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Jack E. Hopkins, Immediate Past Chairman
Rebeca Romero Rainey, President and CEO

May 18, 2026

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Democratic Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Re: Support for H.R. 5317, H.R. 3234, and H.R. 4544

Dear Majority Leader Thune, Democratic Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Democratic Leader Jeffries:

On behalf of the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA), we write to express support for legislation to be considered on suspension in the House this week. We urge all members of the House to vote YES on the bills listed below, each of which is ICBA-supported and has passed the House with broad bipartisan support as provisions of broader bills.

- The Community Bank Deposit Access Act (H.R. 5317) would allow custodial deposits to be held by community banks without being considered brokered deposits, provided they do not exceed 20 percent of total liabilities. Brokered deposits are subject to certain capital and interest-rate restrictions. This provision would help community banks maintain lower funding costs, expand lending opportunities, and serve their communities by attracting stable, low-cost funding.
- The Keeping Deposits Local Act (H.R. 3234) would raise the percentage threshold of reciprocal deposits that may be held by a bank without being considered brokered deposits. Reciprocal deposits are swapped among banks participating in a network and result in higher aggregate levels of deposit insurance coverage. Raising the percentage of reciprocal deposits allowed would assist banks approaching the current-law threshold and support lending needs.
- The American Access to Banking Act (H.R. 4544) would promote the formation of de novo community banks by streamlining the application process and provide for review of capital raising.

These bills would allow community banks to gather more deposits to support loans in their local communities and promote the creation of new community banks to offset the annual loss of community

banks through mergers and acquisitions, creating a more competitive environment for financial services, especially in smaller communities and rural areas.

Sincerely,

/s/

Rebeca Romero Rainey

President & CEO

CC: Members of the U.S. Senate
Members of the U.S. House of Representatives