

general notice of proposed rulemaking is not required.<sup>9</sup> As noted previously, the agencies have determined that it is unnecessary to publish a general notice of proposed rulemaking for this joint final rule. Accordingly, the RFA's requirements relating to an initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis do not apply.

#### *Paperwork Reduction Act*

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,<sup>10</sup> the agencies reviewed this final rule. No collections of information pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act are contained in the final rule.

#### List of Subjects

##### *12 CFR Part 213*

Advertising, Consumer leasing, Consumer protection, Federal Reserve System, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

##### *12 CFR Part 1013*

Advertising, Consumer leasing, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements.

#### Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

##### *Text of Final Revisions*

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Board amends Regulation M, 12 CFR part 213, as set forth below:

#### **PART 213—CONSUMER LEASING (REGULATION M)**

■ 1. The authority citation for part 213 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 1604 and 1667f; Pub. L. 111–203 section 1100E, 124 Stat. 1376.

■ 2. In Supplement I to Part 213, under *Section 213.2—Definitions*, under *2(e) Consumer Lease*, paragraph 9.vii is added to read as follows:

#### **Supplement I to Part 213—Official Staff Commentary to Regulation M**

\* \* \* \* \*

##### **Section 213.2—Definitions**

\* \* \* \* \*

2(e) Consumer Lease.

9. \* \* \*

vii. From January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the threshold amount is \$54,600.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### **Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection**

##### *Authority and Issuance*

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Bureau amends Regulation M, 12 CFR part 1013, as set forth below:

#### **PART 1013—CONSUMER LEASING (REGULATION M)**

■ 3. The authority citation for part 1013 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 15 U.S.C. 1604 and 1667f; Pub. L. 111–203 section 1100E, 124 Stat. 1376.

■ 4. In Supplement I to part 1013, under *Section 1013.2—Definitions*, under *2(e) Consumer Lease*, paragraph 9.vii is added to read as follows:

#### **Supplement I to Part 1013—Official Interpretations**

\* \* \* \* \*

##### **Section 1013.2—Definitions**

\* \* \* \* \*

2(e) Consumer Lease. \* \* \* .

9. \* \* \*

vii. From January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the threshold amount is \$54,600.

\* \* \* \* \*

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 18, 2015.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

Dated: September 22, 2015.

**Richard Cordray,**

*Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2015–30071 Filed 11–25–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4810-AM-P; 6210-01-P**

#### **FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**

##### **12 CFR Part 226**

[Docket No. R–1520]

RIN 7100 AE–36

#### **BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION**

##### **12 CFR Part 1026**

#### **Truth in Lending (Regulation Z)**

**AGENCIES:** Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System (Board); and Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection (Bureau).

**ACTION:** Final rules, official interpretations and commentary.

**SUMMARY:** The Board and the Bureau are publishing final rules amending the official interpretations and commentary

for the agencies' regulations that implement the Truth in Lending Act (TILA). The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) amended TILA by requiring that the dollar threshold for exempt consumer credit transactions be adjusted annually by the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI–W). If there is no annual percentage increase in the CPI–W, the Board and Bureau will not adjust this exemption threshold from the prior year. Based on the annual percentage decrease in the CPI–W as of June 1, 2015, the exemption threshold will remain at \$54,600 through December 31, 2016.

Because the Dodd-Frank Act also requires similar adjustments in the Consumer Leasing Act's threshold for exempt consumer leases, the Board and the Bureau are making similar amendments to each of their respective regulations implementing the Consumer Leasing Act elsewhere in this issue of the **Federal Register**.

**DATES:** This final rule is effective January 1, 2016.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

**Board:** Vivian W. Wong, Counsel, Division of Consumer and Community Affairs, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, at (202) 452–3667; for users of Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) only, contact (202) 263–4869.

**Bureau:** James Wylie, Counsel, Office of Regulations, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, at (202) 435–7700.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act (Dodd-Frank Act) increased the threshold in the Truth in Lending Act (TILA) for exempt consumer credit transactions<sup>1</sup> from \$25,000 to \$50,000, effective July 21, 2011.<sup>2</sup> In addition, the Dodd-Frank Act requires that this threshold be adjusted annually for inflation by the annual percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI–W), as published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. In April 2011, the Board issued a final rule amending Regulation Z (which implements TILA) consistent

<sup>1</sup> Although consumer credit transactions above the threshold are generally exempt, loans secured by real property or by personal property used or expected to be used as the principal dwelling of a consumer and private education loans are covered by TILA regardless of the loan amount. See 12 CFR 226.3(b)(1)(i) and 12 CFR 1026.3(b)(1)(i).

<sup>2</sup> Public Law 111–203 section 1100E, 124 Stat. 1376 (2010).

<sup>9</sup> See 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604.

