

June 11, 2026

Artificial Intelligence: The Community Bank Perspective

The Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA),¹ representing community banks across the nation with nearly 50,000 locations, appreciates the opportunity to provide this statement for the record for today’s hearing, “AI and the American Dream: Promoting Innovation, Affordability, and American Dominance.”

AI is rapidly changing the landscape of American financial services. Community banks are committed to realizing the potential of new technologies, including AI, to better serve our customers and communities with new products and services and to identify and deter fraud and scams, among other uses.

While community bankers are preparing to realize the opportunities presented by AI, they also recognize the rising threat of AI-generated fraud as well as cybersecurity vulnerabilities created by frontier models, such as Anthropic’s Mythos.

The recent [Executive Order on Promoting Advanced Artificial Intelligence Innovation and Security](#) explicitly recognizes community banks as a critical infrastructure component, along with rural hospital and local utilities. We are pleased by this recognition and hope that it results in equitable access to federal AI security resources and coordination.

ICBA is committed to helping community banks navigate the new environment, leveraging opportunities while safeguarding our customers. ICBA has formed an AI Task Force to provide practical guidance for community bankers and recently released the [Community Banker AI Security Readiness Guide](#) to assess the AI threat shift, what it means for local institutions, and how to strengthen third-party due diligence, update and test incident response plans, among other topics.

Further, ICBA led development of a [Joint AI Action Plan](#) to urge immediate Federal action to prepare for a new era of AI-enabled cybersecurity risk.

The federal financial agencies overseen by this committee will play a critical role in banks’ deployment of AI and response to cybersecurity risk. As these agencies develop new AI policies, we urge you to ensure recognition of the critical role played by community banks in America’s local economies.

Thank you for convening this hearing to explore the implications of AI for the financial services industry. ICBA looks forward to being included in future discussions of this critical topic.

¹ The Independent Community Bankers of America® has one mission: to create and promote an environment where community banks flourish. We power the potential of the nation’s community banks through effective advocacy, education, and innovation. As local and trusted sources of credit, America’s community banks leverage their relationship-based business model and innovative offerings to channel deposits into the neighborhoods they serve, creating jobs, fostering economic prosperity, and fueling their customers’ financial goals and dreams.