



## CBAI's Estes and Schroeder Lobby Reform Bill

CBAI's First Vice Chairman Mikes Estes, The Fisher National Bank, and CBAI's Vice President of Federal Governmental Relations David Schroeder were in Washington this week to lobby the historic financial regulatory reform bill. They were invited by the Independent Community Bankers of America (ICBA) to weigh-in with the members of the Illinois Congressional delegation on several key provisions of special importance to community banks.

Financial regulatory reform legislation (H.R. 4173) was passed by the House of Representatives in December of last year, and in May the Senate passed its version (S. 3217). The two versions contain key differences which are being negotiated by a conference committee of House and Senate members. The committee is expected to craft a final report by the end of next week, and it is anticipated that the final bill will be on the President's desk by the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday.



Estes and Schroeder met with key staffers of the House Subcommittee on Financial Institutions as well as Illinois Congressmen on the conference committee, the House Financial Services Committee, Small Business Committee, and Agriculture Committee. They urged congressmen to **oppose** the Durbin interchange amendment which would be harmful to community financial institutions, to **support** a modification of the Collins amendment to allow Trust Preferred Securities (TRUPS) to continue to be used as capital, and to **support** the \$30 billion House Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (H.R. 5297). This bill would provide much needed capital to community banks to help support their business lending efforts.



A key amendment of the SBLF Act allows for the amortization of commercial real estate loan losses over a period of up to 10 years, a CBAI priority. The merits of this proposal were discussed at each CBAI Group Meeting. This important amendment was approved by the House on a voice vote, and the SBLF Act will be considered in its entirety on Thursday, June 17th.

We appreciate CBAI's First Vice Chairman - Mike Estes taking time away from running his bank to visit Washington and represent the interests of Illinois community banks. Another example of Getting Involved and Making a Difference! Thank you Mike!