

CREDIT UNION ACT (EXCERPT)
Act 215 of 2003

490.374 Conversion of domestic credit union into bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association.

Sec. 374.

(1) A domestic credit union may convert into a bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association if all of the following are met:

(a) At least 30 days before voting on a plan of conversion under subdivision (b), the credit union board gives written notice to the credit union's members that it is considering a conversion. The credit union board shall mail the notice to the credit union's members and shall not include any other mailing with the notice. The notice shall include all of the following:

- (i) A brief statement of why the credit union board is considering the conversion.
- (ii) A brief statement of the major positive and negative effects of the proposed conversion.
- (iii) A complete and accurate description of the differences between a credit union and a bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association, as appropriate.

(iv) A request for members' written comments on the proposed conversion.

(b) By an affirmative vote of 2/3 of the entire credit union board, the credit union board approves of a plan of conversion and files the plan of conversion with the commissioner. The conversion plan shall include all of the following:

(i) The member eligibility record date and the subscription offering priority established in connection with any proposed stock offering.

(ii) A business plan, including a detailed discussion of how the capital acquired in the conversion will be used, expected earnings for at least a 3-year period following the conversion, and a justification for any proposed stock repurchases.

(iii) A full appraisal report, prepared by an independent appraiser, of the value of the credit union and the pricing of the stock to be sold in the conversion transaction.

(iv) A legal opinion that any proposed stock offering complies with state and federal law.

(v) Copies of notices to be provided to members under subdivisions (d) and (e).

(c) The commissioner grants preliminary approval of the plan of conversion approved by the credit union board. The commissioner shall review the contents of the plan and member comments on the plan and grant preliminary approval of the plan if the commissioner is satisfied of all of the following:

(i) The conversion plan discloses to the members information concerning the advantages and disadvantages of the proposed conversion, contains a complete and accurate description of the differences between a credit union and a bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association, as appropriate, and contains a statement indicating any material differences in powers between a credit union and a bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association, as appropriate.

(ii) The conversion is not intended to circumvent a pending supervisory action initiated by the commissioner or another regulatory agency because of a concern over the safety and soundness of the credit union.

(iii) The conversion plan does not provide any official of the converting credit union with any remuneration or other economic benefit in connection with the conversion.

(iv) The conversion plan does not permit the converting credit union to loan funds or otherwise extend credit to any person to purchase the capital stock of the bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association.

(v) After conversion, the bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association is likely to be economically viable.

(d) If the commissioner grants preliminary approval under subdivision (c), the credit union board shall call a special meeting of the members to vote on the conversion plan and mail to each member notice of the meeting and proposed conversion 90 days before the date of the special meeting. The notice shall include all of the following:

(i) A summary of the positive and negative effects of the proposed conversion.

(ii) A statement that the officials will not receive any remuneration or other economic benefit in connection with the conversion of the domestic credit union.

(iii) A statement that any interested person may obtain more detailed information about the conversion from the domestic credit union at its principal place of business, or by any method approved in advance by the commissioner.

(iv) If the conversion plan includes a distribution of a portion of the credit union's net worth to members, a statement describing the amount of the distribution, the form of the distribution, and eligibility requirements to receive a distribution.

(v) The par value and approximate number of shares of capital stock to be issued and sold under the proposed plan of conversion.

(vi) A statement that savings and share account holders will continue to hold accounts in the converted bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association identical as to dollar amount and general terms, and that their accounts will continue to be insured.

(vii) A statement that borrowers' loans will be unaffected by conversion, and that the amount, rate, maturity, security, and other conditions will remain contractually fixed as they existed before conversion.

(viii) A statement that the credit union board may substantively amend the proposed plan of conversion before the special meeting based on comments from regulatory authorities or any other reason and that the credit union board may terminate the proposed plan of conversion.

(ix) Instructions for obtaining a copy of the conversion plan.

(x) The date of the special meeting and a statement that the vote on the conversion will close on that date.

(xi) Any other information required by the commissioner.

(e) At least 60 days before the special meeting described in subdivision (d), the credit union board posts a copy of the notice required in subdivision (d) in each branch, service center, or other location in this state where members may transact business with the credit union, in at least 12-point type, displayed prominently in an area visible to members before they transact business.

(f) At least 60 days before the special meeting described in subdivision (d), if the credit union conducts any member transactions through the use of an internet website, the credit union board displays the information included in the notice required in subdivision (d) in a conspicuous location on that website.

(g) Thirty days before the special meeting of the members, the credit union board mails a notice of the meeting and proposed conversion to the members. The notice shall include all of the information described in subdivision (d) for the 90-day notice and shall include the date, time, and place of the special member meeting, a ballot and postage-paid return envelope, and a summary of the methods permitted for casting votes.

(h) If the plan of conversion is substantively amended by the credit union board, at least 30 days before the vote of the members on the plan the credit union board shall mail a notice to each member. The notice shall contain the information concerning the amended plan of conversion described in subdivision (d) for a notice under that subdivision.

(i) At a special meeting of members, the members, by a 2/3 vote of members voting, approve of the conversion and the plan of conversion. A member may vote in person or by mail. With the prior approval of the commissioner, a domestic credit union may accept member votes by an alternative method that is reasonably calculated to ensure each member has an opportunity to vote.

(j) The domestic credit union files with the commissioner all of the following:

(i) Certified copies of records of all proceedings held by the credit union board and members of the domestic credit union.

(ii) Copies of member comments submitted to the domestic credit union under subdivision (a)(iii).

(iii) If that consent or approval is required, a certified copy of the consent or approval of any state or federal regulatory authority with jurisdiction over the bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association after the conversion and, if a holding company is to be formed in connection with the conversion, the regulations of the federal reserve board of governors or of the office of thrift supervision applicable to holding companies.

(iv) Verification that deposits in the converted bank, stock savings bank, or stock savings and loan association qualify for federal insurance.

(2) If the requirements of this section and the regulations of the federal agency providing federal deposit insurance regarding mutual-to-stock conversions are met, and the commissioner determines that the notices to members were accurate, timely, and not misleading, and that conduct of the vote on the conversion plan was fair and lawful, the commissioner shall approve the conversion and the conversion is effective.

History: 2003, Act 215, Eff. June 1, 2004 ;-- Am. 2004, Act 471, Imd. Eff. Dec. 28, 2004