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### § 3301. Declaration of purpose

It is the purpose of this chapter to establish a Financial Institutions Examination Council which shall prescribe uniform principles and standards for the Federal examination of financial institutions by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and the National Credit Union Administration and make recommendations to promote uniformity in the supervision of these financial institutions. The Council's actions shall be designed to promote consistency in such examination and to insure progressive and vigilant supervision.

(Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1002, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3694.)

#### EFFECTIVE DATE

Chapter effective upon the expiration of 120 days after Nov. 10, 1978, see section 2101 of Pub. L. 95-630, set out as a note under section 375b of this title.

#### SHORT TITLE

Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1001, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3694, provided that: "This title [enacting this chapter and amending section 67 of former Title 31, Money and Finance] may be cited as the 'Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council Act of 1978'."

#### TRANSFER OF FUNCTIONS

Federal Home Loan Bank Board abolished and functions transferred, see sections 401 to 406 of Pub. L. 101-73, set out as a note under section 1437 of this title.

### § 3302. Definitions

As used in this chapter—

(1) the term "Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies" means the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Office of Thrift Supervision, and the National Credit Union Administration;

(2) the term "Council" means the Financial Institutions Examination Council; and

(3) the term "financial institution" means a commercial bank, a savings bank, a trust company, a savings association, a building and loan association, a homestead association, a cooperative bank, or a credit union;<sup>1</sup>

(Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1003, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3694; Pub. L. 101-73, title VII, §744(a)(1), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 438.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1989—Par. (1). Pub. L. 101-73, §744(a)(1)(A), substituted "Office of Thrift Supervision" for "Federal Home Loan Bank Board".

<sup>1</sup> So in original. The semicolon probably should be a period.

Par. (3). Pub. L. 101-73, §744(a)(1)(B), substituted "savings association" for "savings and loan association".

### § 3303. Financial Institutions Examination Council

#### (a) Establishment; composition

There is established the Financial Institutions Examination Council which shall consist of—

- (1) the Comptroller of the Currency,
- (2) the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,
- (3) a Governor of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System designated by the Chairman of the Board,
- (4) the Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau,
- (5) the Chairman of the National Credit Union Administration Board, and
- (6) the Chairman of the State Liaison Committee.

#### (b) Chairmanship

The members of the Council shall select the first chairman of the Council. Thereafter the chairmanship shall rotate among the members of the Council.

#### (c) Term of office

The term of the Chairman of the Council shall be two years.

#### (d) Designation of officers and employees

The members of the Council may, from time to time, designate other officers or employees of their respective agencies to carry out their duties on the Council.

#### (e) Compensation and expenses

Each member of the Council shall serve without additional compensation but shall be entitled to reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out his official duties as such a member.

(Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1004, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3694; Pub. L. 101-73, title VII, §744(a)(2), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 438; Pub. L. 109-351, title VII, §714(a), Oct. 13, 2006, 120 Stat. 1995; Pub. L. 111-203, title X, §1091, July 21, 2010, 124 Stat. 2094.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2010—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 111-203 substituted "Director of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau" for "Director, Office of Thrift Supervision".

2006—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 109-351, §714(a)(1), substituted "Thrift Supervision," for "Thrift Supervision".

Subsec. (a)(6). Pub. L. 109-351, §714(a)(2), (3), added par. (6).

1989—Subsec. (a)(4). Pub. L. 101-73 substituted "Director, Office of Thrift Supervision" for "Chairman of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and".

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2010 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 111-203 effective on the designated transfer date, see section 1100H of Pub. L. 111-203, set out as a note under section 552a of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

### § 3304. Costs and expenses of Council

One-fifth of the costs and expenses of the Council, including the salaries of its employees, shall be paid by each of the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies. Annual assess-

ments for such share shall be levied by the Council based upon its projected budget for the year, and additional assessments may be made during the year if necessary.

(Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1005, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3695.)

### § 3305. Functions of Council

#### (a) Establishment of principles and standards

The Council shall establish uniform principles and standards and report forms for the examination of financial institutions which shall be applied by the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies.

