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**Joint Release**

**Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System  
Conference of State Bank Supervisors  
Consumer Financial Protection Bureau  
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation  
National Credit Union Administration  
Office of the Comptroller of the Currency**

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For immediate release

January 11, 2019

**Regulators Encourage Institutions to Work with Borrowers Affected by  
Government Shutdown**

Five federal financial institutions regulators and state regulators encourage financial institutions to work with consumers affected by the federal government shutdown.

While the effects of the federal government shutdown on individuals should be temporary, affected borrowers may face a temporary hardship in making payments on debts such as mortgages, student loans, car loans, business loans, or credit cards. As they have in prior shutdowns, the agencies encourage financial institutions to consider prudent efforts to modify terms on existing loans or extend new credit to help affected borrowers.

Prudent workout arrangements that are consistent with safe-and-sound lending practices are generally in the long-term best interest of the financial institution, the borrower, and the economy. Such efforts should not be subject to examiner criticism.

Consumers affected by the government shutdown are encouraged to contact their lenders immediately should they encounter financial strain.

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