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|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>AMERICAN BANKERS<br/>ASSOCIATION</b>            | <b>AMERICA'S COMMUNITY<br/>BANKERS</b>       | <b>AMERICAN COUNCIL OF<br/>LIFE INSURERS</b>            |
| <b>AMERICAN FINANCIAL<br/>SERIVCES ASSOCIATION</b> | <b>AMERICAN INSURANCE<br/>ASSOCIATION</b>    | <b>CONSUMER BANKERS<br/>ASSOCIATION</b>                 |
| <b>FINANCIAL SERVICES<br/>FORUM</b>                | <b>THE FINANCIAL SERVICES<br/>ROUNDTABLE</b> | <b>INDEPENDENT<br/>COMMUNITY BANKERS OF<br/>AMERICA</b> |
| <b>INVESTMENT COMPANY<br/>INSTITUTE</b>            | <b>SECURITIES INDUSTRY<br/>ASSOCIATION</b>   |                                                         |

February 24, 2003

The Honorable Mike Oxley  
The United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As CEOs of trade associations representing a substantial cross-section of the financial services industry, we are writing to express our strong support for continuation of uniform national standards for the treatment of customer information.

As you may know, today we have a national credit granting system that is subject to uniform national standards. These national standards ensure affordable, accessible credit with strong protections for consumers, which we strongly support. However, this highly successful national system becomes subject to revision by states and localities at the end of the year. Congress must act now to ensure that uniform national standards govern the way customers' information is managed. Without uniform national standards, consumers will inevitably be subjected to a confusing patchwork of state and local rules and regulations.

Uniform national standards benefit consumers and the economy, each of which is reliant on a consistent and reliable flow of information. More importantly, uniform standards provide for a nationwide safety net against fraud and identity theft.

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Customers continue to demand a clear set of consumer protections that apply across state lines and that are as portable as many of the services we provide. For this reason, we urge you to act this year to provide permanent, uniform national standards for the treatment of customer information.

Best regards,

Steve Bartlett  
The Financial Services Roundtable

Joe Belew  
Consumer Bankers Association

Diane Casey  
America's Community Bankers

Matthew Fink  
Investment Company Institute

Kenneth Gunther  
Independent Community Bankers of America

Frank Keating  
American Council of Life Insurers

Marc Lackritz  
Securities Industry Association

Rick Lazio  
Financial Services Forum

H.R. Lively, Jr.  
American Financial Services Association

Donald Ogilvie  
American Bankers Association

Robert E. Vagley  
American Insurance Association