

From: kausborn@iowatrustbank.com [<mailto:kausborn@iowatrustbank.com>]
Sent: Monday, September 27, 2010 1:33 PM
To: Comments
Subject: FDIC Proposed Guidance on Overdraft Coverage

Kris Ausborn
2101 10th St.
Emmetsburg, IA 50536-2411

September 27, 2010

Comments to FDIC

Dear Comments to FDIC:

By electronic delivery to:
OverdraftComments@fdic.gov

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation
550 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20429-9990

Re: Overdraft Payment Supervisory Guidance, FIL-47-2010, August 11, 2010

Dear Sir or Madame:

Iowa Trust & Savings Bank is your typical rural county-seat bank, owned by the same family for over 80 years. We offer services that our customers have indicated assist them with their financial services.

I strongly oppose the FDIC's proposed guidance (FIL-47-2010) that addresses overdraft coverage programs. Now is not the time to introduce further regulation targeted at overdraft coverage products. New requirements under Regulation DD (Truth in Savings) and Regulation E (Electronic Fund Transfers) have recently been implemented at great expense and manpower. Having to rework our bank's deposit products and to accommodate a regulatory moving target does not help my bank serve its customers.

Further, any additional rules should be the result of an inter-agency effort to ensure consistency and fairness in its application for both banks and the customers we serve. Unilateral action by one regulatory agency appears to be a self-serving effort to accumulate more political power.

This proposal will do a great disservice to many customers who appreciate the assurances that accidental overdraft coverage offers in preventing a bill being returned unpaid or a merchant-imposed fee being levied. If regulatory barriers and requirements become too burdensome, I will be faced with discontinuing these services and returning all check and ACH transactions, exposing my customers to fees far greater than those imposed by my bank.

My bank does not manipulate transaction processing to generate more fees and higher revenue. My bank is accountable to its community and its success is dependent on a mutually beneficially relationship with customers. If we engaged in "price-gouging" tactics, we COULD NOT do business in our community.

If the FDIC proceeds with adoption of the proposed guidance (regulation), please consider the following:

The elimination of the requirement that banks monitor programs for excessive or chronic use (six overdrafts in a rolling twelve month period) and then contact the customer (in person or via telephone) to discuss less costly alternatives. These alternatives have, in most cases, already been discussed with the customer and they have elected to have an occasional overdraft as their primary option.

To eliminate the requirement to set daily thresholds on overdraft fees. We price this fee to manage the associated risk and as a deterrent to encourage consumers to engage in more financially-responsible practices.

Not to prescribe the order of transaction posting. Banks should retain the ability to post transactions in the order they deem appropriate as long as they do not manipulate processing to maximize overdraft fee income. We already pay the smallest check first and the largest check last.

To allow banks to charge a fee for returning items paid by check or ACH. Processing return items represent expense and employee attention and should not be provided free of charge.

I urge the FDIC to carefully consider this measure to ensure that the guidance does not impede my bank's ability to provide overdraft coverage services to my customers. If we are forced to abandon or significantly alter these services due to regulatory burden, the result could lead more consumers into becoming unbanked or relying on other products such as prepaid debit cards and check cashing services, which have higher fees and foster unsound financial practices.

Sincerely,
Kris Ausborn
712-852-3451