

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HELPING FAMILIES SAVE THEIR HOMES ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 26, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1106) to prevent mortgage foreclosures and enhance mortgage credit availability:

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman CONYERS and Chairman FRANK for their strong leadership in bringing this much needed housing and bankruptcy legislation to the floor.

The legislation is the result of the perseverance of many Members, especially BRAD MILLER, the original author of the legislation and Mr. COHEN of the Judiciary Committee.

I also commend ZOE LOFGREN, ELLEN TAUSCHER, and DENNIS CARDOZA for their compromise that is reflected in the manager's amendment. They have worked diligently to make improvements to the bill to ensure that homeowners will avoid bankruptcy whenever possible by first and foremost providing homeowners to a workable and accessible loan modification process.

EVERY 13 SECONDS

As Chairwoman LOFGREN has said, we have a foreclosure in America every 13 seconds.

Every 13 seconds, a family is uprooted, their children are forced to switch schools, their biggest investment—their home—is boarded up, increasing blight and reducing property values.

Each foreclosure represents nothing less than the end of an American Dream. But with this legislation—the Helping Families Save Their Homes Act—we can protect the American Dream and preserve it for America's families.

WHAT THE LEGISLATION DOES

This legislation will reduce the number of foreclosures by providing incentives for loan modifications that will permit families to stay in their homes on a long term basis.

It reforms the HOPE for Homeowners program to make it more workable for both homeowners and lenders.

In addition to providing incentives to lenders and servicers, this legislation, thanks to improvements that Members have worked on, also provides important incentives to homeowners to work with lenders and servicers to modify loans and to avoid bankruptcy—a painful and intrusive process for families. For those who cannot be helped, the legislation permits existing home mortgages to be judicially modified under the Bankruptcy Code, similar to the treatment of other real estate such as investment properties.

Finally, the legislation strengthens our financial system to foster the flow of credit necessary for home refinancing by making permanent the new \$250,000 deposit insurance limit for Americans' accounts in banks and credit unions.

PRESIDENT'S PLAN

This legislation compliments the President's recently announced Homeowner Affordability and Stability Plan, which will help up to 7 to 9 million families restructure or refinance their mortgages to avoid foreclosure by refinancing or modifying their loans. Both the Obama plan and this legislation are long overdue steps to strengthen the housing market.

RESPONSIBILITY OF BORROWERS AND LENDERS

As we consider this legislation, we all agree on the principle that everyone bears a personal responsibility for their actions and their debts. This legislation upholds this principle.

Lenders must also act in good faith, responsibly lend to qualified homeowners, and work with homeowners who are at-risk of foreclosure because that is in the interests of lenders, borrowers, neighborhoods, and our nation's economy.

Yet, as 22 state Attorneys General recently noted, "many servicers . . . remain unwilling or unable to act, even when their own economic interests dictate otherwise."

CLOSE

When homeowners are unable to obtain relief, we must act to protect the American Dream of owning a home, to protect the neighborhoods ravaged by foreclosures, and to protect our economy, which has been ravaged by the decline of housing market.

Unless we address our nation's foreclosure crisis, more Americans will lose their jobs, will not be able to send their kids to college, and see their retirements savings continue to decline and disappear.

This bill helps homeowners, lenders, and neighbors. It is essential to our economic recovery. I urge my colleagues to take action today to stop foreclosures and help American families save their homes.

IN HONOR OF AL AND GLORIA NAHUM ON THEIR 60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOE SESTAK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Mr. SESTAK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the love and commitment of two wonderful people who today will begin their seventh decade as man and wife. Since they first met at City College, New York and through peace, war, prosperity and hard times, Al and Gloria Nahum have devoted themselves to their country, community, faith, and most of all, their family.

As a young 2nd Lieutenant in our United States Army, Al Nahum courageously went to fight for his nation in the most violent and destructive conflict in the history of mankind. In the process he not only helped defeat fascism and stop the Holocaust, he earned for his bride to be and their children yet unborn, an era of prosperity and security also unrivaled in history. As World War II was resolved, Al

Nahum with a clear appreciation for the cost of freedom and the horror of war, bravely continued to stand watch for his family and his fellow Americans in the U.S. Army Reserve. When he retired as a Major, the Army lost a fine officer but Gloria, sons Robert and Kenneth, daughters Laurie and Debra finally had their hero safely home.

During Al's service Gloria was also fully engaged in making ours the greatest possible nation. As an exceptionally dedicated elementary school teacher, she consistently provided her students a level of skill and devotion few educators will ever match. But no accomplishment of Al and Gloria will ever be as special as the extraordinary people their children have become. That they are renowned physicians, and leaders in commerce and the media, their greatest achievement is that they and their spouses Roberta, Richard, Anne Marie and Christopher are as loving to their children as their mother and father are to them.

Madam Speaker, I ask that on this very special day this chamber join me in wishing the remarkable Al and Gloria Nahum, their children and their spectacular grandchildren Jennifer, Daniel, Tara, Brett, Jody, Jeffery, Mandy, Kelly, Brittany, David, Natalie and Reinhart all the love and happiness they so richly deserve. Surely there is no family more loving, accomplished and thoroughly devoted to one another. They are an inspiration to all who are blessed to know them.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF ATHLETIC TRAINERS IN OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 5, 2009

Mr. CARTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to the important and essential role that athletic trainers play in providing quality health care across our nation. Our nation's health care system is complex and every day people with many different health needs are served by legions of caring, qualified, and professional athletic trainers.

Athletic trainers are health care professionals who hold at least a bachelor's degree in athletic training. Almost 70 percent of athletic trainers have a master's degree or PhD. Athletic trainers are licensed health care professionals who provide injury prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation to patients of all ages.

Athletic trainers work under the direction of physicians to provide care to patients. Historically, they worked with athletes in secondary schools, colleges, universities and professional sports. Today, about 50 percent work outside of these athletic settings. Many athletic trainers are employed by clinics, hospitals, physician offices, commercial workplaces, the United States Armed Forces, and performing arts companies. The focus of athletic trainers'

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