



**ADMINISTRATION OFFICE**

**35 S. Lindan Avenue ▪ Quincy, CA 95971 ▪ PH 530.283.7305 ▪ FAX 530.283.7316**

July 17, 2023

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) 550 17th Street NW Washington, D.C.  
20429

Subject: Comment in Support of Proposed Rule for Community Bank Exemption from  
Special Assessments

Dear FDIC,

I am writing on behalf of Plumas Bank to express our wholehearted support for the proposed rule that would exempt community banks with assets under \$5 billion from special assessments to recover the loss to the Deposit Insurance Fund (DIF) arising from the protection of uninsured depositors in connection with the systemic risk determination announced on March 12, 2023, following the closures of Silicon Valley Bank, Santa Clara, CA, and Signature Bank, New York, NY.

Plumas Bank is a community bank based in Quincy, California, with over forty years of dedicated service to our community. We take pride in our role as a responsible financial institution, providing personalized services and vital financial support to local businesses and families. Our bank's unique focus on supporting rural economies, including agriculture and small businesses, sets us apart as an essential pillar of growth and stability in our region.

The FDIC's proposed rule, which would exempt community banks like ours from the special assessment, is a well-considered and equitable approach. Placing the burden of special assessments solely on larger and riskier institutions, such as Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, aligns with the principles of fairness and accountability. It recognizes that community banks operate with fundamentally different risk profiles and business models compared to these larger entities.

Plumas Bank maintains a conservative approach to risk management, and our funding structure relies primarily on insured deposits. Unlike Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank, we are not heavily dependent on uninsured deposits. Therefore, it is unjust to require community banks like ours to bear the consequences of the irresponsible actions of larger institutions that may have engaged in riskier practices.

Implementing special assessments on community banks would have a detrimental impact on our ability to serve our customers and fulfill our commitment to the community. Such an additional financial burden could force us to increase fees or reduce lending, which would ultimately hurt the very people we aim to support. The proposed exemption acknowledges the importance of preserving community banks' financial strength and stability, which in turn fosters economic growth and empowers local communities.

Plumas Bank appreciates the FDIC's efforts to adopt a targeted and thoughtful approach to this rulemaking. The proposed rule not only addresses the necessary recovery of losses to the DIF but also ensures that community banks are not unduly burdened by the failures of larger and riskier institutions.

In conclusion, I would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity to provide our comments on this significant proposal. We urge the FDIC to finalize the rule as proposed, exempting community banks with assets under \$5 billion from special assessments related to the failures of Silicon Valley Bank and Signature Bank. This decision will safeguard the vital role of community banks in promoting economic prosperity and financial stability within our communities.

Thank you for considering our input.

Sincerely,



Andrew Ryback  
President & CEO  
Plumas Bank  
35 S. Lindan Avenue, Quincy, CA 95971  
[andy.ryback@plumasbank.com](mailto:andy.ryback@plumasbank.com)  
(530) 283-7305 ext.8905