

## Issue Update

H.R. 6955, the Main Street Capital Access Act, would make targeted changes to the regulatory and supervisory framework governing community, midsize, and regional banks so they can better serve local businesses, families, and communities. The bill includes provisions to spur new bank formation, tailor regulation to banks' risk profiles and business models, index a series of statutory asset thresholds to GDP, promote greater transparency and fairness in supervision, encourage healthy merger activity, and strengthen community development finance. The House Financial Services Committee advanced the legislation on March 4, 2026, marking an important step forward for a package designed to revitalize community banking and expand access to capital on Main Street.

## Why It Matters

Community, midsize, and regional banks play a critical role in supporting small businesses, local employers, consumers, and underserved communities. But too often, smaller and less complex institutions face regulatory expectations, supervisory practices, and compliance burdens that were designed for the largest and most systemically important firms. The result can be fewer new bank charters, reduced lending capacity, and less access to banking services in rural and urban communities alike. The Main Street Capital Access Act seeks to restore a more right-sized framework by reducing unnecessary barriers to new bank formation, improving supervisory accountability and transparency, and allowing well-managed institutions to focus more of their resources on serving customers and growing local economies.

## Recommended Action Items

- Support H.R. 6955, the Main Street Capital Access Act, as a comprehensive package to strengthen community, midsize, and regional banks and improve access to credit in local communities.
- Advance policies that spur new bank formation, especially in rural and underserved areas, to expand banking access and support local economic growth.
- Promote risk-based regulatory tailoring and indexing statutory asset thresholds for inflation so that smaller, less complex banks are not subject to the same requirements as the largest institutions.
- Improve fairness, transparency, and accountability in supervision, including greater clarity around examinations, supervisory determinations, and merger application timelines.
- Strengthen banks' ability to serve communities by supporting reforms that modernize capital frameworks, promote competition in the market, and reinforce community development lending.