

# Update

## BankPAC Committee to Allocate Funds

*NBA Requests Your Input on Candidates Before March 24*

Yogi Berra's adage holds true: "It ain't over 'til it's over," – and the political or legislative process is never really over. It just moves from one phase to another. This new phase includes the mad rush of fundraising, with politicians trying to build up their "war chests" to fund their campaigns.

The good news is we have the tools in place to help us meet our political objectives and make the system work. NBA BankPAC is one of these tools and a vital one at that. Your personal or financial institution contribution to the NBA BankPAC has the ability to exert significant influence on the state legislative elections by helping us support candidates who advocate pro-business, pro-banking, and pro-economic growth policies. If you have information regarding these types of candidates, please forward a letter to the BankPAC Committee by emailing Jennifer Heaton at the NBA [jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org](mailto:jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org) to encourage financial support for these individuals. The NBA BankPAC Committee will meet on Friday, March 25, to allocate funds to state and federal candidates during this election cycle.



Hear from NBA Past Chairs, Sen. John Stinner (Gering) and Sen. Matt Williams (Gothenburg), as well as Sen. Rob Clements (Elmwood) on the importance of banker involvement in the legislative process.

[Watch the Video](#)

*"It's critical that our bankers are involved all the time."*

*- Sen. Matt Williams, NBA Past Chair*

## Bank & Banker Milestone Awards Deadline is March 25

Each year at the NBA Annual Convention, the Association recognizes men and women who have served the banking industry for 50 years and banks celebrating 25, 50, 100, 125, or 150 years of providing financial services.

We invite you to submit the names of banks and bankers who are eligible for these awards by Friday, March 25. Download the 2021 Milestone Awards Application form [here](#). For more information, contact Ron Arrigo at the NBA at [ron.arrigo@nebankers.org](mailto:ron.arrigo@nebankers.org). This year's NBA Annual Convention is May 4-6 at the Embassy Suites in La Vista.

## **Take Action: Ask Congress to Temporarily Lower CBLR**

Bankers are encouraged to contact Nebraska's Congressional delegation to urge them to cosponsor the Community Bank Relief Act (S. 3409/H.R. 6145). The legislation would temporarily lower the Community Bank Leverage Ratio (CBLR) to between 8.0% and 8.5%. Bank efforts to respond to the pandemic have led to significant balance sheet increases. This legislation would provide necessary relief from higher capital demands.

[Contact Congress](#)

## **Congress Passes LIBOR Fix, SBA 504 Fund Increase**

Congress passed an omnibus spending measure that includes a provision to address so-called "tough legacy" LIBOR contracts. Under the provisions of the bill, the Federal Reserve would determine replacement rates for LIBOR-referencing contracts that lack fallback language and to provide a safe harbor from litigation over a change in rates after the end of Libor. The bill also increases the authorized level of funds for the Small Business Administration's 504 loan program by \$11 billion. The program was expected to reach the \$7.5 billion cap by early this summer.

[Learn More](#)

## **Raskin Withdraws Fed Nomination**

President Biden's nominee for the vice chairwoman for supervision at the Federal Reserve (Fed), Sarah Bloom Raskin, withdrew her nomination. Her announcement comes after Sen. Jo Manchin (D-W.Va.) announced his opposition. Four other nominations are still awaiting a vote in the Senate Banking Committee, Jerome Powell for chairman, Lael Brainard for vice chair and Lisa Cook and Philip Jefferson for governors.

## **ABA Urges Opposition to Credit Union Charter Legislation**

In a letter to the House Financial Services Committee, the American Bankers Association (ABA) shared its opposition to the Expanding Financial Access for Underserved Communities Act. The ABA stated, "this legislation purports to be about expanding service to at-risk communities, but in reality it only enables unaccountable out-of-market expansion for credit unions."

[Read the Letter](#)

## **FDIC Flood Insurance Webinar**

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation's (FDIC) Kansas City Regional Office is hosting a training event that provides an overview of the flood insurance regulation on April 11, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. CDT. This one-hour discussion will briefly address the requirements for lending institutions, including specific requirements for multiple structures, contents coverage, and cross-collateralization. Registration is not required for this event and it will not be recorded. The meeting link will not work until the day of the event.

