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Comments:

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I favor keeping the Durbin Amendment, as stated within the Dodd-Frank Act. The reasons are fundamental.

1 - This act was supported by almost 20 Republican US Senators and was one of the clearest mandates the people gave regarding financial reform. It was an accomplishment of representation that should not be tampered with, for this reason alone.

2 - Retail merchants are highly unlikely to discriminate among debit card sponsors. Higher small bank fees can be expected to continue on this basis.

3 - Having to raise fees should be welcomed, not feared. Good capitalism comes from competing for customers on price and quality of service. These concepts are becoming more foreign to a banking establishment that has achieved greater value for their shareholders by innovating revenue streams that harm consumers. Egregious debit card fees are just one example.

Thank you,  
Chris Woodward, CFA