



H.R. 2547 – FDIC Enforcement Enhancement Act

Floor Situation

H.R. 2547 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Albio Sires (D-NJ) on May 24, 2007, and was reported, by voice vote, by the Committee on Financial Services on June 26, 2007.

H.R. 2547 is expected to be considered on the floor on July 16, 2007.

**Note: Similar language was included in H.R. 3505, the Financial Services Regulatory Relief Act of 2005, which passed in the House by a vote of 415 -2 ([Roll no. 26](#)), on March 8, 2006, but was not acted on by the Senate.*

Summary

H.R. 2547 grants the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) with the authority to issue cease and desist orders against any person that misuses the FDIC's name or logo to fraudulently purport that they are connected with the FDIC.

The bill provides the FDIC the ability to conduct investigations and to enforce the law in cases of name or logo fraud and sets penalties of up to \$1 million per day that a violation continues.

Background

The FDIC's is "an independent agency created by the Congress that maintains the stability and public confidence in the nation's financial system by insuring deposits, examining and supervising financial institutions, and managing receiverships" ([FDIC website](#)).

H.R. 2547 seeks to expand the FDIC's enforcement authority to protect consumers against identity theft. The FDIC's website informs consumers that "innocent victims of Identity theft sometimes do suffer losses. And if the crime is not detected early, people may face months or years cleaning up the damage to their reputation and credit rating, and sometimes they lose out on loans, jobs and other opportunities in the meantime. The evolution of Identity theft includes the spread of fraudulent "phishing" e-mails. These are unsolicited e-mails purportedly from a legitimate source - perhaps your bank, utility

company, well-known merchants, your Internet service provider or even a trusted government agency such as the FDIC - attempting to trick you into divulging personal information” (FDIC website: [Consumer Alerts - Identity Theft](#)).

Cost

The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimates that enacting H.R. 2547 would have no significant impact on direct spending or revenues.

Staff Contact

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