



DCUC
DEFENSE CREDIT UNION COUNCIL

1627 Eye St, NW
Suite 935
Washington, DC 20006

202.734.5007
www.d cuc.org

Jason Stverak
Chief Advocacy Officer

March 25, 2026

The Honorable Maxine Waters
Ranking Member
Committee on Financial Services
U.S. House of Representatives
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Ranking Member Waters:

On behalf of the Defense Credit Union Council (DCUC) and our more than 200-member credit unions serving over 40 million members worldwide including active-duty servicemembers, veterans, and their families, I write to applaud your leadership in calling for a formal conference committee to reconcile the House and Senate housing packages.

Your push to move the **Housing for the 21st Century Act (H.R. 6644)** into conference is both timely and necessary. As you have consistently emphasized, meaningful housing reform will require bicameral coordination and bipartisan consensus to deliver real results for American families.

From the perspective of defense credit unions—operating on military installations, in rural communities, and in underserved areas across the country—the conference process represents a critical opportunity not just to finalize housing policy, but to strengthen the financial infrastructure that makes homeownership possible.

DCUC respectfully urges that, as part of the conference negotiations, you advocate for inclusion of four widely supported, bipartisan credit union priorities that will directly enhance access to affordable housing and financial stability:

1. Credit Union Board Modernization (H.R. 975 / S. 522)

Outdated statutory requirements mandating monthly board meetings impose unnecessary administrative burdens on well-run credit unions. Modernizing this framework to allow flexibility—while maintaining safety and soundness—will free resources that can be redirected toward mortgage lending, financial counseling, and member services.

This provision has already garnered bipartisan support and inclusion in the House package, underscoring its viability for final enactment.

2. Central Liquidity Facility (CLF) Reform (S. 2545 / S. 3575)

Enhancing the Central Liquidity Facility remains one of the most important systemic improvements Congress can make to support financial resilience. CLF modernization ensures that credit unions—particularly smaller institutions serving rural and military communities—have reliable access to liquidity during periods of economic stress. This reform has longstanding bipartisan backing and is essential to maintaining stability in the credit union system while preserving access to mortgage credit during downturns.

Serving Those Who Serve Our Country

3. Loan Maturity Reform (H.R. 4167 / S. 3616)

Expanding loan maturity authority is a practical, commonsense reform that allows credit unions to better align loan products with today's housing market realities. Increasing allowable maturities lowers monthly payments and expands affordability—particularly for first-time homebuyers, junior enlisted servicemembers, and working families.

At a time of elevated housing costs, this reform offers immediate, tangible relief without introducing additional systemic risk.

4. Veterans Member Business Lending (H.R. 507 / S. 110)

Veteran entrepreneurs face unique barriers to accessing capital. Modernizing the member business lending cap for loans made to veterans is a targeted, bipartisan solution that supports small business formation and economic mobility.

Defense credit unions play a critical role in these communities, often serving as the primary source of financing where traditional lenders are absent or limited.

A Bipartisan Opportunity in Conference

Each of these provisions reflects:

- Broad bipartisan support
- Demonstrated legislative momentum
- Direct impact on housing affordability and access to credit

The conference committee presents a unique and timely opportunity to incorporate these commonsense reforms into a final package that strengthens community-based lending and expands access to homeownership.

The Stakes for Military and Underserved Communities

Defense credit unions are on the front lines of serving those who serve our country. In many military and rural communities, they are not just an option—they are the primary pathway to affordable financial services and homeownership.

Ensuring these reforms are included in the final housing package will directly benefit servicemembers, veterans, and working families who rely on credit unions every day.

Conclusion

Ranking Member Waters, your leadership in advancing a conference committee is critical to getting this legislation across the finish line. DCUC supports your efforts and respectfully urges that you use this process to secure inclusion of these four bipartisan credit union priorities.

We stand ready to work with you and your staff throughout the conference process to ensure the final package delivers meaningful results for those who serve and the communities that support them.

Sincerely,



Jason Stverak
Chief Advocacy Officer
DCUC

CC: Democrat Members of the House Financial Services Committee