<sup>10</sup> 44 U.S.C. 3506; 5 CFR part 1320.

with these provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act along with a similar final rule amending Regulation M (which implements the Consumer Leasing Act) (collectively, the Board Final Threshold Rules).<sup>3</sup>

Title X of the Dodd-Frank Act transferred rulemaking authority for a number of consumer financial protection laws from the Board to the Bureau, effective July 21, 2011. In connection with this transfer of rulemaking authority, the Bureau issued its own Regulation Z implementing TILA in an interim final rule, 12 CFR part 1026 (Bureau Interim Final Rule).<sup>4</sup> The Bureau Interim Final Rule substantially duplicated the Board's Regulation Z, including the revisions to the threshold for exempt transactions made by the Board in April 2011. Although the Bureau has the authority to issue rules to implement TILA for most entities, the Board retains authority to issue rules under TILA for certain motor vehicle dealers covered by section 1029(a) of the Dodd-Frank Act, and the Board's Regulation Z continues to apply to those entities.<sup>5</sup>

Section 226.3(b)(1)(ii) of the Board's Regulation Z and § 1026.3(b)(1)(ii) of the Bureau's Regulation Z, and their accompanying commentaries, provide that the exemption threshold will be adjusted annually effective January 1 of each year based on any annual percentage increase in the CPI-W that was in effect on the preceding June 1. Any increase in the threshold amount will be rounded to the nearest \$100 increment. For example, if the annual percentage increase in the CPI-W would result in a \$950 increase in the

threshold amount, the threshold amount will be increased by \$1,000. However, if the annual percentage increase in the CPI-W would result in a \$949 increase in the threshold amount, the threshold amount will be increased by \$900.<sup>6</sup> As stated in the Board Final Threshold Rules, if there is no annual percentage increase in the CPI-W, the Board and Bureau will not adjust the exemption threshold from the prior year.<sup>7</sup>

## II. Adjustment and Commentary Revision

Effective January 1, 2016, the exemption threshold amount remains at \$54,600. This is based on the CPI-W in effect on June 1, 2015, which was reported on May 22, 2015. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes consumer-based indices monthly, but does not report a CPI change on June 1; adjustments are reported in the middle of the month. The CPI-W is a subset of the CPI-U index (based on all urban consumers) and represents approximately 28 percent of the U.S. population. Because the CPI-W reported on May 22, 2015 reflects a 0.8 percent decrease in the CPI-W from April 2014 to April 2015, the Board and the Bureau are not adjusting the exemption threshold amount. The Board and the Bureau are revising the commentaries to their respective regulations to add new comment 3(b)-1.vii to state that, from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the threshold amount is \$54,600. These revisions are effective January 1, 2016.

## III. Administrative Law Matters

### *Administrative Procedure Act*

Under the Administrative Procedure Act, notice and opportunity for public comment are not required if the Board and the Bureau find that notice and public comment are impracticable, unnecessary, or contrary to the public interest.<sup>8</sup> The amendment in this notice is technical and applies the method previously set forth in the Board Final Threshold Rules.<sup>9</sup> For these reasons, the Board and the Bureau have determined that publishing a notice of proposed rulemaking and providing opportunity for public comment are unnecessary. Therefore, the amendments are adopted in final form.

<sup>6</sup> See comments 3(b)-1 in Supplements I of 12 CFR part 226 and 12 CFR part 1026.

<sup>7</sup> 76 FR 18354, 18355 n.1 (Apr. 4, 2011) (“[A]n annual period of deflation or no inflation would not require a change in the threshold amount.”).

<sup>8</sup> 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B).

<sup>9</sup> See *supra* note 7.

### *Regulatory Flexibility Act*

The Regulatory Flexibility Act (RFA) does not apply to a rulemaking where a general notice of proposed rulemaking is not required.<sup>10</sup> As noted previously, the agencies have determined that it is unnecessary to publish a general notice of proposed rulemaking for this joint final rule. Accordingly, the RFA's requirements relating to an initial and final regulatory flexibility analysis do not apply.

### *Paperwork Reduction Act*

In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995,<sup>11</sup> the agencies reviewed this final rule. No collections of information pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act are contained in the final rule.

### List of Subjects

#### *12 CFR Part 226*

Advertising, Consumer protection, Federal Reserve System, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Truth in lending.

#### *12 CFR Part 1026*

Advertising, Consumer protection, Credit, Credit unions, Mortgages, National banks, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Savings associations, Truth in lending.

## BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

### Text of Final Revisions

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Board amends Regulation Z, 12 CFR part 226, as set forth below:

### PART 226—TRUTH IN LENDING (REGULATION Z)

- 1. The authority citation for part 226 continues to read as follows:

*Authority:* 12 U.S.C. 3806; 15 U.S.C. 1604, 1637(c)(5), and 1639(l); Pub. L. 111-24, section 2, 123 Stat. 1734; Pub. L. 111-203, 124 Stat. 1376.

- 2. In Supplement I to part 226, under *Section 226.3—Exempt Transactions*, under *3(b) Credit over applicable threshold amount*, paragraph 1.vii is added to read as follows:

### Supplement I to Part 226—Official Staff Interpretations

\* \* \* \* \*

### Subpart A—General

\* \* \* \* \*

<sup>10</sup> 5 U.S.C. 603 and 604.

<sup>11</sup> 44 U.S.C. 3506; 5 CFR part 1320.

