Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers

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June 4, 2014

Honorable Keith Rothfus

United States Congress

503 Cannon House Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rothfus,

The Pennsylvania Association of Community Bankers (PACB) is supportive of your recent legislation, H.R. 4252 – "The Mutual Bank Choice & Continuity Act of 2014", and your support of mutual institutions throughout Pennsylvania. PACB is the only trade association that exclusively represents the interest of Pennsylvania's nearly 200 community banks.

Mutual banks are well positioned in their communities to meet the financial needs of individuals and small businesses, and do so with a community centric perspective rather than a Wall Street perspective.

The proposed legislation will provide greater flexibility to mutual institutions and ensure their viability and solvency by authorizing the issuance of Mutual Capital Certificates (MCCs) that, by statute, will qualify as Tier 1 common equity capital, and also by allowing for greater flexibility for charter options by permitting a mutual national bank charter. PACB supports both of these important concepts.

We are supportive of efforts to strengthen mutual institutions and protect their viability for years to come and anticipate offering input and guidance that will accomplish that which this legislation intends.

PACB looks forward to working to with you and your staff to advance this legislation.

Sincerely,

Nick DiFrancesco
President and CEO