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President and CEO

March 6, 2018

United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator:

We urge your YES vote on S. 2155, the Economic Growth, Regulatory Relief and Consumer Protection Act. Voting is imminent on S. 2155 – our best and only chance to enact meaningful, bipartisan regulatory relief for community banks without sacrificing critical consumer protections or safety and soundness. Make no mistake: With 12 Democratic, 13 Republican, and one Independent cosponsors, this is a rare bipartisan consensus bill for community banks and the communities they serve. **Vote YES on the motion to proceed to S. 2155.**

The failure of S. 2155 would be a lost opportunity that may not be seen again for many years. The time for endless debate, deliberation, filibuster, and inaction is over. It's time to show the community banks in your state and across the country where you stand – not with your words but with your vote. America's nearly 5,700 community banks need your support today.

S. 2155 represents a package of consensus measures that has been years in the making. It is the product of dialogue, compromise, and careful targeting to ensure that relief is provided only to community banks. Among the critical provisions of S. 2155, the bill would promote mortgage lending by lenders with less than \$10 billion in assets that hold mortgagees in portfolio. These lenders have incentive to ensure the mortgages they hold are well underwritten. The bill would provide relief for low-volume mortgage lenders from complex, costly and error-prone new reporting requirements under the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act (HMDA), while leaving untouched existing HMDA reporting. S. 2155 would allow regulators to simplify capital requirements for community banks that meet a high tangible equity ratio. It would create a risk-targeted approach to the examination and oversight of well-managed and well-capitalized community banks.

Taken together, these provisions will spur lending and strengthen and extend the economic recovery to all American communities, including those the recovery has not yet reached. Cast your vote in favor of community banks.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

/s/

Camden R. Fine
President & CEO