

opposition to H.R. 1461, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act. In its amended form, the legislation no longer puts the best interest of our Nation at heart, but instead holds a precious resource hostage for the sake of partisan politics.

The provision restricting non-profit organizations, and their affiliates, from using their own funds to engage in non-partisan voter registration or get-out-the-vote activities if they want to apply for the much-needed affordable housing funds is entirely inappropriate. The inaptness is compounded by the fact that the language still allows for-profit institutions to engage in voter advocacy, even conducted in a partisan, biased manner. If the threat of misuse of these funds is so apparent as to warrant this amendment, why would we only restrict charitable organizations and not those whose fundamental goal is to swell business profits?

It is extremely apparent that the leadership's priorities are backwards. Congress should be encouraging election activities promoting good citizenship conducted by unbiased, non-profit organizations, not restricting the types of aid these groups are allowed to provide. To add insult to injury, the new provision imposes a new burden of requiring these groups to list housing assistance as their "primary purpose" if they want to apply for funds. The effect of this constraint will be to reduce the diversity of assistance that will be available.

With such a growing need for affordable housing, and for competent groups capable of connecting people with the already scarce resources, I cannot imagine why my colleagues would want to handicap these organizations from providing assistance to our Nation's most vulnerable populations. It is for these reasons I cannot support this otherwise sound and reasonable measure to improve the regulation of our Nation's largest source of mortgages. I urge my colleagues to vote no on H.R. 1461.

IN HONOR OF OFFICER DAVID
PERRY

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Police Officer David Perry for his service to our community. Mr. Perry has dedicated his life to protecting his country as well as his community, and for that I am grateful.

David Perry heroically served in the United States Marine Corps from 1983 to 1989. His service included a meritorious promotion to Corporal and assignment to the Marine Security Guard Detachment in Calcutta, India. While serving in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, he was promoted to Sergeant and honorably discharged from active duty on January 6, 1989. He has maintained Reserve status while serving as a Patrol Officer in the City of Santa Cruz. Furthermore, Mr. Perry had dedicated his time to serving the city as a Field Training Officer and is a member of the Santa Cruz Police Department Honor Guard.

Mr. Perry is known for his allegiance to the enforcement of law, the prevention of crime, and his deep sense of community. Respectfully, David Perry has volunteered to return to active duty with the United States Marine

Corps. He will be deployed to Iraq in January of 2006. Mr. Perry's voluntary service is truly appreciated and highly valued.

Mr. Speaker, the service of local members of the community is an asset to this Nation, and I applaud Mr. Perry's contributions. We all look forward to the safe return of Officer Perry, and wish him well in his service in Iraq. Mr. Perry is an outstanding member of the community, and his dedication is appreciated.

FEDERAL HOUSING FINANCE
REFORM ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. MARK GREEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 26, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill. (H.R. 1461) to reform the regulation of certain housing-related Government-sponsored enterprises, and for other purposes:

Mr. GREEN of Wisconsin. Mr. Chairman, I supported Chairman OXLEY'S Manager's Amendment to H.R. 1461, the Federal Housing Finance Reform Act of 2005, because it maintains progress on several key issues Congress has been working on this session. I was pleased to see that the manager's amendment gave the victims of Hurricane Katrina priority in receiving grants from the Affordable Housing Fund for the first two years after its inception. I continue to urge my colleagues to look for ways to ease the burden of recovery that currently rests on the taxpayers. I also support the sunset provision of this amendment so that a future Congress can revisit this issue and again evaluate the needs of affordable housing recipients. Finally, I would like to express my full support for the ability of non-profit organizations to compete for the funds created by H.R. 1461.

I agree that there must be full oversight of the groups receiving grants from the Affordable Trust Fund, and that no dollars from the fund may be used for lobbying, travel, or election activities. However, I do have concerns that some of the language included in the manager's amendment was overly broad. Some have argued that the amendment may prohibit groups like Catholic Charities, Lutheran Services in America, and Habitat for Humanity from receiving Affordable Trust Fund grants. I would strongly urge House conferees to revisit and narrow the language included in this amendment so that these organizations, along with other well-meaning non-profit groups, can access the funds and grow their affordable housing programs.

IN HONOR OF FIRE CHIEF KERRY
SHERIDAN

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Fire Chief Kerry Sheridan of the Troy Fire Protection District in Shorewood, Illinois. On Saturday, Sheridan will celebrate 45 years

of service as the Fire Chief with the local volunteer fire protection district:

Since first being elected in 1960 to the Fire Chief position, Sheridan has seen major changes from not only the size and scope of the fire protection district, but also advances in technology and equipment. In 1960, his equipment consisted of a used 1929 REO Speedwagon and a dispatch that was a phone call to the Chief to sound the siren. Now, the department consists of multiple engines, an enhanced 911 dispatch center and the protection district has grown to over 18,000 residents compared to the 800 residents in 1960.

Within Sheridan's impressive 45 years of services, the Chief has provided a classroom in the Joliet Junior College to teach fire services, started one of the first cadet programs in Illinois and organized an Ambulance service that recruits and trains new EMT's every year. Chief Sheridan is still actively serving on the Joliet Junior College Fire Science Advisory Board which he has served on since 1974 and is very involved with the local government.

The most impressive part of his service as a volunteer for the fire department is that he achieved all of these great accomplishments while being a full time employee with Illinois Bell Telephone and now AT&T.

With 45 years of dedication to his township and the safety of its residents, Kerry Sheridan provides an example to all of what they can do to better their community. When we hear young children having aspirations of becoming firemen when they grow up, we should all point to the example Kerry Sheridan has set.

A TRIBUTE TO ROGER MILLIKEN

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Mr. HUNTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a true American patriot who has maintained a reputation as a protector of American manufacturing—Mr. Roger Milliken. Roger recently celebrated his 90th birthday and, not to the surprise of many, continues to faithfully sit at the helm of Milliken & Company, one of the largest and most successful textile and chemical manufacturing companies in the world.

On the special occasion of his 90th birthday, I feel it prudent to ensure that my colleagues in the House are made aware of Roger's immeasurable commitment to the protection and development of our domestic manufacturing base. Roger has long deflected the enticements of outsourcing and importation, believing the divestment of American industry in foreign markets is not conducive to economic growth and detrimental to our nation's productivity and ingenuity.

Roger's personal success can be credited to his entrepreneurial spirit and his strong work ethic, both professionally and academically. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Yale University in 1937 and was named President of Deering Milliken in less than ten years. Under Roger's leadership, Deering Milliken officially became known as Milliken & Company and gained its status as a nationally recognized textile manufacturer. He served as President of Milliken & Company until 1988, when he was named Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, the title which he continues to hold today.