

Press Coverage | March 28, 2024

# FDIC's Bank Merger Review Overhaul to Have 'Chilling' Effect on Deal Activity

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James Stevens, co-leader of Troutman Pepper's Financial Services Industry Group, was quoted in the March 28, 2024 *S&P Global Market Intelligence* article, "[FDIC's Bank Merger Review Overhaul to Have 'Chilling' Effect on Deal Activity.](#)"

"It will both slow transaction approval down and potentially reduce the number of transactions that even get proposed," said James Stevens, partner and co-leader of Troutman Pepper Hamilton Sanders LLP's Financial Services Industry Group. The FDIC's new document "doesn't give any clarity on anything," Stevens said in an interview.

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The proposal could have a further-reaching impact and "trickle all the way down" to deals resulting in institutions with just \$10 billion in assets, according to Stevens.

"It adds more uncertainty, not less, and it demonstrates a negative attitude towards those transactions that will, on the margins, cause fewer of them to be proposed," Stevens said.

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