From: maryjo kukowski
To: Comments

Subject: Comment Request— RIN 3064-AF99

Date: Wednesday, November 20, 2024 4:15:41 PM



Dear Mr. Sheesley,

I am writing to express my concern and opposition to the proposed changes to the rules governing brokered deposits, as these changes would create substantial financial and operational challenges for small business owners like me. I have been in the jewelry business for several years, serving my local community with carefully crafted, high-quality products. For many small businesses, stable banking relationships and accessible financing options are essential to manage cash flow, expand our offerings, and ultimately support our customers and employees. The changes under consideration would put additional pressure on small businesses like mine, which are already contending with challenging economic conditions and limited financing options.

The current rules provide valuable flexibility for small businesses by enabling banks to generate a steady supply of funds by working with innovative third-party platforms. The existing rule allows local banks to build up liquidity to support their communities by channeling savings and investments toward small businesses that often lack access to larger, corporate financing solutions. For many small business owners, financing through smaller banks is one of the few practical ways to ensure we have the working capital necessary to operate smoothly. Changing these rules could inadvertently restrict small businesses from accessing essential funds, creating a ripple effect that would hurt local economies, including our employees and customers.

Additionally, any new restrictions on brokered deposits could decrease the competitiveness of small and community banks, making it harder for them to provide cost-effective financing. For small businesses, this means fewer banking options and higher borrowing costs. With limited financial resources, small businesses like mine could struggle to keep pace with the additional fees or tightened lending standards that may result from the proposed rule changes.

I respectfully urge the FDIC to reconsider these modifications and to take into account the adverse impact they would have on small businesses. Maintaining the current framework is essential to supporting the broader economic ecosystem of local businesses, employees, and communities. By preserving the existing brokered deposit rules, the FDIC can continue to enable small businesses to thrive and grow, fostering a resilient and diverse economy.

Thank you for considering the needs of small businesses in this decision.

Sincerely,

Mary Jo Kukowski

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