

From: GBeilman@thedimebank.com [mailto:GBeilman@thedimebank.com]
Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2009 11:32 AM
To: Comments
Subject: Currently-proposed Special Assessment

Dear Chairperson Bair:

I am writing to express my opposition to the new 20 basis point special assessment that was enacted on February 27th, and upon which the FDIC has opened a 30 day comment period.

I am opposed to this new special assessment for two reasons:

1. The community banking industry, as a whole, is already bearing a large burden of the solution for the mistakes of a few mega banks, in that we are paying higher deposit insurance premiums. For us, now, to have to be assessed an even larger amount, by way of this special assessment to help fund the mistakes and unsafe practices of a few, is certainly not equitable. We do believe in paying our fair share, and as such, I believe that premiums should be based on the risk level and experience of each institution.

2. This special assessment will obviously greatly decrease the net income of community banks, which of and by itself will be a challenge this year given the current economic state in this country. We estimate that this assessment will be approximately 10 to 25% of last year's net income figures for well run community banks. A message to shareholders of a net income decrease of this magnitude, when the mass media already has the American people believing that our economic plight was caused by "the banks", would not be understood, and would only lead to more financial fear in this country.

I respectfully request that you consider any and all other means of raising funds, before you initiate this special assessment.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Gary C. Beilman
President and
Chief Executive Officer

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