

Press Releases

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OTS 97-74 - OTS Streamlines Thrifts' Deposit-Taking Rules

Office of Thrift Supervision

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Contact: Paul Lockwood

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OTS STREAMLINES THRIFTS' DEPOSIT-TAKING RULES

WASHINGTON, D.C., Oct. 21, 1997 -- The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS) issued today a substantially streamlined regulation covering deposits at savings associations. The new rule eliminates duplicative provisions and rules that previously acted to micromanage thrifts' deposit operations.

For example, a general provision that gives overall guidance necessary to ensure safety and soundness replaces several specific record-keeping requirements. The rule also codifies OTS' position that OTS rules preempt state laws affecting deposit-taking activities.

"Adoption of the revised deposit rule continues our concerted effort over the past two years to simplify and streamline OTS regulations, making them easier to use and reducing regulatory burden," said OTS Director Nicolas Retsinas.

Among other changes to the deposit rule, the agency removed several long-standing deposit provisions that duplicated laws, such as the Truth in Savings Act, and Federal Reserve Board Regulations D (Reserve Requirements) and DD (Truth in Savings), which apply to thrifts as well as banks. The new OTS rule includes cross references to Regulations D and DD.

All remaining deposit rules, except for definitions, have been consolidated in a new Part 557 in the Code of Federal Regulations to make deposit-related rules easier to locate.

The final regulation contains only minor changes from the version proposed April 2, 1997. One change adds state licensing and registration laws to the rule's list of state laws that are preempted by OTS regulations. The final rule also clarifies that savings associations may keep deposit records electronically, and the rule has been rewritten in a plain English format.

The final rule is scheduled to be published in the Oct. 22, 1997, edition of the Federal Register, and is effective Jan. 1, 1998.

View the Final Rule - [Deposits](#)

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The Office of Thrift Supervision (OTS), a bureau of the U.S. Treasury, regulates and supervises the nation's thrift industry. OTS' mission is to ensure the safety and soundness of thrift institutions and to support their role as home mortgage lenders and providers of other community credit and financial services. For copies of news releases or other documents call PubliFax at 202/906-5660, or visit the OTS web page at www.ots.treas.gov