

MICHAEL G. OXLEY, OH, CHAIRMAN

JAMES A. LEACH, IA
RICHARD H. BAKER, LA
DEBORAH PRYCE, OH
SPENCER BACHUS, AL
MICHAEL N. CASTLE, DE
EDWARD R. ROYCE, CA
FRANK D. LUCAS, OK
ROBERT W. NEY, OH
SUE W. KELLY, NY
Vice Chair
RON PAUL, TX
PAUL E. GILLMOR, OH
JIM RYUN, KS
STEVEN C. LATOURETTE, OH
DONALD A. MANZULLO, IL
WALTER B. JONES, Jr., NC
JUDY BIGGERT, IL
CHRISTOPHER SHAYS, CT
VITO FOSSELLA, NY

GARY G. MILLER, CA
PATRICK J. TIBERI, OH
MARK R. KENNEDY, MN
TOM FEENEY, FL
JEB HENSARLING, TX
SCOTT GARRETT, NJ
GINNY BROWN-WAITE, FL
J. GRESHAM BARRETT, SC
KATHERINE HARRIS, FL
RICK RENZI, AZ
JIM GERLACH, PA
STEVAN PEARCE, NM
RANDY NEUGEBAUER, TX
TOM PRICE, GA
MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK, PA
GEOFF DAVIS, KY
PATRICK T. MCHENRY, NC
JOHN CAMPBELL, CA

U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Financial Services
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

BARNEY FRANK, MA, RANKING MEMBER

PAUL E. KANJORSKI, PA
MAXINE WATERS, CA
CAROLYN B. MALONEY, NY
LUIS V. GUTIERREZ, IL
NYDIA M. VELAZQUEZ, NY
MELVIN L. WATT, NC
GARY L. ACKERMAN, NY
DARLENE HOOLEY, OR
JULIA CARSON, IN
BRAD SHERMAN, CA
GREGORY W. MEEKS, NY
BARBARA LEE, CA
DENNIS MOORE, KS
MICHAEL E. CAPUANO, MA
HAROLD E. FORD, Jr., TN
RUBEN HINOJOSA, TX
JOSEPH CROWLEY, NY

WM LACY CLAY, MO
STEVE ISRAEL, NY
CAROLYN MCCARTHY, NY
JOE BACA, CA
JIM MATHESON, UT
STEPHEN F. LYNCH, MA
BRAD MILLER, NC
DAVID SCOTT, GA
ARTUR DAVIS, AL
AL GREEN, TX
EMANUEL CLEAVER, MO
MELISSA L. BEAN, IL
DEBBIE WASSERMAN
SCHULTZ, FL
GWEN MOORE, WI
BERNARD SANDERS, VT

December 13, 2006

ROBERT U. FOSTER III
CHIEF OF STAFF

Honorable John M. Reich
Director
Office of Thrift Supervision
1700 G Street, NW
Washington, DC 20552

Dear Director Reich:

I am pleased that you have published for comment a proposal to align the OTS' Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) regulations with the stronger ones of the other three bank regulators. I support this proposal, as it will restore uniform standards for evaluating banks and thrifts performance under the CRA. Not only will this assure that all institutions are held to the same standards, but it eliminates any temptation by institutions to seek to change charters based on differing standards for CRA evaluations.

I was pleased when you announced in September that you would issue this proposal, and I commend you for following through on that announcement, which I support and urge you to adopt as soon as possible after the comment period closes on January 23, 2007.


BARNEY FRANK