

Alfred M. Pollard, Esq., General Counsel Attention: Comments/RIN 2590-AA37 Federal Housing Finance Agency, Fourth Floor 400 Seventh Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20024

Re: Notice of Proposed Rulemaking and Request for Comments – Members of Federal Home Loan Banks (RIN 2590–AA39)

### Dear Mr. Pollard:

On behalf of Fulton Financial Corporation, I am writing to express my concerns about the notice of proposed rulemaking. While we appreciate your apparent desire to provide for a strong Federal Home Loan Bank System that supports housing, we believe the rule undermines the goal of the proposal.

- 1. It seems this rule has the potential to restrict access to liquidity at the exact point in time when more, not less, liquidity is needed in a recovering market. While many depository institutions are flush with deposits at the current time, we believe this may change when interest rates inevitably rise. Please note the FHLBanks have been a vital source of liquidity for Fulton Financial through all economic cycles.
- Our regulator requires a reliable source of contingent liquidity. For us, this has always been
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- Congress has a clear record of addressing FHLBank membership, in each case expanding membership and mission, as well as expanding access to FHLBank programs and products.
- 4. The Federal Housing Finance Agency's (FHFA) proposed membership rule would effectively amend current law by:
  - a. Creating a new ongoing 1% (or higher 2-5%) long-term mortgage assets test.
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- c. Redefining what an insurance company is for purposes of FHLBank membership (the rule would exclude captive insurance companies from being permitted to become an FHLBank member and terminate the membership, over five years, of existing captive insurance company members).
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Respectfully,

James P. Radick, Treasurer Fulton Financial Corporation



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James P. Radick, Treasurer

Fulton Financial Corporation
One Penn Square

Lancaster, PA 17602



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# LISTENING IS JUST THE BEGINNING.®

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