.

[FR Doc. 76-26755 Filed 9-10-76; 8:45 am]

BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

EQUAL CREDIT OPPORTUNITY

AMENDMENTS TO REGULATION B†

Effective October 6, 1976, Section 202.6 is amended by substituting the following dates:

**SECTION 202.6 — FURNISHING OF
CREDIT INFORMATION**

1. The date "June 1, 1977" is substituted for the date "November 1, 1976" wherever the latter appears in §202.6;

2. The date "October 1, 1977" is substituted for the date "February 1, 1977" where the latter appears twice in §202.6(b)(1)(ii);
and

3. The phrase "June 1977" is substituted for the phrase "November 1976" where the latter appears in §202.6(b)(1)(ii).

†For this Regulation to be complete as amended effective October 6, 1976, retain:

- 1) Printed pamphlet containing Regulation B, dated October 28, 1975;
- 2) Amendments, effective June 30, 1976, to Sections 202.4, 202.5, 202.9, 202.10, 202.14, and effective May 13, 1976, to Section 202.10(f);
- 3) Amendments, effective July 30, 1976, to Sections 202.13(b), 202.13(c), and 202.13(d); and
- 4) This slip sheet.

10-6-76

(Enc. Cir. No. 76-130)