



WASHINGTON FINANCIAL LEAGUE

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July 20, 2009

Ms. Shelia Bair, Chairman
Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
MB 6028
550 17th St. NW
Washington, D.C. 20429

Comments@FDIC.gov

RE: Support of FDIC proposal to extend the Transaction Account Guarantee Program

Dear Chairman Bair:

In response for the opportunity to provide public comment regarding the FDIC proposal to extend the Transaction Account Guarantee Program, though not unanimous, a vast majority of the members of the Washington Financial League support the six-month extension. However, we would request that a one-year extension be considered. The TAG Program has been vital in helping to rebuild consumer confidence in our banking system, and to end it too soon may very well have the unintended consequence of adversely affecting consumer confidence.

In addition, while we understand the rationale behind the proposed premium increases, we request that they be thoroughly reviewed to assure that the Program is operating as efficiently as possible.

Washington Financial League, founded 100 years ago, is a trade association representing community banks of all charter types and sizes with offices in the state of Washington.

Sincerely,

Marc Gaspard
President, Washington Financial League

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