

Union Calendar No. 453

119TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6546

[Report No. 119–528]

To require the Inspector General of each Federal prudential regulator to carry out a review every 3 years of the regulator's handling of insured depository institution merger applications, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

DECEMBER 9, 2025

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Additional sponsors: Mr. DAVIDSON and Mr. LAWLER

FEBRUARY 25, 2026

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on December 9, 2025]

A BILL

To require the Inspector General of each Federal prudential regulator to carry out a review every 3 years of the regulator's handling of insured depository institution merger applications, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
 2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 *This Act may be cited as the “Merger Process Review*
 5 *Act”.*

6 **SEC. 2. INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW OF THE HANDLING**
 7 **OF INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION**
 8 **MERGER APPLICATIONS.**

9 *(a) REVIEW.—Not later than 1 year after the date of*
 10 *enactment of this Act, and every 3 years thereafter, the In-*
 11 *spector General of each Federal depository institution regu-*
 12 *latory agency shall review the Federal depository institu-*
 13 *tion regulatory agency’s merger review procedures, includ-*
 14 *ing record of timeliness and efficiency in reviewing and act-*
 15 *ing upon insured depository institution merger applica-*
 16 *tions. The review shall—*

17 *(1) include an evaluation of relevant quantifi-*
 18 *able metrics, including mean and median application*
 19 *processing times;*

20 *(2) identify sources of delay that may hinder the*
 21 *timely consummation of proposals that meet the rel-*
 22 *evant statutory factors;*

23 *(3) consider the benefits and risks of utilizing*
 24 *different merger review approaches and procedures in*
 25 *compliance with the law;*

1 (4) include an evaluation of the impact of such
2 merger review procedures and resulting approved
3 mergers on safety and soundness, financial stability,
4 competition, and the availability of financial prod-
5 ucts and services offered by insured depository insti-
6 tutions; and

7 (5) include specific recommendations to improve
8 the merger review process, including timeliness and
9 efficiency of application processing, consistent with
10 the Federal depository institution regulatory agency's
11 statutory responsibilities.

12 (b) *REPORT.*—Each Inspector General described under
13 subsection (a) shall, at the conclusion of each review re-
14 quired under subsection (a), issue a report to Congress con-
15 taining all findings and determinations made in carrying
16 out the review, and publish such report online.

17 (c) *AGENCY RESPONSE.*—In response to each report
18 issued to Congress under subsection (a), the appropriate
19 Federal depository institution regulatory agency shall sub-
20 mit to Congress and publish online a written response, in-
21 cluding a plan to implement the recommendations in the
22 report, to the extent such implementation is appropriate.

23 (d) *DEFINITIONS.*—In this section:

24 (1) *APPLICATION.*—The term “application”
25 means an application, notice, or other similar request

1 *for permission submitted to a Federal depository in-*
2 *stitution regulatory agency.*

3 (2) *FEDERAL DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION REGU-*
4 *LATORY AGENCY.—The term “Federal depository in-*
5 *stitution regulatory agency” means the Board of Gov-*
6 *ernors of the Federal Reserve System, the Comptroller*
7 *of the Currency, the Federal Deposit Insurance Cor-*
8 *poration, and the National Credit Union Administra-*
9 *tion Board.*

10 (3) *INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION.—The*
11 *term “insured depository institution”—*

12 (A) *has the meaning given that term in sec-*
13 *tion 3 of the Federal Deposit Insurance Act (12*
14 *U.S.C. 1813); and*

15 (B) *means an insured credit union, as de-*
16 *finied in section 101 of the Federal Credit Union*
17 *Act (12 U.S.C. 1752).*

18 (4) *INSURED DEPOSITORY INSTITUTION MERGER*
19 *APPLICATION.—The term “insured depository institu-*
20 *tion merger application” means an application with*
21 *respect to the acquisition of an insured depository in-*
22 *stitution, its equity interests, its assets, or its deposits*
23 *under—*

24 (A) *section 10(e) of the Home Owners’ Loan*
25 *Act (12 U.S.C. 1467a(e));*

1 *(B) section 205(b) of the Federal Credit*
2 *Union Act (12 U.S.C. 1785(b));*

3 *(C) section 7(j) of the Federal Deposit In-*
4 *surance Act (12 U.S.C. 1817(j));*

5 *(D) section 18(c)(2) of the Federal Deposit*
6 *Insurance Act (12 U.S.C. 1828(c)(2));*

7 *(E) section 3 of the Bank Holding Com-*
8 *pany Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1842); and*

9 *(F) section 4 of the Bank Holding Company*
10 *Act of 1956 (12 U.S.C. 1843).*

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