

cept that the pricing principles shall give due regard to competitive factors and the provision of an adequate level of such services nationwide.

(4) Interest on items credited prior to collection shall be charged at the current rate applicable in the market for Federal funds.

**(d) Budgetary consequences of decline in volume of services**

The Board shall require reductions in the operating budgets of the Federal Reserve banks commensurate with any actual or projected decline in the volume of services to be provided by such banks. The full amount of any savings so realized shall be paid into the United States Treasury.

**(e) Parity in clearing**

All depository institutions, as defined in section 461(b)(1) of this title, may receive for deposit and as deposits any evidences of transaction accounts, as defined by section 461(b)(1) of this title from other depository institutions, as defined in section 461(b)(1) of this title or from any office of any Federal Reserve bank without regard to any Federal or State law restricting the number or the physical location or locations of such depository institutions.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, §11A, as added Pub. L. 96-221, title I, §107, Mar. 31, 1980, 94 Stat. 140; amended Pub. L. 100-86, title VI, §612(a), Aug. 10, 1987, 101 Stat. 652.)

AMENDMENTS

1987—Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 100-86 added subsec. (e).

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1987 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 100-86, title VI, §612(b), Aug. 10, 1987, 101 Stat. 652, provided that: "The amendment made by subsection (a) [amending this section] shall take effect on the date of enactment of this title [Aug. 10, 1987]."

EFFECTIVE DATE

Section effective on first day of sixth month which begins after Mar. 31, 1980, see section 108 of Pub. L. 96-221, set out as an Effective Date of 1980 Amendment note under section 248 of this title.

**§ 248b. Annual independent audits of Federal reserve banks and Board**

The Board shall order an annual independent audit of the financial statements of each Federal reserve bank and the Board.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, §11B, as added Pub. L. 106-102, title VII, §726, Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1475.)

**§ 249. Repealed. Pub. L. 94-412, title V, § 501(c), Sept. 14, 1976, 90 Stat. 1258**

Section, act Aug. 8, 1947, ch. 517, 61 Stat. 921, dealt with regulation of consumer credit.

SAVINGS PROVISION

Repeal by Pub. L. 94-412 not to affect any action taken or proceeding pending at the time of repeal, see section 501(h) of Pub. L. 94-412, set out as a note under section 1601 of Title 50, War and National Defense.

**§ 250. Independence of financial regulatory agencies**

No officer or agency of the United States shall have any authority to require the Securities and

Exchange Commission, the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency, or the National Credit Union Administration to submit legislative recommendations, or testimony, or comments on legislation, to any officer or agency of the United States for approval, comments, or review, prior to the submission of such recommendations, testimony, or comments to the Congress if such recommendations, testimony, or comments to the Congress include a statement indicating that the views expressed therein are those of the agency submitting them and do not necessarily represent the views of the President.

(Pub. L. 93-495, title I, §111, Oct. 28, 1974, 88 Stat. 1506; Pub. L. 103-325, title III, §331(a), Sept. 23, 1994, 108 Stat. 2232; Pub. L. 106-102, title VI, §606(e)(2), Nov. 12, 1999, 113 Stat. 1455; Pub. L. 110-289, div. A, title I, §1102(b), July 30, 2008, 122 Stat. 2664.)

CODIFICATION

Section was not enacted as part of the Federal Reserve Act which comprises this chapter.

AMENDMENTS

2008—Pub. L. 110-289 substituted "the Director of the Federal Housing Finance Agency" for "the Federal Housing Finance Board".

1999—Pub. L. 106-102 substituted "Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the Federal Housing Finance Board," for "Federal Home Loan Bank Board,".

1994—Pub. L. 103-325 inserted "the Comptroller of the Currency," after "Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation,".

**§ 251. Repealed. Pub. L. 104-208, div. A, title II, § 2224(a), Sept. 30, 1996, 110 Stat. 3009-415**

Section, Pub. L. 102-242, title IV, §477, Dec. 19, 1991, 105 Stat. 2387; Pub. L. 102-550, title XVI, §1606(i)(3), Oct. 28, 1992, 106 Stat. 4089, required Board of Governors of Federal Reserve System to collect and publish information on availability of credit to small businesses.

**§ 252. Credit availability assessment**

**(a) Study**

**(1) In general**

Not later than 12 months after September 30, 1996, and once every 60 months thereafter, the Board, in consultation with the Director of the Office of Thrift Supervision, the Comptroller of the Currency, the Board of Directors of the Corporation, the Administrator of the National Credit Union Administration, the Administrator of the Small Business Administration, and the Secretary of Commerce, shall conduct a study and submit a report to the Congress detailing the extent of small business lending by all creditors.

**(2) Contents of study**

The study required under paragraph (1) shall identify, to the extent practicable, those factors which provide policymakers with insights into the small business credit market, including—

(A) the demand for small business credit, including consideration of the impact of economic cycles on the levels of such demand;