From: Mark White [mailto:mark@farmerssavingsbank.com] Sent: Tuesday, March 03, 2009 2:57 PM To: Comments Subject: Higher FDIC rates

Does the government not realize we will take the cards they are forcing down our throats and adjust our strategies?

They don't allow us to compete with credit unions on a level playing field, forcing us to narrow our spreads to compete. The Federal Land Bank also enjoys privileges to compete on the lending side. Now our expense side is poised to skyrocket due to exorbitantly higher FDIC fees. Sorry, but banks will simply pass this additional expenditure on to the consumer in the form of higher fees. Either spreads or fees have to pick up the slack. Expenses have been cut to the bare bones. We have to maintain our current level of return to fund growth. Dividends to our owners have been almost nonexistent so we could fund our growth (compared to the big banks which paid out huge dividends via exaggerated earnings so the government could grant the money back to them compliments of the tax payer).

In the end, who pays the bill? This all once again gets passed on hurting the consumer (<u>again</u>). So this stimulates the economy how?