

Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) after 38 years of service.

Bud Jacobs, who earned a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of California, Berkeley and a Master of Arts degree from the University of California, Los Angeles, began his career with LAUSD as an English teacher at Fremont High School. He later worked as an instructional advisor for Regional Administrative Region C-LAUSD and an assistant principal at Bret Harte Intermediate School, John Muir Middle School, and Venice High School.

From 1992–2000 Bud Jacobs was principal of Venice High School, which Newsweek Magazine rated as one of the top 100 high schools in America. Venice High School also received presidential recognition for 2 National Science Bowl championships. Since 2000, he has served as director of instructional support services for LAUSD's high school programs.

Bud Jacobs has been honored as an outstanding administrator by the Association of California School Administrators and the California Council for the Social Studies.

In addition to his career with LAUSD, Bud Jacobs served as a fellow with the Institute for Learning at the University of Pittsburgh and with the Harvard Principals' Center. He has been a trustee for the Los Angeles Educational Alliance Reform Now (LEARN) and president of UCLA's School of Education Alumni Support Group (EUCLAN).

Bud Jacobs has earned the profound respect and affection of students, teachers and administrators within LAUSD. The Los Angeles community owes him a debt of gratitude for his dedication to our students and tireless commitment to educational excellence. I congratulate him on his extraordinary contributions and wish him good health and happiness as he embarks on this new chapter in his life.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in complete support of the Financial Literacy Month Resolution which addresses the public's lack of knowledge of basic financial principles and aims to lessen our Nation's already enormous consumer debt.

According to recent studies, many young Americans seem to be lacking personal financial management skills. The facts indicate that for nearly a decade now, high school seniors have possessed an insufficient knowledge of personal finance. Attempting to address this gap in knowledge and to prevent future financial blunders, 16 states are requiring basic financial education in their high schools. I strongly believe that, as a result of such efforts, many young citizens will become financially responsible. This will not only enlighten their personal lives, but ultimately combat our growing consumer debt.

Along with America's youth, many adults are also seemingly incapable of properly managing their finances. It is my understanding that, three years ago, a Retirement Confidence Survey found that 42 percent of work-

ers surveyed had not calculated how much money they will need for retirement; and additionally, 37 percent of the workers said that they were not saving for retirement. From these statistics and with the current status of Social Security, I feel that it would be beneficial for many Americans to be educated on financial opportunities; including, but not limited to, qualified cash and deferred arrangements. Thus, we must promote nation-wide financial literacy programs to help citizens seize such opportunities.

In closing, our Nation's expanding consumer balance and the economic fears of many Americans can both be assuaged through H.R. 273. I am delighted that many of my fellow members are already in favor of this resolution, and I encourage my other colleagues to follow suit.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF FINANCIAL LITERACY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2007

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letters regarding H. Res. 273, Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Financial Literacy Month.

FREDDIE MAC,

McLean, VA, April 16, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HINOJOSA: On behalf of Freddie Mac, I am writing to express our support for the bi-partisan Congressional resolution (H.R. 273) supporting April as "Financial Literacy Month," cosponsored by 115 Members of the House of Representatives.

As a secondary mortgage market entity, Freddie Mac has made home possible for one in six home buyers and more than four million renters in America. We greatly understand the important role financial literacy plays in obtaining and maintaining good credit. Credit records affect everything from renting an apartment to buying a home, paying for a college education to purchasing a car. Poor credit histories limit the ability of many consumers to attain financial security, particularly those in under-served communities—including low-income consumers, minorities and immigrants. Without good credit, it's difficult to save money, become a homeowner, and accumulate wealth.

In response to the need to increase financial literacy and awareness, Freddie Mac developed the CreditSmart®, and CreditSmart® Español consumer education curricula. CreditSmart is designed to help consumers understand, build, and maintain good credit. Since its launch in 2000, the CreditSmart program has reached in excess of one million people through its outreach network of Community Based organizations, conventions, initiatives and web access. (www.freddiemac.com/creditsmart)

CreditSmart is used in numerous communities across America and is taught to consumers by college instructors, nonprofit counseling agency staff, consumer and community group staff, police officers, employers, lenders, real estate professionals and mortgage brokers. Just two months ago, Freddie Mac launched CreditSmart Asian a new three-part series of multilingual guide-

books focused on helping Asian Americans become more informed consumers. This program will be available in Chinese, Korean, Vietnamese, and English.

