



July 27, 2021

The Honorable Adam Smith  
Chairman  
House Committee on Armed Services  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mike Rogers  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Armed Services  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**Re: Markup of FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act**

Dear Chairman Smith and Ranking Member Rogers:

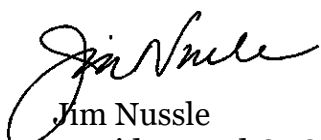
As the House begins its markup of the FY2022 National Defense Authorization Act, we offer the attached one-pager to highlight our concerns and positions with respect to any banking lobby amendments on DoD land leases. It is outrageous that large banks such as Wells Fargo and Bank of America, who regularly earn billions in profits, would expect DoD to treat them the same as credit unions when it comes to leases. We thank the committee for recognizing the differences between banks and credit unions.

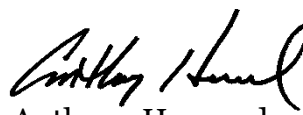
While banks argue for “parity” on this issue, the fact is that banks already can obtain leases at a nominal cost. Under the Military Leasing Act, 10 USC §2667, banks can demonstrate to DoD how they would use their lease to serve and provide value to the men and women of the base. However, banks still have not exercised this authority. Rather than seek a productive solution available to them under current law, they have opted to target their long-time nemesis credit unions in the process.


It is our hope the House Armed Services Committee will reject the inclusion of this provision in the NDAA should it surface once again this year.

Defense credit unions do not fear competition from banks, especially on base, as there can be an important role for both institutions to play. But credit unions simply put our members first—ahead of profit. If banks want to be treated like credit unions, they need to start acting like them. Equal treatment needs to focus on service, structure and ethos, not increasing the bank’s profit sustainability. Our servicemembers deserve more!

Sincerely,

  
Jim Nussle  
President and CEO  
CUNA

  
Anthony Hernandez  
President and CEO  
DCUC

  
Dan Berger  
President and CEO  
NAFCU

cc: Members of the House Committee on Armed Services