

AMERICA'S BANKS DRIVE THE ECONOMY



The American Bankers Association is the only trade association to represent banks of all sizes and their more than 2.1 million employees.



America's \$25 trillion banking industry safeguards \$19.7 trillion in deposits and extends \$13.1 trillion in loans.



More than 4,400 banks serve customers nationwide through more than **76,000 branches and universal mobile platforms**.



Banks of all sizes **invested more than \$606 billion in low- and moderate-income communities** from 2021 to 2023.



America's banks originated \$2.6 trillion in mortgage loans in 2023 and hold 27.3 million small-farm and small-business loans.



Low-fee Bank On-certified accounts are offered in more than half of all bank branches and are accessible to 97.4% of low- and moderate-income households.



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About ABA

The American Bankers Association is the only trade association to represent banks of all sizes and their 2.1 million dedicated employees. We help America's banks serve their customers and strengthen their communities by advocating for policies in Washington that drive a healthy economy for all, pursue rational regulation to preserve Main Street access to credit and capital, and foster a competitive financial services market. We are the only trade association partnered with 52 state bankers associations that work tirelessly to ensure banks can meet the needs of customers in their home states. ABA and its alliance of state associations believe a strong banking industry is foundational to a strong economy. We look forward to partnering with members of Congress to ensure we are delivering on both.



1333 New Hampshire Ave NW
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FALL 2025 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES



Cannabis Banking

Thirty-nine states have legalized cannabis for medical or recreational purposes, yet federal law still exposes banks to potential civil and criminal penalties, as well as regulatory sanctions, for serving cannabis businesses.

The SAFER/SAFE Banking Act is commonsense bipartisan legislation that would enable banks to serve state-licensed cannabis businesses, their employees, and service providers in states where cannabis is legal.

- Support the SAFER/SAFE Banking Act, which would get state-sanctioned cannabis cash off the streets and into regulated financial institutions, making our communities safer and the cannabis industry more transparent to regulators, tax authorities and law enforcement.

CFPB Small Business Loan Application Data Collection Rule (Section 1071)

The CFPB's final rule, which would require lenders to collect and report 81 new data fields about lending to women-owned, minority-owned and small businesses, would increase the cost of small business lending and could reduce access to credit.

- Co-sponsor the Small LENDER Act, which would exempt lenders originating fewer than 2,500 small business loans in each of the preceding two calendar years or lenders with assets of less than \$10 billion.

It would limit the rule's application to small businesses with gross annual revenues of under \$1 million, among other changes to DFA section 1071.

- Co-sponsor H.R. 2885, the Bank Loan Privacy Act, to help protect small businesses' privacy by requiring the CFPB to use the notice and comment rulemaking process to determine which of the data it will release to the public.
- Co-sponsor S. 557 and H.R. 976, the 1071 Repeal to Protect Small Business Lending Act.

Credit Union Oversight

Credit unions receive government subsidies to provide basic consumer banking products to underserved groups and communities — yet this \$2.37 trillion dollar industry has no community benefit reporting requirements and receives minimal congressional oversight.

- As some credit unions stray from their original mission of serving individuals of modest means within a defined membership base, convene an oversight hearing and ensure that the credit union industry's tax treatment aligns with its activities.

Deposit Insurance Modernization

FDIC insurance, paid for by banks, protects deposits across America's well capitalized and highly liquid banking system. As banking and the market for financial services continue to evolve, related laws and regulations must keep pace. The deposit insurance and resolutions framework is no exception.

- Broaden the scope of considerations applied in determination of "least cost" to include potential contagion or other unwanted impacts, including community impact.
- Pre-approve enhanced FDIC coverage to mitigate severe stress events.
- Reverse the TCJA's sliding-scale method for determining the deductibility of FDIC assessments, making all assessments tax deductible.

Digital Asset Market Structure

Guided by the principle of "same activity, same risk, same regulation," intermediaries and solution providers in the digital assets landscape should be subject to regulation and supervision that accounts for their activities and risks, in the same way as banks and traditional financial intermediaries. In addition, market structure legislation presents an opportunity to close regulatory gaps left open in the recently enacted GENIUS Act.

- Apply consistent custody standards, including segregation of client assets, separation of financial activities and proper control over assets, across all providers to protect consumers, reduce systemic risk and promote market integrity.

- Ensure all digital assets market participants meet the same illicit finance standards as banks.
- Close regulatory gaps left open in the recently enacted GENIUS Act, including extending interest prohibitions to exchanges, repealing Section 16(d), and strengthening the separation of commerce and payment stablecoin issuing.

Farm Bill

Following the enactment of a modified version of the ACRE Act, a long-term Farm Bill that includes comprehensive risk management tools for farmers and ranchers, agricultural loan guarantees, rural development programs and nutrition support and investments in conservation will help support the financial needs of agricultural communities.

- Increase the loan guarantee limits for the USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) Guaranteed Farm Ownership Loan Program and FSA's Guaranteed Farm Operating Loan Program to \$3.5 million and \$3 million, respectively, and re-examine the 10-year eligibility limits for FSA Beginning Farmer and Rancher programs.
- Revise the definition of owner-operator to allow various business structures to expand eligibility for beginning farmer guaranteed loan programs to more producers and customers and support a cap on down payment loans at 45% of the lesser of acquired price or appraised value.
- Allow Farmer Mac to purchase all USDA guaranteed loans.

Protect Americans' Payment Cards

The Credit Card Competition Act and the 10 Percent Credit Card Interest Rate Cap Act (S. 381 and H.R. 1944) would impose government mandates on the credit card market, weakening the security of credit card transactions, limiting community bank card offerings and reducing access to credit, and eliminating important consumer benefits like credit card rewards programs.

- Oppose the so-called Credit Card Competition Act and the 10 Percent Interest Rate Cap Act.