



12/14/2011

One of the CBAO's legislative and regulatory priorities for the 112th Congress remains increasing the shareholder registration and deregistration thresholds currently required by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). If we are successful, it is estimated that Ohio's 223 community banks could save as much as \$25,000,000 annually.

With the help of ICBA, we were successful in gaining passage of legislation in the House to accomplish this (H. R. 1965) on November 2, 2011, by a vote of 420 to 2. Similar legislation, S. 1941, has been introduced in the Senate and we fully expect that it can pass by a similar margin with broad bipartisan support. Both H. R. 1965 and S. 1941 contain language that would increase the threshold of bank shareholders that triggers SEC registration from 500 to 2,000 and would increase the deregistration threshold from 300 to 1,200.

We need your help! We are working diligently to have the Senate bring S. 1941 to the floor for a vote. To that end, we ask that you review this letter. If you agree with the content, please reply to this email indicating that you agree to be included. The greater the number of community banks that agree to be included, the stronger the message! Please reply by the end of the day on December 21, 2011 if you want to be included.