**Section 226.3—Exempt Transactions**

\* \* \* \* \*

3(b) Credit over applicable threshold amount.

1. \* \* \*

vii. From January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the threshold amount is \$54,600.

\* \* \* \* \*

**BUREAU OF CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION****Authority and Issuance**

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, the Bureau amends Regulation Z, 12 CFR part 1026, as set forth below:

**PART 1026—TRUTH IN LENDING (REGULATION Z)**

■ 3. The authority citation for part 1026 continues to read as follows:

**Authority:** 12 U.S.C. 2601, 2603–2605, 2607, 2609, 2617, 3353, 5511, 5512, 5532, 5581; 15 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*

■ 4. In Supplement I to part 1026, under *Section 1026.3—Exempt Transactions*, under 3(b) *Credit Over Applicable Threshold Amount*, paragraph 1.vii is added to read as follows:

**Supplement I to Part 1026—Official Interpretations**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Subpart A—General**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Section 1026.3—Exempt Transactions**

\* \* \* \* \*

3(b) Credit Over Applicable Threshold Amount

1. \* \* \*

vii. From January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016, the threshold amount is \$54,600.

\* \* \* \* \*

By order of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, November 18, 2015.

**Robert deV. Frierson,**

*Secretary of the Board.*

Dated: September 22, 2015.

**Richard Cordray,**

*Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection.*

[FR Doc. 2015–30091 Filed 11–25–15; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE: 6210–01–P; 4810–AM–P**

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION****Federal Aviation Administration****14 CFR Part 39**

[Docket No. FAA–2014–0346; Directorate Identifier 2014–NM–010–AD; Amendment 39–18324; AD 2015–23–08]

RIN 2120–AA64

**Airworthiness Directives; The Boeing Company Airplanes**

**AGENCY:** Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

**ACTION:** Final rule.

**SUMMARY:** We are adopting a new airworthiness directive (AD) for certain The Boeing Company Model 737–100,–200,–200C,–300,–400, and –500 series airplanes. This AD was prompted by reports of cracks in fuselage frames, and a report of a missing strap that was not installed on a fuselage frame during production. This AD requires an inspection to determine if the strap adjacent to a certain stringer is installed, and repair if it is missing; repetitive inspections of the frame for cracking or a severed frame web; and related investigative and corrective actions if necessary. This AD also provides optional actions to terminate certain repetitive inspections. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct missing fuselage frame straps and frame cracking that can result in severed frames which, with multiple adjacent severed frames, or the combination of a severed frame and fuselage skin chemical mill cracks, can result in uncontrolled decompression of the airplane.

**DATES:** This AD is effective January 4, 2016.

The Director of the Federal Register approved the incorporation by reference of a certain publication listed in this AD as of January 4, 2016.

**ADDRESSES:** For service information identified in this AD, contact Boeing Commercial Airplanes, Attention: Data & Services Management, P.O. Box 3707, MC 2H–65, Seattle, WA 98124–2207; telephone 206–544–5000, extension 1; fax 206–766–5680; Internet <https://www.myboeingfleet.com>. You may view this referenced service information at the FAA, Transport Airplane Directorate, 1601 Lind Avenue SW., Renton, WA. For information on the availability of this material at the FAA, call 425–227–1221. It is also available on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2014–0346.”

*Examining the AD Docket*

You may examine the AD docket on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> by searching for and locating Docket No. FAA–2014–0346; or in person at the Docket Management Facility between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays. The AD docket contains this AD, the regulatory evaluation, any comments received, and other information. The address for the Docket Office (phone: 800–647–5527) is Docket Management Facility, U.S. Department of Transportation, Docket Operations, M–30, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12–140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Washington, DC 20590.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Galib Abumeri, Aerospace Engineer, Airframe Branch, ANM–120L, FAA, Los Angeles Aircraft Certification Office, 3960 Paramount Boulevard, Lakewood, CA 90712–4137; phone: 562–627–5324; fax: 562–627–5210; email: [galib.abumeri@faa.gov](mailto:galib.abumeri@faa.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Discussion**

We issued a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) to amend 14 CFR part 39 by adding an AD that would apply to certain The Boeing Company Model 737–100,–200,–200C–300,–400, and–500 series airplanes. The NPRM published in the **Federal Register** on June 30, 2014 (79 FR 36672). The NPRM was prompted by reports of cracks in fuselage frames, and a report of a missing strap that was not installed on a fuselage frame during production. The NPRM proposed to require an inspection to determine if the strap adjacent to a certain stringer is installed, and repair if it is missing; repetitive inspections of the frame for cracking or a severed frame web; and related investigative and corrective actions if necessary. The NPRM also provided optional actions to terminate certain repetitive inspections. We are issuing this AD to detect and correct missing fuselage frame straps and frame cracking that can result in severed frames. Continued operation of the airplane with multiple adjacent severed frames, or the combination of a severed frame and fuselage skin chemical mill cracks, can result in uncontrolled decompression of the airplane.

**Comments**

We gave the public the opportunity to participate in developing this AD. The following presents the comments received on the NPRM (79 FR 36672,