[Attend the Webinar](#)

# Upcoming Events

- **March 29-30** – Tri-State Human Resources Conference, Overland Park, KS
- **April 5-6** – Spring Agri-Business Conference, Kearney, NE
- **April 12** – Cybersecurity Virtual Workshop
- **April 18** – Demystifying Cryptocurrency: Part 3 – The Use Case for Cryptocurrency in Banking
- **May 4-6** – NBA Annual Convention, La Vista

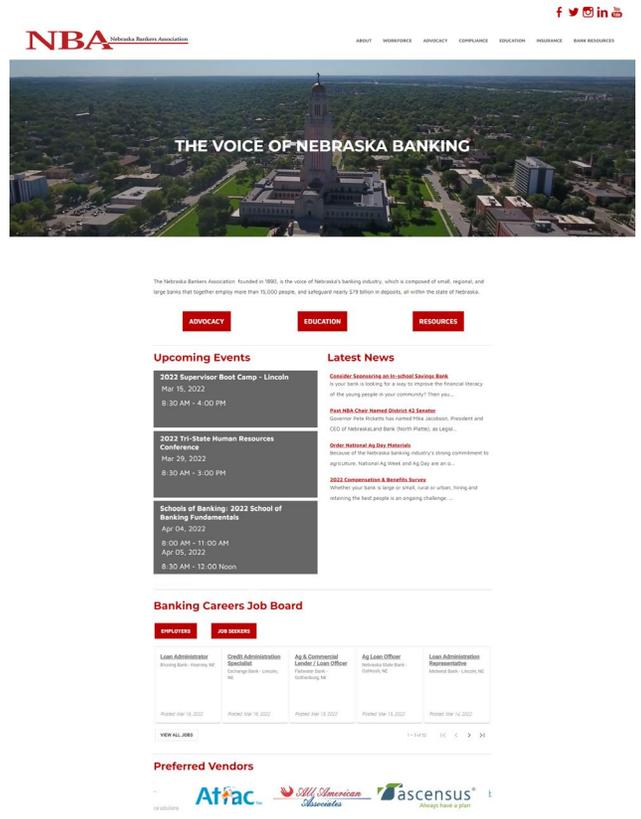
To register and see the complete event schedule, visit the [NBA Event Calendar](#).

# New NBA Website Launches Monday

The new NBA website launches Monday, March 21. It features an updated look, reorganized navigation and new search capabilities. A new member portal is also included in the website enhancements.

The weekly Update newsletter and the Legislative and Compliance Updates are also getting a makeover which includes mobile-friendly improvements.

We are excited to introduce these changes to create a better digital experience for the NBA members. If you have feedback or questions about the changes, send an email to [nbacommunications@nebankers.org](mailto:nbacommunications@nebankers.org).



A preview of the new NBA website (above) and member portal (left)

# Donate Items for the BankPAC Silent Auction

See the current list of donations [here](#). If you have an item(s) to [donate](#) or have questions about the NBA's State BankPAC Silent Auction, contact Jennifer Heaton at the NBA at [jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org](mailto:jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org) or 402-474-1555.

## Help Delinquent Customers with the Nebraska Homeowner Assistance Fund

Mortgage assistance is now available for Nebraskans. Homeowners can apply at [nebraskahaf.com](https://nebraskahaf.com) or by calling 1-844-565-7146. The Nebraska Finance Authority is assisting the State of Nebraska with the administration of the Nebraska Homeowner Assistance Fund (NHAF). Funding for the NHAF program is provided by the Homeowner Assistance Fund that was established by the U.S. Department of Treasury as part of the congressional American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA).

The NHAF program can assist homeowners at or below 100% of the Area Median Income who have experienced a COVID-19 related financial hardship that occurred on or after January 21, 2020. NHAF can help homeowners with past due mortgage payments, property taxes, insurance and/or homeowner association dues, as well as clearing liens from a homeowner's property. Payments go directly to the loan servicer or vendor.

Has your institution signed up to participate in the program? To sign up to receive payments for your borrowers through the NHAF program or for any other questions, please direct your email to [HAFservicer@nifa.org](mailto:HAFservicer@nifa.org).

## Review Alliance

Did you know that ACH Originator Agreements should be reviewed annually?

- Annual reviews help ensure that signers and exposure limits are correct.
- Customer needs change over time and a consistent review plan will help avoid limit overages.

Review Alliance is an independent group of compliance specialists offering banks deep-dive audits of their existing transactions, recommendations about program enhancements or guidance on future safety and soundness. In 2020, we added Virtual Compliance Officer – a new shared-service model using bank-dedicated compliance officers perfect for monitoring and guiding your bank remotely. To learn how to put them to work for your bank, contact Jennifer Heaton at the NBA at [jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org](mailto:jennifer.heaton@nebankers.org) or call 402-474-1555.

## Compliance Alliance

**Q:** If the bank does not use any type of credit report when denying deposit accounts, are we required to provide an adverse action notice?

**A:** If the bank did not use any type of credit report to deny the deposit account application, then an adverse action notice would not be required under the Fair Credit Opportunity Act or under Regulation B, assuming no extension of credit is involved. However, it's important to consider that notice may still be required under the bank's internal policy, so the bank would want to check there as well and be consistent with what it has done in similar situations in the past.

Compliance Alliance offers a comprehensive suite of compliance management solutions. To learn how to put them to work for your bank, call (888) 353-3933 or email [info@compliancealliance.com](mailto:info@compliancealliance.com) and ask for our Membership Team.