

Climate Risk Regulation. ICBA is opposing proposals under consideration in the Administration, the agencies, and Congress to create new mandates regarding climate risk. Proposals include stress testing for the impact of weather events on bank-held assets, concentration limits, increased disclosures, and other mandates.

- » In September, ICBA released a white paper titled: [“Climate Change Regulation on Community Banks: Risks of Choking Off Credit to America’s Communities.”](#)
- » ICBA submitted a [comment letter](#) on the OCC’s draft climate principles for large banks and is preparing comment letters on the SEC proposed rule on climate risk disclosures and the FDIC’s draft climate principles for large banks.

Overdraft. Congress and the regulators should carefully consider the potential unintended consequences of any new overdraft restrictions, which may include returned checks, declined debit card transactions, merchant late fees, and damaged credit ratings. Overdraft legislation or regulations should not punish community bank customers by restricting access to services of convenience that meet their account needs.

- » ICBA has surveyed member banks to collect data to counter negative media and demonstrate to policymakers the value of overdraft protection.
- » ICBA submitted a [statement](#) for a March hearing on overdraft in the House Financial Services Committee.

Real Results for Your Bank

Stopped Advance of IRS Reporting	Harmful Tax Proposals Effectively Taken Off the Table	Omarova Nomination Withdrawn
<p>ICBA came out early and forcefully against IRS account reporting, launching media and grassroots campaigns and leading cross-industry letters to Congress. The proposal was omitted from the House-passed Build Back Better Act. ICBA continues to oppose its inclusion in a Senate bill.</p>	<p>Early versions of the Build Back Better Act included provisions to tax capital gains at death and raise the corporate rate, among other adverse provisions. While these provisions are no longer under consideration, due in part to ICBA’s advocacy, other harmful tax increases remain in play. ICBA continues our campaign against them.</p>	<p>ICBA raised concerns about the misguided policy views advocated by Professor Saule Omarova, the President’s nominee for Comptroller of the Currency, and was the only financial trade group to write a public letter to the Senate opposing her confirmation. ICBA’s concerns were echoed by a group of moderate Democratic Senators, leading to the eventual withdrawal of her nomination.</p>



Stablecoins and Decentralized Finance.

Unregulated stablecoins and decentralized finance (DeFi) threaten to disintermediate community banks and heighten risks for wider economic disruptions and must be brought within the regulatory perimeter. ICBA will continue to work with regulators, policymakers, and standards-setting bodies to address serious risks to financial stability, national security, and consumer protection.

- » ICBA provided statements to The President's Working Group on Financial Markets on stablecoins as well as testimony for a congressional hearing.

ICBA Anti-Credit Union "Wake Up" Campaign.

The mission of the campaign is to pursue legislative and regulatory changes to address the expansion of credit unions and to draw media and public attention to the industry's aggressive and abusive exploitation of their tax exemption.

- » ICBA took out [full-page print](#) and [digital ads](#) in regional editions of USA Today calling on Congress to investigate credit unions.
- » ICBA Chairman Robert Fisher participated in a [webcast roundtable](#) on credit union regulation hosted by the National Taxpayers Union.

SBA Direct Lending. ICBA is opposing a provision of the Build Back Better Act that would authorize the SBA to issue direct 7(a) loans of less than \$150,000. The proposal would sideline community bank lenders, reduce access to small business credit, and be prone to fraud.

- » ICBA witnesses have testified ([links here and here](#)) in opposition to the proposal before the House Small Business Committee hearing.

Industrial Loan Company Loophole. The industrial loan company (ILC) loophole allows commercial companies to own ILCs, contrary to the long-standing policy of separating banking and commerce, and escape holding company supervision. ICBA is promoting bipartisan legislation that would close the ILC loophole, grandfather existing ILCs, and address pending applications.

- » ICBA is supportive of H.R. 5912, the "Close the ILC Loophole Act," and is advocating for its passage by the House Financial Services Committee.

Preserving Tax Cuts. ICBA will defend the 2017 tax cuts, including the 21 percent corporate rate, the individual rate, the deduction for passthrough income, current taxation of capital gains, and taxation of estates.

New Bank Reporting of Account Holder Data. ICBA is opposing an Administration proposal to require financial institutions to report annually to the IRS on account inflows and outflows.

- » ICBA's grassroots campaign has already generated over half a million messages to Congress from over 150,000 community bankers and their customers.

Tax Incentives for Community Bank Lending.

ICBA supports the ECORA Act (H.R. 1977/S. 2202) which would create a tax exclusion for interest on loans secured by agricultural land and residential mortgages in rural communities. ICBA has launched a grassroots campaign to promote cosponsorship of ECORA.

Cannabis Banking. ICBA supports legislation that would create a safe harbor from federal sanctions for financial institutions that serve cannabis-related businesses in states where cannabis is legal.

- » The SAFE Banking Act (H.R. 1996) passed the House in April 2021 on a broad bipartisan vote and is currently before the Senate.

Postal Banking. ICBA opposes proposals to allow the U.S. Postal Service (USPS) to offer financial products and services. Financial services are best provided in a competitive, private, and free marketplace that openly and efficiently benefits customers.

- » ICBA launched a series of short pieces outlining our objections to postal banking.

Support for Agriculture. ICBA advocates for enhanced USDA guaranteed lending as well as direct federal assistance and other measures to support American agriculture.