



Timothy K. Zimmerman, *Chairman*
Preston L. Kennedy, *Chairman-Elect*
Noah W. Wilcox, *Vice Chairman*
Kathryn Underwood, *Treasurer*
Christopher Jordan, *Secretary*
R. Scott Heitkamp, *Immediate Past Chairman*
Rebeca Romero Rainey, *President and CEO*

June 7, 2018

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman
Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
Ranking Member
Committee on Banking, Housing,
and Urban Affairs
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Crapo and Ranking Member Brown:

On behalf of the nearly 5,700 community banks represented by the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA), I write to thank you for holding a hearing on May 14 on the nomination of Michelle “Miki” Bowman for the Federal Reserve Board of Governors (Board). **We urge all members of the Banking Committee to vote YES when Ms. Bowman’s nomination comes before the committee.**

Ms. Bowman is uniquely qualified to fill the Board seat reserved by statute for an individual with community banking regulatory or business experience. In fact, she is doubly qualified under the terms of the statute as she currently serves as a top bank regulator, the Kansas Bank Commissioner, *and* she is a fifth generation Kansas community banker. Ms. Bowman served as an officer of the Farmers and Drovers Bank of Council Grove, Kansas, where she was involved in both the lending and compliance aspects of the business. She has also worked in her family's cattle and farm operation and thus appreciates the link between agriculture and community banking and the importance of both to our national economy. In addition, Ms. Bowman has worked both in Congress and the Executive Branch at senior levels.

In short, Ms. Bowman’s experience is highly relevant to the Board and to this Board seat in particular. I have no doubt that she is highly qualified and will make an invaluable contribution to Board deliberations and strengthen the Board’s rulemaking and open market operations. Americans need someone on the Board with Ms. Bowman’s diverse professional experience and her insight into the financial, rural, and agricultural economies. The community bankers in Kansas who know her best certainly think so. They have enthusiastically endorsed her nomination.

The Nation’s Voice for Community Banks.®

WASHINGTON, DC
1615 L Street NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20036

SAUK CENTRE, MN
518 Lincoln Road
PO Box 267
Sauk Centre, MN 56378

866-843-4222
www.icba.org

Thank you for your consideration. Ms. Bowman's nomination is an opportunity to strengthen, diversify, and enrich the Board that we cannot afford to lose.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rebeca Romero Rainey
President & CEO

CC: Members of the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

The Nation's Voice for Community Banks.[®]

WASHINGTON, DC
1615 L Street NW
Suite 900
Washington, DC 20036

SAUK CENTRE, MN
518 Lincoln Road
PO Box 267
Sauk Centre, MN 56378

866-843-4222
www.icba.org