

FHA has helped 37 million Americans buy homes since 1934, and is filling a vital role in the nation's economy by providing crucial mortgage insurance at a time when the private sector has pulled back from the mortgage market. Because of the "FHA Reform Act of 2010," FHA will be able to put itself on strong financial footing so that it can continue providing American families with the necessary financial backing to become home owners—the foundation of the American dream.

H.R. 5072 also requires the FHA to improve its internal reporting systems to better manage risk and to provide transparent data to the public and Congress. This includes better monitoring of early defaults and claims, tracking mortgage information by loan servicer, and requiring a Government Accountability Office study on FHA. These kinds of reforms will make the FHA a more efficient, cost-effective, and sustainable program in the long run, and hopefully allow more families to become homeowners.

The bill is supported by a range of organizations including the National Urban League, the National Association of Realtors, the National Council of La Raza, the Mortgage Bankers Association, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, and the National Association of Home Builders.

I encourage my colleagues to support the bill.

CELEBRATING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE WEST MONROE HIGH SCHOOL CHORAL PROGRAM

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today with tremendous pride and pleasure to pay tribute to the achievements of the West Monroe High School Choral program.

Through the years, they have held numerous concerts at Carnegie Hall, performed Mozart's Coronation Mass in Salzburg and Vienna, Austria, and sang the mass at St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Italy. The many recognitions they have received are the result of long hours of practice, and dedication to excellence by the students, faculty and their families.

The West Monroe High School Choir has once again been honored as they have been asked to represent Louisiana at the 2010 American Celebration of Music in France and Great Britain. This tour will provide an once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for our young students to perform at various venues throughout Europe. The trip's highlights include performances at The Jesuit Church in Lucerne, Switzerland, Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris, France, The American Cemetery in Normandy Beach, France, and St. Paul's Cathedral in London, England.

The European concert tour will take place from May 30, 2010 to June 10, 2010, and will include 82 singers and 40 chaperones. Under the leadership of Greg A. Oden, Director, and Vickie Freeman, Assistant Director, the students have passionately worked through the entire year to raise the necessary funds to achieve this aspiration.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the wonderful achievements

of the West Monroe High School Choir. The many honors they have received are the result of long hours of practice, and dedication to excellence by the students, faculty and their families. They have truly made me and their community proud.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF DR. TILLER

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the murder of Dr. Tiller.

Dr. Tiller was a respected physician who dedicated his life to providing women with safe access to abortion care, and who was shot and killed while attending his church in Kansas.

Sadly, the experience of Dr. Tiller is not unique—since 1993, eight clinic workers have been murdered in the U.S.

A physician in my district recently shared with me her own account of a scared 13-year-old who came into the clinic with her mother. The girl had been sexually assaulted by a 19-year-old and needed an abortion.

The physician was able to help that young girl, but she confided her fear that someday she might not be able to aid young women who had no chance to prevent pregnancy.

In the end, she said it's her patients who reconfirm her "heartfelt desire to continue to provide."

As President Obama said, no one is pro-abortion, but when faced with such a gut-wrenching decision, a woman deserves to have a physician like Dr. Tiller to provide her with safe, quality care.

COMMEMORATING THE ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE MURDER OF DR. GEORGE TILLER

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the one-year anniversary of the murder of Dr. George Tiller who was killed in his church in Wichita, Kansas on May 31, 2009. Dr. Tiller was a dedicated physician, and his murder was a deplorable act of violence that violated the sanctity of his place of worship. Dr. Tiller's shooting shattered the peace of his church, and added to an all too long list of past tragedies in places of worship. In the past ten years, there have been numerous instances of gun related violence in our places of worship which resulted in 32 deaths and 26 injuries. These sanctuaries are meant to be peaceful refuges for those who seek serenity in times of turmoil and safety in times of hostility. On this anniversary of Dr. Tiller's murder, we must remember and commit to our country's tradition of cooperation and understanding. We must reaffirm the American principle that tolerance must always be superior to intolerance, and that violence is never an appropriate response to a difference in beliefs.

FHA REFORM ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 9, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5072) to improve the financial safety and soundness of the FHA mortgage insurance program:

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 5072, the FHA Reform Act of 2010. This legislation will, among many provisions, allow FHA to adjust its premium structure for new borrowers, while continuing to provide services to the communities it was intended to serve. Unfortunately, the economic crisis—the national housing prices decline, unemployment, and loan losses—led to the FHA's capital reserves falling below the two percent level required by law. I believe, the changes my colleagues and I will make to this program will help ensure its success in the long term, while reducing federal spending and saving taxpayers \$2.5 billion dollars over the next five years.

The FHA Reform Act of 2010 will ensure FHA continues its role as a key stabilizing force in the market and support sustainable homeownership for first-time buyers and underserved markets. That said, I believe the FHA will help keep the recovery of our country on track by playing a central role in the housing finance system for some time before it scales back to its role as private capital returns.

H.R. 5072 will also grant FHA the authority to terminate lenders' approval to originate or underwrite loans backed by FHA insurance when FHA finds evidence of fraud or non-compliance. Unfortunately, in the second half of 2009, 2,357 default notices were issued to my constituents in the cities of Anaheim, Fullerton, Garden Grove, and Santa Ana. For this reason, it's imperative that FHA is reformed, so my constituents seeking to become homeowners are afforded the opportunity to do so from a safe and trustworthy source.

This bill is important to my constituents and many other Americans struggling to keep their homes.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

TRIBUTE TO MATT SCHILLER, 2010 RIVERSIDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 10, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate an individual from my Congressional District who was recently named the 2010 Riverside Unified School District Teacher of the Year. Matt Schiller, a teacher at Poly High School, was one of three teachers honored last month at an event in Riverside, California.

Matt graduated from U.C. San Diego in 1999 with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and received his teaching credentials and a Master of Science degree in biochemistry from U.C. Riverside in 2002. While