

## S 3937

### Promoting Access to Capital in Underbanked Communities Act

**Congress:** 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

**Chamber:** Senate

**Policy Area:** Finance and Financial Sector

**Introduced:** Mar 14, 2024

**Current Status:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

**Latest Action:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. (Mar 14, 2024)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/3937>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Sen. Hyde-Smith, Cindy [R-MS]

**Party:** Republican • **State:** MS • **Chamber:** Senate

## Cosponsors

No cosponsors are listed for this bill.

## Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	Mar 14, 2024

## Subjects & Policy Tags

### Policy Area:

Finance and Financial Sector

## Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 758	Related bill	Dec 3, 2024: Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 649.

## **Promoting Access to Capital in Underbanked Communities Act**

This bill eliminates and reduces certain requirements applicable to new financial institutions, certain rural community banks, and federal savings associations.

Under the bill, federal banking agencies must issue rules allowing new financial institutions three years to meet capital requirements. During this period, a financial institution may request to deviate from an approved business plan and the appropriate agency has 30 days to approve or deny the request.

In addition, the community bank leverage ratio—a way of evaluating debt levels—is reduced for certain rural community banks. Specifically, new rural community banks must have a ratio of 8%, with a three-year phase-in of the rate. Currently, the ratio is 9%.

Finally, the bill removes certain restrictions to allow federal savings associations to invest in, sell, or otherwise deal in agricultural loans.

### **Actions Timeline**

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- **Mar 14, 2024:** Introduced in Senate
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