check cashing account at an insured depository institution (hereafter in this section referred to as the ‘unbanked’) into the conventional finance system.’’

Section 7 of the Reform Act further instructs the FDIC to consider several factors in its conduct of the surveys, including: “what cultural, language and identification issues as well as transaction costs appear to most prevent ‘unbanked’ individuals from establishing conventional accounts”.

The consumer account-focused questions are designed to provide a factual basis for examining identification issues and transaction costs related to establishing mainstream transaction accounts at banks. These consumer account-focused questions have been added to the Small Business Lending Survey in lieu of fielding a separate second survey to respond to the Congressional mandate. The consolidation of these efforts is expected to reduce the burden on banks relative to fielding two separate surveys.

Request for Comment

Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the FDIC’s functions, including whether the information has practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the estimates of the burden of the information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

The FDIC will consider all comments to determine the extent to which the information collection should be modified prior to submission to OMB for review and approval. After the comment period closes, comments will be summarized and/or included in the FDIC's request to OMB for approval of the collection. All comments will become a matter of public record.

Dated at Washington, DC, this 2nd day of October, 2015.

Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Robert E. Feldman,
Executive Secretary.

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