

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 6853

To establish in the Federal Bureau of Investigation the Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Task Force to address mortgage fraud in the United States, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To establish in the Federal Bureau of Investigation the Nationwide Mortgage Fraud Task Force to address mortgage fraud in the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Nationwide Mortgage  
5 Fraud Task Force Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONWIDE MORTGAGE FRAUD TASK FORCE.**

7 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
8 Federal Bureau of Investigation (hereinafter referred to  
9 in this section as the “FBI”) the Nationwide Mortgage

1 Fraud Task Force (hereinafter referred to in this section  
2 as the “Task Force”) to address mortgage fraud in the  
3 United States.

4 (b) SUPPORT.—The Director of the FBI shall provide  
5 the Task Force with the appropriate staff, administrative  
6 support, and other resources necessary to carry out the  
7 duties of the Task Force.

8 (c) EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.—The Director of the  
9 FBI shall appoint one staff member provided to the Task  
10 Force to be the Executive Director of the Task Force and  
11 such Executive Director shall ensure that the duties of the  
12 Task Force are carried out.

13 (d) REGIONAL BRANCHES.—The Task Force shall  
14 establish, oversee, and direct regional branches in each of  
15 the 10 States determined by the Director of the FBI to  
16 have the highest concentration of mortgage fraud.

17 (e) MANDATORY FUNCTIONS.—The Task Force, in-  
18 cluding the regional branches of the Task Force, shall—

19 (1) establish coordinating entities, and solicit  
20 the voluntary participation of Federal, State, and  
21 local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies in  
22 such entities, to organize initiatives to address mort-  
23 gage fraud, including initiatives to enforce State  
24 mortgage fraud laws and other related Federal and  
25 State laws;

1           (2) provide training to Federal, State, and local  
2 law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies with re-  
3 spect to mortgage fraud, including related Federal  
4 and State laws;

5           (3) collect and disseminate data with respect to  
6 mortgage fraud, including Federal, State, and local  
7 data relating to mortgage fraud investigations and  
8 prosecutions; and

9           (4) perform other functions determined by the  
10 Director of the FBI to enhance the detection of, pre-  
11 vention of, and response to mortgage fraud in the  
12 United States.

13       (f) OPTIONAL FUNCTIONS.—The Task Force, includ-  
14 ing the regional branches of the Task Force, may—

15           (1) initiate and coordinate Federal mortgage  
16 fraud investigations and, through the coordinating  
17 entities established under subsection (e), State and  
18 local mortgage fraud investigations;

19           (2) establish a toll-free hotline for—

20                   (A) reporting mortgage fraud;

21                   (B) providing the public with access to in-  
22 formation and resources with respect to mort-  
23 gage fraud; and

24                   (C) directing reports of mortgage fraud to  
25 the appropriate Federal, State, and local law

1 enforcement and prosecutorial agency, including  
2 to the appropriate regional branch of the Task  
3 Force;

4 (3) create a database with respect to suspen-  
5 sions and revocations of mortgage industry licenses  
6 and certifications to facilitate the sharing of such in-  
7 formation by States;

8 (4) make recommendations with respect to the  
9 need for and resources available to provide the  
10 equipment and training necessary for the Task  
11 Force to combat mortgage fraud; and

12 (5) propose legislation to Federal, State, and  
13 local legislative bodies with respect to the elimination  
14 and prevention of mortgage fraud, including meas-  
15 ures to address mortgage loan procedures and prop-  
16 erty appraiser practices that provide opportunities  
17 for mortgage fraud.

18 (g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “mort-  
19 gage fraud” means a material misstatement, misrepresen-  
20 tation, or omission relating to the property or potential  
21 mortgage relied on by an underwriter or lender to fund,  
22 purchase, or insure a loan.

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