

COMMUNITY ACTION, INC.

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March 23, 2009

Mr. Robert E. Feldman
Executive Secretary
Attention: Comments
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20429

Re: RIN 3064-AD35; Assessments

Dear Mr. Feldman:

As a non-profit organization in Massachusetts, I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the FDIC proposal to impose a special assessment on all banks in Massachusetts. My organization, Community Action, Inc. (CAI), has serious concerns about this proposal, which could impact our relationship with our local bank and could have a significant cost to our community.

I understand that the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) must remain strong and secure during these challenging economic times to maintain public confidence in the insurance system. However, the proposal imposes a significant financial burden on small local banks at a time when we are already dealing with rising unemployment and a deepening recession.

Pentucket Bank serves a key role in our local community by providing both financial and human resources to non-profit organizations like CAI. Pentucket Bank has been instrumental in the success of many CAI initiatives including: making a very generous donation towards CAI's \$1.5 million renovation of a century old school to provide a new home for our Head Start and Adult Education programs; providing an annual financial contribution to support the operation of CAI's First Time Home Buyer program; and supporting many annual fundraising events that are vital to CAI's efforts to serve the area low-income population. In addition to significant financial support, Pentucket management and employees frequently volunteer their time in the community. The Pentucket Bank is truly a local bank that generously supports those in need and makes the community a better place to live.

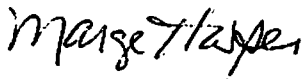
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Pentucket Bank is a small, local bank that has not made risky loans and has served our community in a responsible way for years. I believe banks like Pentucket are being unfairly penalized by the FDIC proposal. The high cost of the assessment may reduce their ability to lend and impact charitable giving at a time when many nonprofit institutions and social service agencies are facing decreases in donations and higher demand for services. These actions will have negative consequences to our local communities.

I strongly encourage the FDIC to consider alternatives that may reduce the burden of rebuilding the fund while still ensuring that the FDIC has the resources it needs to address ongoing problems in the system. I am confident that we can ensure that the deposit insurance system remains secure without placing such a large burden on local banks. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed rule.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Marge Hooper".

Marge Hooper
Deputy Director

Cc: Congresswoman Nicola Tsongas
Congressman Barney Frank
Senator John F. Kerry
Senator Edward M. Kennedy