

March 13, 2020

The Honorable Blaine Luetkemeyer
2230 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Luetkemeyer:

The undersigned trade associations representing banks, credit unions, financial institutions, and businesses of all sizes that serve America's consumers strongly support H.R. 6116, the Consumer Financial Protection Commission Act of 2020. This legislation would ensure the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's (CFPB) political independence by replacing the single director structure with a five-person, bipartisan commission, as originally intended by the U.S. House of Representatives when it first passed the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act in 2010.

In light of the recent oral arguments heard by the U.S. Supreme Court in *Seila Law LLC v. Consumer Financial Protection Bureau*, we believe your legislation is an appropriate and sensible remedy that would bring long term stability to the Bureau. In addition to safeguarding the CFPB from executive and political interference, a Senate confirmed, bipartisan commission will provide a balanced and deliberative approach to supervision, regulation, and enforcement by encouraging input from all stakeholders.

The current single director structure, as we witnessed in the transition in CFPB leadership from the Obama Administration to the Trump Administration, leads to significant uncertainty within the financial services industry. This uncertainty is not only borne by financial institutions providing significant lending services, but it negatively impacts America's consumers, small businesses, and our local economies. The financial services marketplace thrives in a stable regulatory environment. When regulatory stability is eroded by changing political dynamics, the consumer suffers from financial institutions' inability to rely upon a consistent regulatory environment.

Members from both parties have long supported legislation to replace the single director model with a commission. In fact, bipartisan legislation establishing a CFPB commission has passed the House Financial Services Committee six times and passed the U.S. House of Representatives four times, with Democrats and Republicans voting in favor. It is important to note that when Dodd-Frank passed the House in 2009, under the leadership of then-House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank (D-MA), it included a provision that would establish a five-member commission at the Bureau.

We strongly support H.R. 6116 and look forward to working with you, the Committee, and the 116th Congress to pass this bill and have it signed into law. Thank you for your strong, common sense leadership on such a critical issue.

Sincerely,

ACA International
American Bankers Association
American Escrow Association
American Financial Services Association
American Land Title Association
Community Mortgage Lenders of America
Consumer Bankers Association
Consumer Data Industry Association
Credit Union National Association
Electronic Transactions Association
Independent Community Bankers of America
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions
National Association of Realtors
National Black Chamber of Commerce
National Reverse Mortgage Lenders Association
Real Estate Services Providers Council, Inc (RESPO)
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
The U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Members of the House Financial Services Committee