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LEVERAGE Business Lending offers Credit Unions a Ready-Made SBA Loan Program

- *LEVERAGE* Business Lending provides lending infrastructure for credit unions
- The program helps small businesses continue to grow and create new jobs

BIRMINGHAM, AL/TALLAHASSEE, FL, Nov. 16, 2015 – It's no secret that there is a gap in small business lending in the United States. Credit unions are willing to step in and fill the need for their small business owner members and their respective communities. But, putting this type of loan program together can be costly. *LEVERAGE* is introducing a new *LEVERAGE* Business Lending program. It helps credit unions to increase their loan portfolios while helping members gain access to loans that are backed by the Small Business Administration (SBA). This is critical for small businesses since they are the engine for America's economy.

The SBA is looking to support \$36 billion in small business financing in 2016. One of the SBA's strategic goals is to continually expand its programs and identify new lenders. At the heart of the SBA program is job creation for small businesses. Credit unions have always worked to help their members thrive. The *LEVERAGE* Business Lending program assists credit unions in meeting the needs of their members instead of having to see them get these types of loans from a bank. Many credit unions are not offering SBA lending because they do not have the infrastructure in place.

"When starting an SBA lending program, credit unions generally have to invest hundreds of thousands of dollars just to get it off the ground," said *LEVERAGE* CEO Patrick La Pine. "Small businesses have an unmet need right now when it comes to capital for their operations. Credit unions can fill this gap. *LEVERAGE* Business Lending does all the heavy lifting so credit unions can focus on their members and helping their small businesses thrive."

LEVERAGE Business Lending assists credit unions to begin offering 7(a) loans and CDC 504 loans, plus it will supply all of the training and consulting so the credit union has very



little upfront costs. *LEVERAGE* Business Lending helps credit unions increase their engagement with members and take another step in becoming their primary financial institution.

“*LEVERAGE* Business Lending provides the expertise and training for credit unions. It’s much more cost effective and helps credit unions not only increase their loan portfolios, but also provide much needed credit to those members that need it. Plus, the loans are backed by the U.S. Government,” said La Pine.

LEVERAGE is partnering with Capital Growth Solutions, LLC, a Tennessee based loan service provider that is the gold standard of SBA loan providers. Capital Growth Solutions has more than a century of experience working with the SBA and lenders to help small businesses succeed. The SBA helps Americans start, build, and grow businesses. It is able to make it happen through an extensive network of field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations.

The business lending program is another example of how *LEVERAGE* looks to identify needs for credit unions and bring relevant products to the marketplace. When credit unions support *LEVERAGE*, they are supporting the credit union system. For any credit union interested in learning more about *LEVERAGE* Business Lending, contact *LEVERAGE* Vice President of Product Support [Keith Hopkins](#) at 866.231.0545 ext. 1170.

LEVERAGE, the Service Corporation for the League of Southeastern Credit Unions, is the business services provider that leverages credit union system resources, relationships, and industry knowledge for optimal performance and sustained growth of its clients and business partners. We work to offer credit unions best-in-class products and services that result in reducing costs, maximizing results, and making the most difference. For more information, visit myleverage.com or follow LEVERAGE on Twitter at www.twitter.com/MY_LEVERAGE or [LinkedIn](#).

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