

January 13, 2014

To: U.S. House of Representatives

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

Re: Support for H.R. 801, the Holding Company Registration Threshold Equalization Act

On behalf of the members of the American Bankers Association (ABA), I am writing to express our strong support for H.R. 801, the Holding Company Registration Threshold Equalization Act. ABA has long sought this bipartisan legislation, which is scheduled for House floor consideration on Tuesday, January 14.

Introduced by Representatives Steve Womack (R-AR), Jim Himes (D-CT), John Delaney (D-MD), and Ann Wagner (R-MO), H.R. 801 passed the Financial Services Committee by voice vote last May. The bill would correct an oversight in the JOBS Act by extending to savings and loan holding companies (SLHCs) the Securities and Exchange Commission shareholder registration and deregistration thresholds applied to bank holding companies (BHCs).

The JOBS Act did not expressly extend the new shareholder thresholds to SLHCs as defined by the Home Owners Loan Act. However, Congress did not intend to treat SLHCs differently from BHCs. H.R. 801 would correct this oversight.

ABA urges Members to vote yes on H.R. 801.