

## National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions

December 7, 2020

The Honorable Mitch McConnell Majority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Charles Schumer Minority Leader U.S. Senate Washington, DC 20510

RE: CDFI Funding in Pandemic Relief Package and FY 2021 FSGG Appropriations Bill

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Schumer:

I am writing on behalf of the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions (NAFCU) to express our support for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund as you consider pandemic relief and FY 2021 appropriations. NAFCU advocates for all federally-insured not-for-profit credit unions that, in turn, serve 122 million consumers with personal and small business financial service products.

First, as we have previously communicated, NAFCU strongly supports efforts to provide additional emergency funding for CDFIs in any further pandemic response legislation. The bipartisan framework for further COVID-19 relief that was unveiled last week incudes a commonsense proposal to add \$2 billion in new money for CDFIs and Minority Depository Institutions (MDIs) and \$10 billion to communities disproportionately impacted by the pandemic through the *Jobs and Neighborhoods Investment Act*. NAFCU would like to encourage you to ensure this proposal makes it into any final pandemic relief agreement.

NAFCU would also like to thank you for the work done in the Senate to release appropriations bills and to share our thoughts on the appropriations package now being considered. Given the economic crisis brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic, we urge Congress to fully fund the CDFI program on an annual basis at an amount not less than the House-passed FY 2021 level of \$273.5 million and to fund the National Credit Union Administration's (NCUA) Community Development Revolving Loan Fund (CDRLF) at the House-passed FY 2021 level of \$2 million. As Congress works on a government funding package for the next fiscal year, we urge your support of these important programs.

We thank you for the opportunity to share our thoughts on the importance of support for community development institutions as Congress considers important end-of-year legislation. Should you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact me or Lewis Plush, NAFCU's Associate Director of Legislative Affairs, at 703-842-2261.

Sincerely,

**Brad Thaler** 

Vice President of Legislative Affairs

cc: Members of the U.S. Senate