

View in [web browser](#).

News you can use

Capitol Report

Maine Bankers Association

September 3, 2020

News from Washington (Legislative & Regulatory)

Federal Reserve Issues Beige Book. The following is from the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston (FRBB) summary within the [Beige Book](#), regarding Banking and Finance:

Finance sector contacts generally noted continued weak business and have grown more pessimistic about the near-term outlook. Small to medium-sized banks across the District reported higher demand for consumer loans, residential mortgages, and commercial mortgages, but flat demand for commercial and industrial loans and little change in refinancing activity. Bankers reported tightened credit standards across all loan categories except consumer loans, where standards were unchanged. Banks reported narrowing spreads across all loan categories and lower average deposit rates. Delinquency rates rose across all categories—particularly on residential mortgages—though banks continued to report more lenient policies for delinquent accounts across all categories.

Click [here](#) to go directly to the FRBB summary section.

FDIC Q2 Maine Profile. The FDIC issued its State Profiles for the second quarter of 2020. Click [here](#) to review the Maine data.

Federal Reserve Increases Coin Allocations for Certain Financial Institutions. According to the Fed, “The majority of orders in the Small grouping are below the allocation cap since the August 10 increase. Based on these factors, the Federal Reserve is increasing current coin allocation caps effective August 31 for pennies and quarters in the Medium, Large and Extra-large groupings, and holding the Small grouping at the August 10 allocation level.” Click [here](#) for a copy of the Federal Reserve Notice.

FHFA Delays GSE 50 Basis Points Refi Fee Until Dec. 1. The [FHFA announced](#) last week that they would direct Fannie Mae and Freddie MAC to delay the implementation of their Adverse Market Refinance Fee until December 1, 2020. In addition, they announced that they will exempt refinance loans with loan balances below \$125,000 as well as the Home Ready and Home possible programs. The FHFA explained that the Adverse Market Refinance Fee is necessary due to projected COVID-19 losses of at least \$6 billion. FHFA outlined the following projected losses:

- \$4 billion in loan losses due to projected forbearance defaults;

- \$1 billion in foreclosure moratorium losses; and
- \$1 billion in servicer compensation and other forbearance expenses.

FHFA, FHA, and USDA Extend Foreclosure and Eviction Moratoriums to Year End. Federal agencies extend their moratoriums on foreclosure and evictions through December 31. The following list provides links to announcements from the relevant agencies: [FHFA Announcement](#), [FHA Announcement](#) and the [USDA Announcement](#).

State News

Governor Mills Extends the State of Civil Emergency Yesterday Through to October 1, 2020.

The Governor explained in her press release, “A State of Civil Emergency allows Maine to draw down critical Federal resources and to deploy all available tools to respond to and contain COVID-19. This is Governor Mills’ sixth extension of the State of Civil Emergency. Under Maine law, Proclamations of Civil Emergencies may be issued in thirty-day increments.” Click [here](#) to review State of Civil Emergency Proclamation.

Maine Secretary of State Dunlap Appeals Court Decision Regarding Ranked-Choice Voting.

Maine Superior Court Judge Thomas ruled last week that the SOS improperly invalidated signatures on a petition to overturn the law mandating ranked-choice voting in presidential elections. The ballot layout is currently being done with the people’s veto question included in case Secretary of State Dunlap loses the appeal. The *Portland Press Herald* reported on August 28th, “If the legal status of the court’s decision changes, the staff will pivot to create a different ballot layout if time permits,” according to Kristen Schulze Muszynski, spokeswoman for Dunlap’s office.

REMINDER: The Online Absentee Ballot Request Form for the November 3, 2020 General Election is Now Available. Maine voters may choose to vote absentee, either via mail or in-person at their town or city hall, prior to Election Day. Voters do not need to provide a reason to vote absentee. Click [here](#) for more information about Maine’s Absentee Ballot Request Services.



**COMPLIANCE
ALLIANCE**

A Division of Bankers Alliance

Co-owned by Maine Bankers Association and 28 other state banker associations across the country. Contact C/A’s Membership Development Team at (888) 353-3933 or info@compliancealliance.com for more information about C/A’s products.

Compliance Alliance Feature Question

Question: Does our ATM have to notify a non-customer of the bank that our bank is going to charge a fee and what the fee amount is?

Answer: Yes, this is an explicit requirement under Regulation E, as provided below:

(b) General. An automated teller machine operator that imposes a fee on a consumer for initiating an electronic fund transfer or a balance inquiry must provide a notice that a fee will be imposed for providing electronic fund transfer services or a balance inquiry that discloses the amount of the fee.

(c) Notice requirement. An automated teller machine operator must provide the notice required by paragraph (b) of this section either by showing it on the screen of the automated teller machine or by providing it on paper, before the consumer is committed to paying a fee.

(d) Imposition of fee. An automated teller machine operator may impose a fee on a consumer for initiating an electronic fund transfer or a balance inquiry only if:

(1) The consumer is provided the notice required under paragraph (c) of this section, and

(2) The consumer elects to continue the transaction or inquiry after receiving such notice.

<https://www.consumerfinance.gov/policy-compliance/rulemaking/regulations/1005/16/>

Maine Bankers Association
2 Thomas Drive
Westbrook, ME 04092

207-791-8400 | [Website](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)