

CHAPTER 98-343

House Bill No. 4501

An act relating to conversion of credit unions; prohibiting the Department of Banking and Finance from approving the conversion of federally-chartered credit unions to state-chartered credit unions except under certain circumstances; providing criteria; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. (1) The Department of Banking and Finance shall not approve an application by a federally-chartered credit union currently doing business in this state for conversion to a state charter pursuant to s. 657.066, Florida Statutes, unless a completed application for conversion was on file with the department on February 25, 1998.

(2) The prohibition specified in subsection (1) shall terminate on July 1, 1999, unless the Comptroller determines before such date by an order of general application that it is in the public interest to accept and approve charter conversion applications, and identifies a procedure for the acceptance and processing of such conversion applications. In making such determination, the Comptroller shall consider:

(a) Whether the United States Congress has amended the Federal Credit Union Act, 12 U.S.C. s.1751 et seq., subsequent to the enactment of this section, and, if so, the effect such amendments have or may have on the relative competitive positions of state-chartered and federally-chartered credit unions.

(b) Whether, and the extent to which, this state will be able to assume the costs of examination and supervision for any newly-converted institutions.

(c) Such other factors as the Comptroller deems relevant to the maintenance of a fair and competitive financial system in this state.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Became a law without the Governor's approval May 30, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 29, 1998.