

507 S. Grand Ave.

Lansing, MI 48933

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Legislation to Watch

The industry can expect to see legislation introduced at the state level addressing mortgage fraud, appraisal, file freeze, data breach, credit cards and mortgage lender licensing. At this time the MBA is working with Sen. Randy Richardville, Reps. Andy Coulouris, Steve Tobocman and Bert Johnson on a package of bills that addresses the mortgage issue.

Banking Code Amendments on the Way

Changes to the banking code amendments are also underway. The MBA continues to work with OFIS to update the banking code for state chartered banks. Pending legislation seeks code changes that would help Michigan Charter banks provide the best possible competitive services to their customers.

Gift Cards

Currently five bills addressing gift cards are in legislature committee. The MBA is making sure legislators differentiate between retail and bank gift cards as they seek to protect consumers from certain non bank management practices.

Farm Credit Amendment Adopted

The U.S. House of Representatives adopted the Frank-Bachus amendment to the 2007 Farm Bill that strips the legislation of the Farm Credit System provisions. Those provisions would have included the ability for FCS lenders to make home mortgage loans in town of up to 6,000 people. Bankers across the nation joined the ABA initiative and delivered 32,000 letters and phone calls to lawmakers in support of the amendment.

Michigan's ABA Vice Chairman Art Johnson Testifies

In testimony before the House Financial Services Committee, ABA Vice Chairman Art Johnson said the dual banking system is the best framework to ensure a balanced legal and regulatory environment that can effectively enforce consumer protection laws.

Johnson, chairman and CEO, United Bank of Michigan, Grand Rapids, said current cooperative efforts between state and federal regulators are examples of how the dual banking system can protect consumers.

Bankers Invited to Attend September Washington, D.C. Delegation

The annual Washington, D.C. Delegation is scheduled for September 25-27. The MBA is seeking banker participants from every congressional district in Michigan. With mortgage fraud and increases in home foreclosures (Michigan ranks in the top three), identity theft (Wayne County has the largest per population in the nation) and credit card practices under review (an attack by Michigan's own Senator Carl Levin), the timing of the visit is critical to communicate the banker's perspective. Click [here](#) for additional information.

MiBankPAC

The MBA MiBankPAC drive is moving. In an effort to allow more banks the opportunity to take advantage of the payroll deduction beginning in January, the 2008 MiBankPAC drive begins this fall. Payroll deduction is easy to set up and the new schedule allows time to set up the program in the fourth quarter of 2007 so it's up and ready for January 1, 2008.

Stryker PAC Shatters Fundraising Record

Coalition for Progress (CFP) primarily funded by liberal activist Jon Stryker became the largest political action committee (PAC) in Michigan history with a \$5.46 million pot last year, according to the Michigan Campaign Finance Network (MCFN). In 2006 the top 150 PACs raised \$51.9 million total.

118 MBA Members Attend MiBankPAC Supported Political Fundraisers

MiBankPAC supported 168 political fundraisers through July 31, 2007. One hundred and eighteen MBA member bankers and six MBA registered lobbyists attended many of these events in person. Thank you to bankers that personally attended these events. Contact Jordan Kingdon at jkingdon@mibankers.com or 517-342-9073 if interested in attending the next MiBankPAC-supported event September 10 in Bellaire for Senator Jason Allen's 2007 golf classic.

Bankers Needed for Upcoming Grassroots Meetings

The MBA is looking for bankers to attend upcoming August and September grassroots meetings.

- September TBD – Citizens State Bank, New Baltimore, Senator Alan Sanborn
- September 14 – Macatawa Bank, Holland, Senator Wayne Kuipers
- October TBD – lunch meeting in Ludington, Congressman Pete Hoekstra

MBA Legislators and Lenders Day March 19-20

This event is open to all MBA bankers throughout Michigan. If interested in attending, contact Jordan Kingdon at 517-342-9073 or jkingdon@mibankers.com.

Many Bankers Attend Congressman Dave Camp Meeting in Midland



The MBA would like to thank the following bankers for communicating industry issues with Congressman Dave Camp on July 23 in Midland: David Ramaker, Chemical Bank; Dave Dunn, Wolverine Bank; Brad Kessel, Independent Bank; David Shooltz, Citizens Bank; Dennis Angner, IBT Bancorp and MBA Chairman; Leo Wickert, Isabella Bank and Trust; Mark Perry, Firstbank – Mt.Pleasant; Rick Barz, Isabella Bank and Trust; Russell Mathews, Comerica Bank and David Murdoch, Comerica Bank. Congressman Camp was the first

member of Michigan's delegation to communicate his support of the Frank/Bachus amendment to the MBA. This amendment eliminated the FCS expansion language in the 2007 Farm Bill. Also attending the Camp golf outing were Bill Benear, Firstbank – Lakeview; Gale Hixson, Firstbank – Lakeview; Paul Scoby, Isabella Bank and Trust; Dick Lavolette, MBA; Sue Walz, Independent Bank – Big Rapids and Jon Catlin, Karl Linebaugh, Joe Torrence and Frank, Wheatlake Chemical Bank.

MBA Grassroots Meetings

Click [here](#) for more pictures of bankers at recent grassroots meetings.