#### (b) Making recommendations regarding supervisory matters and adequacy of supervisory tools

(1) The Council shall make recommendations for uniformity in other supervisory matters, such as, but not limited to, classifying loans subject to country risk, identifying financial institutions in need of special supervisory attention, and evaluating the soundness of large loans that are shared by two or more financial institutions. In addition, the Council shall make recommendations regarding the adequacy of supervisory tools for determining the impact of holding company operations on the financial institutions within the holding company and shall consider the ability of supervisory agencies to discover possible fraud or questionable and illegal payments and practices which might occur in the operation of financial institutions or their holding companies.

(2) When a recommendation of the Council is found unacceptable by one or more of the applicable Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies, the agency or agencies shall submit to the Council, within a time period specified by the Council, a written statement of the reasons the recommendation is unacceptable.

#### (c) Development of uniform reporting system

The Council shall develop uniform reporting systems for federally supervised financial institutions, their holding companies, and non-financial institution subsidiaries of such institutions or holding companies. The authority to develop uniform reporting systems shall not restrict or amend the requirements of section 787(i) of title 15.

#### (d) Conducting schools for examiners and assistant examiners

The Council shall conduct schools for examiners and assistant examiners employed by the Federal financial institutions regulatory agencies. Such schools shall be open to enrollment by employees of State financial institutions supervisory agencies and employees of the Federal Housing Finance Board under conditions specified by the Council.

#### (e) Affect on Federal regulatory agency research and development of new financial institutions supervisory agencies

Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to limit or discourage Federal regulatory agency research and development of new financial institutions supervisory methods and tools, nor to

preclude the field testing of any innovation devised by any Federal regulatory agency.

#### (f) Annual report

Not later than April 1 of each year, the Council shall prepare an annual report covering its activities during the preceding year.

#### (g) Flood insurance

The Council shall consult with and assist the Federal entities for lending regulation, as such term is defined in section 4121(a) of title 42, in developing and coordinating uniform standards and requirements for use by regulated lending institutions under the national flood insurance program.

(Pub. L. 95-630, title X, §1006, Nov. 10, 1978, 92 Stat. 3695; Pub. L. 97-320, title IV, §431, Oct. 15, 1982, 96 Stat. 1527; Pub. L. 101-73, title VII, §744(a)(3), Aug. 9, 1989, 103 Stat. 438; Pub. L. 103-325, title V, §530, Sept. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 2267.)

#### AMENDMENTS

1994—Subsec. (g). Pub. L. 103-325 added subsec. (g).

1989—Subsec. (d). Pub. L. 101-73 inserted “and employees of the Federal Housing Finance Board” after “supervisory agencies”.

1982—Subsec. (b)(2). Pub. L. 97-320 substituted “unacceptable” for “unaccepted”.

#### REPORT ON CONSISTENT USE OF FINANCIAL TERMINOLOGY

Pub. L. 103-325, title II, §210, Sept. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 2203, provided that: “Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act [Sept. 23, 1994], the Financial Institutions Examination Council shall report to the Congress on its recommendations for the use of consistent financial terminology by depository institutions for small business loans or leases of personal property which are sold for the creation of small business related securities (as defined in section 3(a)(53)(A) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [15 U.S.C. 78c(a)(53)(A)]).”

#### EXAMINATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Pub. L. 102-242, title I, §111(d), Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2241, provided that:

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The appropriate Federal banking agencies, acting through the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, shall each establish a comparable examination improvement program that meets the requirements of paragraph (2).

“(2) REQUIREMENTS.—An examination improvement program meets the requirements of this paragraph if, under the program, the agency is required—

“(A) to periodically review the organization and training of the staff of the agency who are responsible for conducting examinations of insured depository institutions and to make such improvements as the agency determines to be appropriate to ensure frequent, objective, and thorough examinations of such institutions; and

“(B) to increase the number of examiners, supervisors, and other individuals employed by the agency in connection with conducting or supervising examinations of insured depository institutions to the extent necessary to ensure frequent, objective, and thorough examinations of such institutions.”

#### STUDY ON REGULATORY BURDEN

Pub. L. 102-242, title II, §221, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2305, provided that:

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act [Dec. 19, 1991], the Federal Financial Institutions Examination Council, in