

JOHN E. QUINN
SUPERINTENDENT



DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION
BUREAU OF CONSUMER PROTECTION
~~STATE HOUSE ANNEX~~ 51 Chapel Street
AUGUSTA, MAINE 04330
(207)289-3731

ADVISORY RULING #31

(Formerly Administrative
Interpretation #34)

April 8, 1976

RE: Minimum Charge/Open-End Credit

Dear

You have inquired whether a minimum charge of \$.50 as allowed by Section 2.202(4) may be imposed on the unpaid balance in addition to the 1½% per month finance charge allowed under Section 2.202(3). Section 2.202(4) allows a \$.50 minimum charge where the finance charge of 1½% per month of the unpaid balance is less than \$.50. In any case where the finance charge at the disclosed rate exceeds \$.50 then subsection 3 of Section 2.202 would supersede and a minimum charge would not be permissible.

We are unable to perceive any intention on the part of either the drafters of the Code or the Legislature to allow a \$.50 minimum charge in addition to the finance charge allowed.

Respectfully,

John E. Quinn
Superintendent

JEQ/jh