

From: Jeff Ewing [jewing@hsi-ny.org]
Sent: Wednesday, December 22, 2004 10:19 AM
To: Comments, Regs
Subject: 2004-53 Community Reinvestment Act

Importance: High

I strongly urge you to keep thrifts fully accountable under the Community Reinvestment Act for making investments and providing services. This has been an essential tool for those of us that work in low-income communities. It has encouraged billions of dollars in investments in low-income housing, small businesses, economic development, and historic rehabilitation, as well as such consumer services as convenient bank branches and basic banking accounts. These investments and services benefit everyone by helping improve the economies of low-income neighborhoods. I also oppose the OTS proposal to consider favorably rural community development activities that do not primarily benefit low-income people or communities. This would be in complete contradiction to the purposes of the Community Reinvestment Act. Thank you.

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