Freddie Mac has also been a leader in sponsoring a successful consumer awareness campaign to help consumers avoid predatory lending practices. Don't Borrow Trouble®, is a national award-winning campaign that combines public education and counseling services to help homeowners avoid lending practices that strip away their home's equity. Pioneered in Boston by Mayor Thomas M. Menino and the Massachusetts Community & Banking Council (MCBC), Freddie Mac has expanded the campaign to communities nationwide to almost 50 cities and states throughout the country. These campaigns have helped inform more than 100,000 consumers across the U.S.

Freddie Mac commends you for your bringing this resolution to the House of Representatives to continue to draw awareness to the need for financial literacy and we are grateful for your leadership of the Financial Literacy Caucus.

Sincerely,

KIRSTEN JOHNSON-OBEY,
Director, Congressional Relations.

STATEMENT BY FORUM CEO DONALD L. EVANS ON FINANCIAL LITERACY RESOLUTION

WASHINGTON, DC.—Financial Services Forum CEO Donald L. Evans issued the following statement on H. Res. 273, a resolution supporting Financial Literacy Month:

"Financial assets—stock, bonds, mutual funds, and insurance products—are powerful tools for building wealth and providing for a secure future. With a record number of Americans approaching retirement, financial literacy is more important than ever. Rep. Ruben Hinojosa and Rep. Judy Biggert are bringing appropriate focus to the goal of providing a better financial education to all Americans. We appreciate their efforts to raise awareness of financial literacy and fully support their efforts."

Last April, the Financial Services Forum released a survey finding that two in five (42 percent) of Americans say they know only some, very little, or not much about how to effectively manage their long-term personal finances and retirement security. The poll also found that 60 percent of young people (between the ages of 18 and 34) say they do not have the knowledge they need to effectively manage their personal finances and retirement security.

The Financial Services Forum has also issued a report detailing the significant commitment of Forum member firms to financial literacy programs.

A copy of that report and the survey are available on our web site at www.financialservicesforum.org.

AMERICA'S COMMUNITY BANKERS,

April 11, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: On behalf of America's Community Bankers (ACB) and its over 1000 member institutions, I am writing to express our strong support for H. Res. 273, a Resolution to support the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month. ACB commends you both for your ongoing leadership and commitment to increasing awareness of financial literacy in the United States, and we are also pleased that a similar Resolution, S. Res. 126, has been approved by the United States Senate.

The American financial services system often presents a maze of decisions, and ACB has always made financial literacy a top priority to help consumers choose wisely. ACB's members are dedicated to strengthening America's communities by meeting the financial needs of consumers fairly and efficiently. As the responsibility for individuals to manage their own finances increases, so does our responsibility to provide individuals from every economic background with the tools they need to navigate their financial environment. ACB is committed to ensuring that all Americans have fair and equitable access to credit, and that consumers have the necessary skills to make wise financial decisions.

The goals expressed in H. Res. 273 recognize many of ACB's core principles, and we look forward to continuing to work with both of you, along with the House Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus, to make financial literacy a priority of the 110th Congress.

Sincerely,

ROBERT R. DAVIS,
Executive Vice President and Managing
Director, Government Relations.

CONSUMER BANKERS ASSOCIATION,
Arlington, VA.

Re H. Res. 273

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: The membership of the Consumer Bankers Association has taken a leadership role in providing financial education, offering instruction in every field of personal finance, including home ownership, foreclosure prevention, credit card usage, basic budgeting and a host of other topics relevant to the needs of our customers. CBA has found that such efforts have helped produce knowledgeable consumers with the financial skills needed for the responsible use of the products and services available today from our member banks.

It is because of the intensive and extensive efforts to educate their customers that our membership welcomes your efforts to recognize the importance of financial literacy by promoting Financial Literacy Month through H. Res. 273. We believe the Resolution is a welcome part of the campaign so that everyone is provided the tools to navigate the sometimes complex waters of today's economy.

We congratulate you for highlighting the commitment to financial literacy. CBA pledges our full support to promote the goals of Financial Literacy Month and offers our assistance to the Congress and our communities in creating a better-educated population of financial services consumers.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you feel we can be of further assistance in your endeavors to promote financial education.

