

A proposal to
STRENGTHEN & MODERNIZE

THE
CRA

COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT ACT

The Community Reinvestment Act, or CRA, became law in 1977 and remains one of the seminal pieces of legislation to address systemic inequities in access to credit.

The CRA encourages banks to help meet the credit needs of the local communities in which they are chartered including low- and moderate-income (LMI) communities, consistent with safe and sound operations.

The joint proposal from the **Office of the Comptroller of the Currency**, the **Federal Reserve Board**, and the **Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation** has the following key elements:



EXPAND ACCESS TO CREDIT, INVESTMENT, AND BASIC BANKING SERVICES IN LMI COMMUNITIES.

Under the proposal, the agencies would evaluate how banks perform across various activities to promote community engagement and financial inclusion, and to emphasize smaller loans and investments that can be highly impactful and responsive to the needs of LMI communities.

ADAPT TO CHANGES IN THE BANKING INDUSTRY, INCLUDING INTERNET AND MOBILE BANKING.



The proposal would update CRA assessment areas to include activities associated with online and mobile banking, branchless banking, and hybrid models.



TAILOR EVALUATIONS AND DATA COLLECTION TO BANK SIZE AND TYPE.

The proposal recognizes that banks differ in size and business models, and provides that smaller banks would continue to be evaluated under the existing CRA framework with the option to be evaluated under aspects of the proposed framework.

For the full text of the interagency Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for the CRA regulations, see 87 Fed. Reg. 33,884 (June 3, 2022). Submit comments through **August 5, 2022**, at <https://go.usa.gov/xJ944>.



MAINTAIN A UNIFIED APPROACH.

The proposal reflects a unified approach from the federal bank regulatory agencies and incorporates extensive feedback from stakeholders.

PROVIDE GREATER CLARITY, CONSISTENCY, AND TRANSPARENCY.



The proposal would adopt a metrics-based approach to evaluate retail lending and community development financing for greater clarity and consistency. It would also clarify eligible CRA activities.