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**VBA Endorses Digital Lending Solution by Akouba**

*Association recommends leading-edge platform for small business loans  
for community and regional banks*

Glen Allen, Virginia - The Virginia Bankers Association (VBA) has endorsed the digital lending solution provided by Akouba, which offers community and regional banks an origination and underwriting platform for small business loans. VBA members will receive preferred pricing.

Akouba's platform, the first and only digital lending solution to be endorsed by both the American Bankers Association – through its subsidiary the Corporation for American Banking and a state association, is transforming the way banks help business owners through a cloud-based, white-labeled technology that provides business lending quickly, accurately and profitably. Akouba's business lending platform provides banks with leading edge technology that integrates the bank's own unique credit policies into a convenient, online process, from application to documentation, all the way to closing and funding. The bank uses its own credit policies, originates its own loans and owns the entire brand and customer relationship.

"Helping small businesses have access to capital is the bedrock of community and regional banking," said Matthew Bruning, senior vice president of the VBA. "The loan application and decision-making process screams for greater efficiencies of time and costs in order to best serve bank customers. In selecting Akouba as our endorsed provider, we are bringing an effective and reliable platform to Virginia banks so they can leverage the latest technology, make the lending process simple and profitable and deliver a great experience for the customer and banker."

"Banks today need to further embrace technology when it relates to interacting with their customers. Our platform provides the tools that allow banks to focus on meaningful customer relationships and automate time-consuming tasks that can get in the way," said Chris Rentner, CEO, Akouba. "The VBA's endorsement of Akouba's technology platform proves bankers in Virginia are committed to leading the way when it comes to providing the best technology to their customers."

Together, the VBA and the ABA partnered to endorse Akouba on a national and state-by-state level, providing banks extensive due diligence and careful evaluation based on a number of factors including Akouba's ability to assess and manage risk as well as comply with the FDIC's proposed guidance for third-party lending to address common issues in the industry.

Akouba's secure, cloud-based platform helps financial institutions reduce end-to-end time, increase profits and give both customers and staff a better user experience. The platform is seamlessly and easily integrated into existing bank workflows. By utilizing a digital eco-system, Akouba allows banks to minimize manual, labor-intensive tasks, and maximize the profitability of small business lending by reducing cost. Most importantly, it allows banks to focus on what truly matters; the customer relationship. Akouba is committed to enhancing the customer experience and generating long-term loyalty for financial institutions.

To learn more about Akouba's digital lending solution, VBA will offer a [free webinar](#) on Thursday, September 21 at 2:00 p.m. EST. For more information, visit <http://www.vabankers.org/akouba>.

***About Virginia Bankers Association***

*Established in 1893, the Virginia Bankers Association is the unified voice for commercial and savings banks in Virginia. VBA is dedicated to providing their member banks with quality products and services that can save their member banks time, money and resources, as well as enhance profitability. With the guidance of the VBA MSI Board of Directors, the VBA completes a stringent, ongoing due diligence review of each endorsed provider to ensure that they are offering high value, dependable solutions that their members can count on.*

***About Akouba***

*Akouba provides cloud-based, white-labeled technology that delivers an end-to-end, omni-channel business lending platform. Akouba Now, a digital onboarding software, leverages leading edge technology and integrations to deliver a great customer and banker experience in a way that enables banks to execute digital processes quickly, efficiently, and profitably.*

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