

February 6, 2009

Ms. Jennifer J. Johnson
Secretary, Board of Governors
of the Federal Reserve System
20th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20551

RE: *Federal Register* notice of December 15, 2008, for the Federal Reserve System Form FR 2644, Weekly Report of Selected Assets and Liabilities of Domestically Chartered Commercial Banks and U.S. Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banks (OMB Number: 7100-0075)

Dear Ms. Johnson:

The Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) strongly supports the continued collection of data by the Federal Reserve System on Form FR 2644, Weekly Report of Selected Assets and Liabilities of Domestically Chartered Commercial Banks and U.S. Branches and Agencies of Foreign Banks. The data collected on this form are critical to key components of BEA's economic statistics.

Data from this form (as previously collected on forms FR 2416 and FR 2069) are used by the Division of Research and Statistics, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, to estimate consumer credit outstanding at commercial banks. BEA uses the data on consumer credit outstanding and interest rates to prepare monthly, quarterly, and annual estimates of personal interest payments, a component of personal outlays in the national income and product accounts.

Please keep BEA informed about additional modifications to this form. We are particularly interested in any modifications proposed during the form's approval process that would substantially affect our use of these data. For additional information, please contact Ruth Bramblett, Source Data Coordinator, on 202-606-9653 or by e-mail at Ruth.Bramblett@bea.gov. Should you need assistance in justifying this form to the Office of Management and Budget, please do not hesitate to contact BEA.

Sincerely,
/s/
Dennis J. Fixler
Chief Statistician