



January 26, 2017

U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

The Mid-Size Bank Coalition of America (MBCA) and the Regional Bank Coalition (RBC), along with our members listed at the close of this letter, write to express our strong support for meaningful regulatory relief to support local communities, job creation and economic prosperity nationwide.

It has been over six years since the passage of the Dodd-Frank Act, and the MBCA and RBC, and our members, have been hard at work implementing its requirements, among other new regulations and requirements introduced by regulators. As the process has unfolded, it is clear that many Dodd-Frank provisions are having unintended, adverse consequences that inhibit our ability to successfully meet more of the credit needs of American consumers and businesses consistent with longstanding safety and soundness principles.

While the MBCA and RBC support a regulatory regime that encourages safety and soundness and protects consumers and the financial system, we also seek and are uniquely suited, to foster the much needed banking services that urban and rural communities in all 50 states need in order to create jobs. Many of Dodd-Frank's provisions sap resources that we could instead deploy to extend credit and dynamically serve our communities. We face higher operational costs and are forced to divert capital and funding away from the products we offer and lending that helps businesses expand and create jobs. Rather than hiring loan officers and other customer-service providers, we have been compelled to reallocate our budgets and engage lawyers, quantitative modelers and banking consultants.

Mid-size and regional banks need relief from the unnecessarily burdensome regulatory and supervisory framework, including needless rigorous stress testing, statutory and prudential obligations of Systemically Important Financial Institutions (SIFIs), resolution planning, and many other requirements under Dodd-Frank. The answer is not to eliminate regulations completely but to adapt them based on a bank's business model and risk profile. We need a regulatory framework that has flexibility and adaptability based on all factors that determine a bank's risk—and support the mission of providing capital to small- and mid-size businesses in the United States.

It is time to recognize that one-size-fits-all regulations do more harm than good and move away from definitions that rely on blunt asset thresholds to improperly segment the banking industry. Irrelevant asset thresholds limit traditional banking activity and end up harming the small- and

mid-size business that are the engine of U.S. job creation and economic growth. Again, this country needs regulations that appropriately reflect a bank's business model and risk.

Reform of Dodd-Frank will benefit midsize and regional banks, but more importantly, it will provide new opportunities for our customers and thus support U.S. economic growth. To this end, we encourage you to work with your colleagues in a bipartisan manner to move forward with financial regulatory improvements that fulfill these goals.

Signed,

Cenlar FSB

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