

To: House Financial Institutions Committee

From: Shawn Mitchell, President and CEO
Community Bankers Association of Kansas

Date: March 6, 2012

RE: Written Support of SB 315

Chairman Knox and Members of the House Financial Institutions Committee:

I am Shawn Mitchell, President and CEO of the Community Bankers Association of Kansas (CBA). CBA represents community banks from every corner of Kansas with the vast majority of them being state chartered financial institutions. I appreciate the opportunity to provide written comment in support of SB 315.

Kansas community banks have enjoyed a strong relationship with the Office of the State Bank Commissioner in their efforts to provide regulatory oversight. We believe the OSBC needs the tools to most efficiently and effectively carry out its regulatory functions. On behalf of the participating regulated institutions that fund the OSBC, we are very sensitive to the efficient use of our dollars.

The Bank Commissioner informed us last fall of his intentions to seek additional funding to provide more competitive salaries, add examiners, and provide the means to ensure there are sufficient regulatory functions. The CBA desires and expects the best skilled and experienced regulatory staff available and fully supports the Bank Commissioners efforts to retain this experienced staff. We support funding the OSBC at the appropriate level to achieve this goal and we support the change that allows the OSBC to expertly carry out its regulatory functions to adequately regulate and protect the citizens of Kansas.

In conclusion, the Community Bankers Association of Kansas respectfully requests your support for the SB 315.

Shawn Mitchell, President & CEO
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