From: Kevin Postier [mailto:kpostier@hendersonstatebank.net]
Sent: Monday, March 02, 2009 6:22 PM
To: Comments
Subject: Excessive FDIC assessment

I STRONGLY oppose the proposed excessive increase in FDIC assessments! Use TARP funds to shore up the Deposit Insurance Fund.

As President of Henderson State Bank (total assets of $115 million), it is my understanding that our FDIC assessment could increase from approx. $50,000 in 2008 to nearly 5 times that amount in 2009. A 400% increase seems very excessive! How do we budget for that kind of an extreme change in costs? Smaller increases could probably be absorbed in our operating costs but an increase of this magnitude will most definitely need to be passed on to customers. According to FDIC's assessment, our Bank is in a low risk category but it seems like this doesn't make much difference. Why can't banks with claims against the Deposit Insurance Fund pay substantially increased premiums for the next 10-15 years to replenish the Fund? I understand a modest increase in assessments to the stronger banks but this is EXCESSIVE. Isn't this equivalent to a new tax on successful businesses?

Could some of the TARP funds be used to strengthen the Fund? The use of TARP funds to strengthen the FDIC fund would benefit substantially more banks – institutions that have made GOOD loan decisions in recent years as well as benefiting substantially more customers/tax payers.

Thank you,

Kevin D. Postier
Henderson State Bank
kpostier@hendersonstatebank.net
(888) 542-8902