

March 10, 2015

The Honorable Pat Toomey United States Senate Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Joe Donnelly **United States Senate** Washington, D.C. 20510

JACK A. HARTINGS

R. SCOTT HEITKAMP

PRESTON KENNEDY

Secretary

J. MICHAEL ELLENBURG

JOHN H. BUHRMASTER Immediate Past Chairman

CAMDEN R. FINE President and CEO

REBECA ROMERO RAINEY

Dear Senators Toomey and Donnelly:

On behalf of the 6,400 community banks represented by ICBA, I write to express our support for S. 482, which would raise the threshold for banks exempt from direct examination and reporting requirements by the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) from \$10 billion to \$50 billion in assets. S. 482 embodies a provision of ICBA's Plan for Prosperity and recognizes the importance of tiered regulation.

S. 482 would enhance consumer protection by allowing the CFPB to concentrate on the megabanks, focusing on the greatest threat to consumers and making more effective use of CFPB's resources. Banks of less than \$50 billion in assets would continue to be examined for compliance with CFPB rules by their prudential regulators. Bank supervision is more balanced and effective when a single regulator examines for both safety and soundness and consumer protection.

Importantly, S. 482 represents the principle of tiered regulation of financial institutions according to their asset size and the risk they pose to consumers and to safety and soundness – a principle to which ICBA is deeply committed. Thank you for introducing this legislation. We look forward to working with you to advance it.

Sincerely,

/s/

Camden R. Fine President & CEO

CC: Members of the Senate Banking Committee

The Nation's Voice for Community Banks.®