



On Wednesday, April 5, 2017, nearly 150 community bankers and friends of community banking gathered in Springfield to meet face-to-face with state legislators, constitutional officers and regulators on legislative issues currently facing the community bank profession. This popular annual event, in its 33rd year, began with the traditional legislative luncheon. IDFPR Secretary Brian Schneider kicked off the event with an informative report on IDFPR and the division of banking. Schneider was followed by the luncheon keynote speaker, political columnist Rich Miller. Miller addressed the current budget crisis and the corresponding political and economic realities.



Kraig Lounsberry, Senior Vice President of Government Relations, then addressed the delegation on several pieces of banking legislation including a CBAI initiative to clarify the law that financial institutions and their employees do not need to be licensed to enroll borrowers in credit insurance policies. He also noted bills CBAI opposes, including a bill to limit ATM fees to one dollar, a measure to require mandatory supplier diversity reporting, and a proposal to create a state-owned bank.

The community banker delegation then departed for the Capitol to reinforce existing relationships and create new ones by engaging in hands-on lobbying of their legislators. Community bankers also attended House and Senate committee hearings and listened to floor debate in the House. While at the Capitol, CBAI bankers held group meetings with Senate President John Cullerton, Republican Leader Christine Radogno, and House Republican Leader Jim Durkin.



The eventful day concluded with a reception at the Pinnacle Club on the 30th floor of the Wyndam Springfield City Centre. This annual event allowed CBAI members to engage legislators, IDFPF regulators, and constitutional officers in a more relaxed atmosphere.



As always, CBAI thanks those who took the time to attend this important event. Your attendance is imperative to making this annual event in Springfield a success. With numerous bills (both good and bad) poised for passage, your voice and your grassroots involvement truly does make a difference.

**CBAI extends a special thanks to our community banking partners who sponsored and attended the Capital Conference. Sponsors included the Federal Home Loan Bank of Chicago, BankOnIT, Community BancService Corporation, IZALE Financial Group, Equias Alliance, and SHAZAM.**



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