(3) A state-chartered credit union must state as part of the notice required by §708a.5(a) if its state chartering law permits it to convert to a mutual savings bank and provide the specific legal citation. A state-chartered credit union will remain subject to any state law requirements for conversion that are more stringent than those this part imposes, including any internal governance requirements, such as the requisite membership vote for conversion and the determination of a member's eligibility to vote. If a state-chartered credit union relies for its authority to convert to a mutual savings bank on a state law parity provision, meaning a provision in state law permitting a state-chartered credit union to operate with the same or similar authority as a federal credit union, it must:

(i) Include in its notice a statement that its state regulatory authority agrees that it may rely on the state law parity provision as authority to convert; and

(ii) Indicate its state regulatory authority's position as to whether federal law and regulations or state law will control internal governance issues in the conversion such as the requisite membership vote for conversion and the determination of a member's eligibility to vote.

(b) If it chooses, a credit union may seek a preliminary determination from the Regional Director regarding any of the notices required under this part and its proposed methods and procedures applicable to the membership vote within 30 calendar days of receipt of a credit union's request for review unless the Regional Director extends the period as necessary to request additional information or review a credit union's submission. A credit union's prior submission of any notice or proposed voting procedures does not relieve the credit union of its obligation to certify the results of the membership vote within 30 days after the vote is taken.

(c) A member may vote on a proposal to convert in person at a special meeting held on the date set for the vote or by written ballot filed by the member. The vote on the conversion proposal must be by secret ballot and conducted by an independent entity. The independent entity must be a company with experience in conducting corporate elections. No official or senior management official of the credit union or the immediate family members of any official or senior management official may have any ownership interest in or be employed by the independent entity.

§ 708a.7 Certification of vote on conversion proposal.

(a) The board of directors of the converting credit union must certify the results of the membership vote to the Regional Director within 10 calendar days after the vote is taken.

(b) The certification must also include a statement that the notice, ballot and other written materials provided to members were identical to those submitted to NCUA pursuant to §708a.6. If the board cannot certify this, the board must provide copies of
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any new or revised materials and an explanation of the reasons for any changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 75 FR 81386, Dec. 28, 2010, §708a.7 was redesignated as §708a.107 and paragraph (a) was revised, paragraph (c) was added, effective Jan. 27, 2011. For the convenience of the user, the added and revised text is set forth as follows:

§ 708a.107 Certification of vote on conversion proposal.

(a) The board of directors of the converting credit union must certify the results of the membership vote to the Regional Director within 14 calendar days after the vote is taken.

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(c) The certification must be accompanied by copies of all correspondence between the credit union and any Federal banking agency whose approval is required for the conversion.

§ 708a.8 NCUA oversight of methods and procedures of membership vote.

(a) The Regional Director will review the methods by which the membership vote was taken and the procedures applicable to the membership vote. The Regional Director will determine if the notices and other communications to members were accurate, not misleading, and timely; the membership vote was conducted in a fair and legal manner; and the credit union has otherwise complied with part 708a.

(b) After completion of this review, the Regional Director will issue a determination that the methods and procedures applicable to the membership vote are approved or disapproved. The Regional Director will issue this determination within 30 calendar days of receipt from the credit union of the certification of the result of the membership vote required under §708a.7 unless the Regional Director extends the period as necessary to request additional information or review the credit union’s submission. Approval of the methods and procedures under this paragraph remains subject to a credit union fulfilling the requirements in §708a.10 for timely completion of the conversion.

(c) If the Regional Director disapproves the methods by which the membership vote was taken or the procedures applicable to the membership vote, the Regional Director may direct that a new vote be taken.

(d) A converting credit union may appeal the Regional Director’s determination to the NCUA Board. The credit union must file the appeal within 30 days after receipt of the Regional Director’s determination. The NCUA Board will act on the appeal within 90 days of receipt.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 75 FR 81386, Dec. 28, 2010, §708a.8 was redesignated as §708a.108, effective Jan. 27, 2011.

§ 708a.9 Other regulatory oversight of methods and procedures of membership vote.

The federal or state regulatory agency that will have jurisdiction over the financial institution after conversion must verify the membership vote and may direct that a new vote be taken, if it disapproves of the methods by which the membership vote was taken or the procedures applicable to the membership vote.

EFFECTIVE DATE NOTE: At 75 FR 81386, Dec. 28, 2010, §708a.9 was redesignated as §708a.109, effective Jan. 27, 2011.

§ 708a.10 Completion of conversion.

(a) After receipt of the approvals under §708a.8 and §708a.9 the credit union may complete the conversion.

(b) The credit union must complete the conversion within one year of the date of receipt of NCUA approval under §708a.8. If a credit union fails to complete the conversion within one year the Regional Director will disapprove of the methods and procedures. The credit union’s board of directors must then adopt a new conversion proposal and solicit another member vote if it still desires to convert.

(c) If the Regional Director disapproves the methods by which the conversion has been completed, the NCUA will cancel the insurance certificate of the credit union and, if applicable, the charter of a federal credit union.