



October 1, 2015

To: Members of the United States House of Representatives
Members of the United States Senate

From: James Ballentine, Executive Vice President, Congressional Relations & Political Affairs

Re: The Transition to Chip Cards

Today marks the beginning of a new era in security for credit card transactions at retailers around the country. Banks are actively issuing cards with a computer chip—some 575 million have already been issued—and merchants are putting in place new chip terminals that can read these new cards. This advanced security will make it extremely difficult for fraudsters to counterfeit or copy the card. We know that you and your constituents may have questions about how this works and why it is so important. To help with that, see a [simple infographic](#) explaining chips and how to use them. Also available is a [one-pager](#) explaining the fact that EMV chip cards are the next step in card security which answers many of the questions that are being raised about this new, innovative technology.