

Anited States House of Representatives One Hundred Eighteenth Congress Committee on Anancial Services 2129 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

August 14, 2024

The Honorable Martin J. Gruenberg Chairman Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation 1700 G Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20552

Dear Chairman Gruenberg:

We write to follow up on our multiple requests for your immediate resignation. Your unwillingness to leave the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) continues to erode the credibility and independence of the agency you are tasked to protect. The July 30, 2024 FDIC Board meeting is the clearest example to date of your efforts to politicize the FDIC.

At your direction, a long list of new matters was considered at the July 30th Board meeting, the majority of which were approved along partisan lines. One article described the policy dump as being "aimed at undoing Trump-era deregulation in a marathon board meeting." It further described the meeting as "the most policy-packed FDIC board meeting we've seen this administration—certainly the longest we can recall."

These reports only underscore your handiwork. Rather than work in a bipartisan manner to ensure broadly supported improvements to FDIC policies, regulations, and rules, you continue to pursue more partisan policies to the detriment of the FDIC's independence. Unfortunately for FDIC regulated banks, these drastic policy swings create uncertainty and needless expenses.

Moreover, it is readily apparent that Democrat-appointed FDIC Board members only are willing to support your progressive agenda. For example, the Board approved changes to the chartering process for industrial banks (ILCs), pulled back changes for brokered deposits for partisan reasons, and approved a power-grab effort by Director Chopra, which was previously abandoned, to implement new oversight over asset managers. What is even more egregious is the fact that the 3-2 margins on the partisan voting only exist through the support of Director Hsu, who remains only an Acting Comptroller of the Currency, serving for over three years despite never being nominated by the President nor confirmed by the Senate.

¹ Brendan Pederson, "Exit or no, Gruenberg fires a policy bazooka," Punchbowl News, July 30, 2024, https://punchbowl.news/article/finance/economy/martin-gruenberg-fdic-trump-era-deregulation.

² *Id*.

Your continued efforts to push through partisan policymaking does a disservice not only to the FDIC, but the member institutions and the customers it serves. Moreover, it further confirms that your commitment to improving the FDIC's general toxic culture was merely a thinly veiled effort to keep power.

We call upon you to do the right thing by resigning immediately. It is only after you vacate the chairmanship that the FDIC can begin to resurrect any vestige of independence that remains following your tenure.

If, however, you persist in your recalcitrance and disdain toward Congress, the FDIC, and the American people, we ask that you appear before the Committee on September 19, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. to explain yourself and your continued partisan policymaking efforts.

Sincerely,

Patrick McHenry

Chairman

French Hill Vice Chairman

Frank Lucas

Member of Congress

Pete Sessions

Member of Congress

Bill Posey

Member of Congress

Blaine Luetkemeyer Member of Congress

Bill Huizenga

Member of Congress

Ann Wagner

Member of Congress

Andy Barr

Member of Congress

Roger Williams

Member of Congress

Barry Loudermilk Tom Emmer Member of Congress Member of Congress Warren Davidson Member of Congress Member of Congress Bryan Steil Member of Congress Member of Congress Ralph Norman William Timmons Member of Congress Member of Congress Scott Fitzgerald Dan Meuser Member of Congress Member of Congress Andrew R. Garbarino Young Kim Member of Congress Member of Congress Byron Donalds Member of Congress Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Member of Congress

THE DE Monica De La Cruz Member of Congress

Erin Houchin

Member of Congress

Andy Ogles
Member of Congress