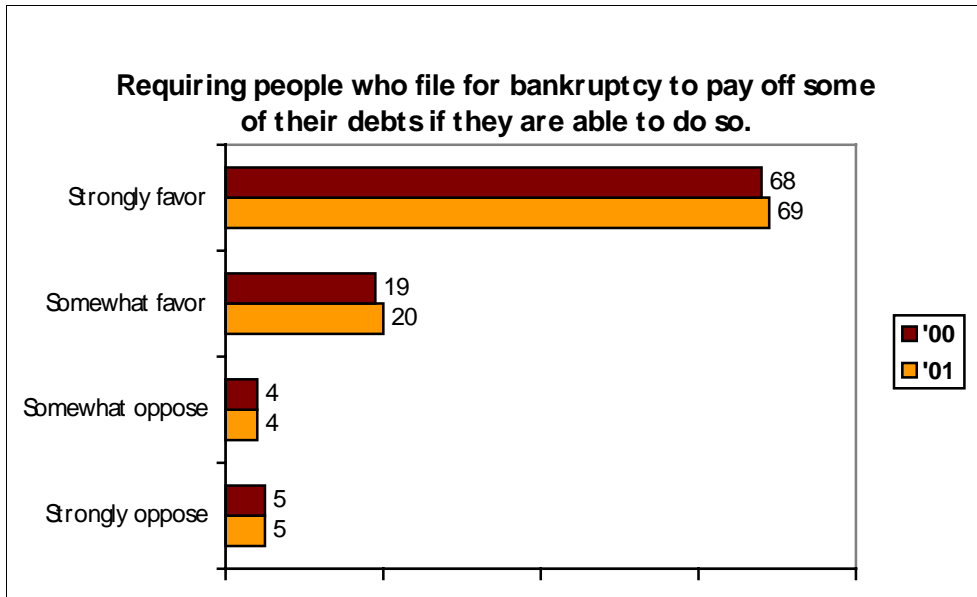


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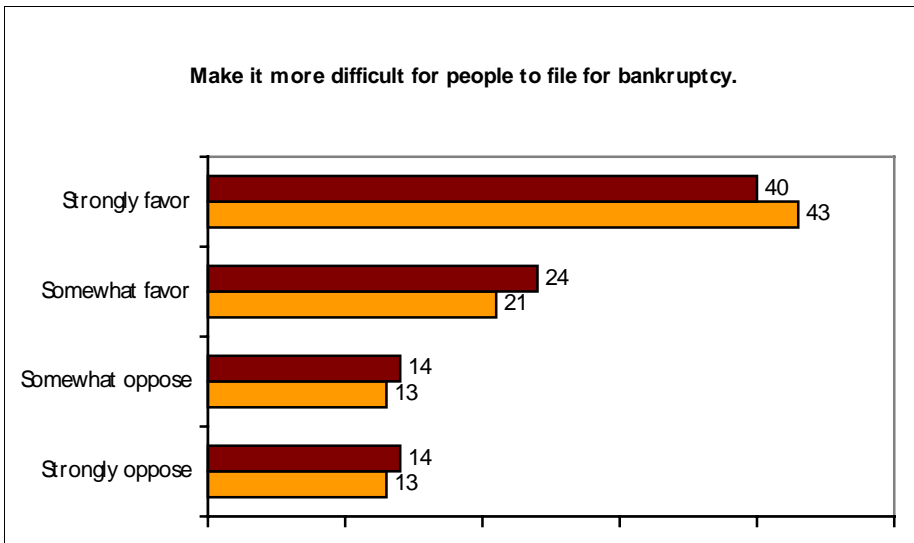
To: Richard Gose / CUNA
 From: Jan van Lohuizen / Voter / Consumer Research
 Date: 05/16/01
 Re: Bankruptcy Reform

Surveys conducted for the Credit Union National Association continue to show that bankruptcy reform is both a popular measure and a high priority. In previous years we found that a surprisingly large proportion of the public is aware of the key problem with current bankruptcy laws: that it is too easy for people to file for bankruptcy and walk away from their debts. This year's survey affirms these results and shows again the very high levels of support for holding people accountable for their debts to the extent they are able.

First of all, nearly 90% favored the following proposal:



Second without reference to ability to pay, we found there is a considerable majority in support of limiting people's ability to file for bankruptcy:



Further analysis of these results shows there is broad agreement on both points, that regional, partisan, age and gender differences are quite small. The same is true for income differences. Regardless of income large majorities of the public favor requiring that people who have the ability to do so pay off some of their debt, and favor making it more difficult to file for bankruptcy:

		Total	75K +	30K– 75K	Under 30K	Black	Hispanic
Require that people who file for bankruptcy pay at least some of their debts if they are able to do so	Strong favor	69	79	71	55	61	65
	Total favor	89	93	89	85	85	86

Results discussed in this memorandum are based on a survey of 1004 registered voters conducted nationally between January 30th and February 4th of this year. The margin of error associated with the responses is +/- 3.1%.