

Date: March 17, 2016

To: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

From: James Ballentine, Executive Vice President, Congressional Relations & Political Affairs

Re: Support Representatives Tipton and Scott's Letter to Banking Regulators on Regulatory Tailoring

On behalf of the members of the American Bankers Association (ABA), I write to express our strong support for Representatives Scott Tipton (R-CO) and David Scott's (D-GA) [letter](#) to banking regulators on regulatory tailoring and urge members of the House Representatives to sign onto to this important letter.

A number of new banking regulations has greatly impacted the ability of banks of all sizes, community banks in particular, to serve their customers and communities. Many regulations have been indiscriminately applied to the whole industry, whether or not they make sense, leading to higher prices for consumers and small businesses, and occasionally leading to customers no longer having access to certain bank services. It's time for Congress and regulators to take a fresh look at how certain regulations unnecessarily apply to segments of the banking industry and are not tailored to the bank's business model and risk.

Smart regulation makes sense. It keeps our system secure, focused and capable of serving the needs of a growing economy. But unfocused regulation weighs down lenders, diverts limited resources to internal operations rather than growth opportunities, and ultimately impairs the ability of banks to serve their communities. Unfocused regulation has little to no benefit. It's time for regulators to take a more measured approach to regulation, focusing on real risks and not compliance exercises.

Ensuring that regulations are appropriately applied to an institution's risk profile and business model makes sense. The Scott/Tipton letter raises important questions for the regulatory agencies. We urge you to cosign the Tipton/Scott regulatory-tailoring letter.

The deadline to sign is Thursday, March 24, 2016. For offices wishing to sign on, please contact Chris Jorgenson in Rep. Tipton's office at 202-225-4761 or [Christian.Jorgenson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Christian.Jorgenson@mail.house.gov).