

§ 248-1. Rules and regulations for transfer of funds and charges therefor among banks; clearing houses

The Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System shall make and promulgate from time to time regulations governing the transfer of funds and charges therefor among Federal reserve banks and their branches, and may at its discretion exercise the functions of a clearing house for such Federal reserve banks, or may designate a Federal reserve bank to exercise such functions, and may also require each such bank to exercise the functions of a clearing house for depository institutions.

(Dec. 23, 1913, ch. 6, §16 (par.), 38 Stat. 268; Aug. 23, 1935, ch. 614, §203(a), 49 Stat. 704; Pub. L. 96-221, title I, §105(d), Mar. 31, 1980, 94 Stat. 140.)

Editorial Notes

CODIFICATION

Section is comprised of the thirteenth par. (formerly the fourteenth par.) of section 16 of act Dec. 23, 1913, which was formerly classified to section 248(o) of this title. For classification to this title of other pars. of section 16, see Codification note set out under section 411 of this title.

AMENDMENTS

1980—Pub. L. 96-221, which directed amendment of “[t]he fourteenth paragraph of section 16 of the Federal Reserve Act (12 U.S.C. 248(o))” by substituting “depository institutions” for “its member banks”, was executed by making the substitution in this section to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

CHANGE OF NAME

Section 203(a) of act Aug. 23, 1935, changed the name of the Federal Reserve Board to Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1980 AMENDMENT

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

§ 248a. Pricing of services

(a) Publication of pricing principles and proposed schedule of fees; effective date of schedule of fees

Not later than the first day of the sixth month after March 31, 1980, the Board shall publish for public comment a set of pricing principles in accordance with this section and a proposed schedule of fees based upon those principles for Federal Reserve bank services to depository institutions, and not later than the first day of the eighteenth month after March 31, 1980, the Board shall begin to put into effect a schedule of fees for such services which is based on those principles.

(b) Covered services

The services which shall be covered by the schedule of fees under subsection (a) are—

- (1) currency and coin services;
- (2) check clearing and collection services;
- (3) wire transfer services;
- (4) automated clearinghouse services;

- (5) settlement services;
- (6) securities safekeeping services;
- (7) Federal Reserve float; and
- (8) any new services which the Federal Reserve System offers, including but not limited to payment services to effectuate the electronic transfer of funds.

(c) Criteria applicable

The schedule of fees prescribed pursuant to this section shall be based on the following principles:

(1) All Federal Reserve bank services covered by the fee schedule shall be priced explicitly.

(2) All Federal Reserve bank services covered by the fee schedule shall be available to nonmember depository institutions and such services shall be priced at the same fee schedule applicable to member banks, except that nonmembers shall be subject to any other terms, including a requirement of balances sufficient for clearing purposes, that the Board may determine are applicable to member banks.

(3) Over the long run, fees shall be established on the basis of all direct and indirect costs actually incurred in providing the Federal Reserve services priced, including interest on items credited prior to actual collection, overhead, and an allocation of imputed costs which takes into account the taxes that would have been paid and the return on capital that would have been provided had the services been furnished by a private business firm, except 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.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

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

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

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.)

Editorial Notes

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;

(B) the availability of credit to small businesses;

(C) the range of credit options available to small businesses, such as those available from insured depository institutions and other providers of credit;

(D) the types of credit products used to finance small business operations, including the use of traditional loans, leases, lines of credit, home equity loans, credit cards, and other sources of financing;

(E) the credit needs of small businesses, including, if appropriate, the extent to which such needs differ, based upon product type, size of business, cash flow requirements, characteristics of ownership or investors, or other aspects of such business;

(F) the types of risks to creditors in providing credit to small businesses; and

(G) such other factors as the Board deems appropriate.

(b) Use of existing data

The studies required by this section shall not increase the regulatory or paperwork burden on regulated financial institutions, other sources of small business credit, or small businesses.