



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Illinois Banks Addressing the Needs of Their Communities During Coronavirus (COVID-19) Pandemic

SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS – The Illinois Bankers Association (IBA) is working closely with Illinois' 474 banks and their 105,000 employees to address the needs of bank customers and communities during the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

Illinois financial institutions safeguard \$482 billion in customer deposits. The industry is strong, well-capitalized and stands ready to help the citizens of Illinois weather the uncertainty of the current pandemic by providing critical and uninterrupted financial services. The banking industry is highly regulated, and state and federal regulations require that financial institutions are prepared for situations, like pandemics, with proven and tested continuity plans and processes. Illinois financial institutions are true leaders and cornerstones of our communities. They continue to provide stability, comfort and calm, while ensuring their communities the delivery of important financial services such as access to money and availability to credit.

As of this time, many Illinois banks are choosing to close the lobbies of their facilities, increasing the number of operating hours for drive-up windows, offering work-from-home options, asking their customers to use mobile banking and ATMs, and asking those who need to come into a bank -- for example, to access a safe deposit box -- to set up an appointment. Some banks also are offering special loan programs and other ways of helping their communities weather the storm. Banks that are offering special programs or initiatives and share the information with the Illinois Bankers Association, will be included on the IBA's Coronavirus Resource webpage at www.ilbanker.com/About-Us/Our-News/post/resources .

Illinois Bankers Association

Illinois Bankers Association President and CEO Linda Koch said, “The financial industry is strong and stands ready to help their communities in any way they can. Customers should watch for announcements from their bank and check their financial institution’s website for updates as the situation evolves. We at the IBA are helping Illinois banks stay informed with important updates from their banking regulators, through timely webinars, regular communications and a Coronavirus resource webpage that is being updated daily. These challenging times also mean that cyber criminals will be active and trying to take advantage of unsuspecting consumers. We encourage all consumers to be ultra-vigilant for potential cyberattacks.”

The Illinois Bankers Association is a full-service trade association dedicated to advancing a positive business climate for the entire banking industry and the communities we serve. Founded in 1891, the IBA brings together state and national banks and savings banks of all sizes in Illinois. Collectively, the IBA represents nearly 90% of the assets of the Illinois banking industry, which employs more than 105,000 men and women in over 5,000 offices across the state.