MARCIA Z. SULLIVAN,
Vice President and Director,
Government Relations.

WASHINGTON, Apr. 4 2007.—The National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders (NAAHL) strongly supports the bipartisan congressional resolution (H. Res. 273) designating April as "Financial Literacy Month," to increase awareness about the importance of financial education in the United States and the serious consequences that can result from a lack of understanding about personal finances.

"NAAHL represents America's leaders in moving private capital to those in need,"

said NAAHL President and CEO Judy Kennedy. "Our members have helped lead efforts to increase financial education nationwide, especially for low- and moderate-income persons."

"For example, NAAHL members ShoreBank and NeighborWorks America, in partnership with the federal banking regulators, have pioneered programs and approaches which have resulted in greater financial literacy in underserved communities," Kennedy said.

"We commend Reps. Ruben Hinojosa (D-Texas) and Judy Biggert (R-Ill.) for introducing this resolution that supports the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month."

The resolution has more than 100 cosponsors in the House of Representatives. A similar resolution, S. Res. 126, has been approved by the Senate.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HINOJOSA: The Texas Credit Union League is pleased to support House Resolution 273. As you know, the Texas Credit Union League through our Foundation supports financial literacy in a big way. Project NEFE—a statewide collaborative initiative to bring the accredited High School Financial Planning Program along with comprehensive training to schools across Texas—is one of the primary missions of our Foundation. All material and training is offered free of charge.

The NEFE curriculum meets the learning objectives and standards approved by the Texas Education Agency and State Board of Education to meet the requirement. Credit unions are all about people helping people, and there is no greater way to demonstrate that commitment than credit unions working with teachers and providing the volunteer efforts to train our children in financial matters. We have been extremely pleased and excited on how our Foundation, Texas Cooperative Extension and NEFE have worked together to deliver this free education to our younger generation.

On behalf of the seven million credit union members concerned with the issue of financial literacy, we applaud you and your many cosponsors. We look forward to joining our voice with yours in the cause of financial literacy.

Sincerely,

DICK ENSWELLER,
CEO/President, Texas Credit Union League.

HONORING AMERICAN LEGION
POST 364 AND AMERICAN LEGION
AUXILIARY UNIT 364

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the officers and members of American Legion Post 364, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 364, and all national members of the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary.

The American Legion is a community-service organization, made up of patriotic, mutual-help, war-time veterans. The American Legion Auxiliary is a women's patriotic service organization, created to assist the American Legion. Through community service programs, both of these fine institutions have made a great impact on our community and to the veterans living in our region.

This year, Mr. Jerry Howard will serve as the American Legion Department of Virginia commander. A 22 year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, Jerry has been a member of the American Legion for 23 years. He has previously served as Post 364 commander, 16th District commander and Department of Virginia vice commander.

Ms. Marcia Wheatley will serve as the American Legion Auxiliary Department of Virginia president. A 12 year member of the American Legion Auxiliary, Marcia has served as Unit 364 president and 16th District president.

Together, Jerry and Marcia will represent Virginia at state and national veteran events where they will promote programs that benefit veterans, troops, and children. Also, they will travel here, to Washington DC, to meet with members of Congress to discuss legislation needed to provide for the health and well being of troops and veterans.

Other recent officer selections include Virginia Department Historian Barbara Barnes, Auxiliary National Security Chairman Dianne Cabot, Post 364 Commander William Moriarity and Unit 364 President Raye Ferrington. These individuals bring a stellar record of accomplishment to these institutions, and the American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary will benefit greatly from their experience.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the men and women who serve the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary. Their tireless efforts on behalf of the community, state and nation deserve our highest praise. I commend and congratulate all of these officers on their selection to these positions, and wish them further success as they continue to work for our Nation's veterans.

HONORING DALE BROWN

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Warren County School District Superintendent Dale Brown for winning the Kentucky School Board Association's 2007 F.L. Dupree Outstanding Superintendent Award.

Mr. Brown was named superintendent of the Warren County School System in 2000. The school district has flourished under his stewardship throughout the past 7 years. Among his many accomplishments, Brown is particularly noted for maintaining the school system's budget while overseeing an ambitious \$4 million technology overhaul that has outfitted every classroom with an ACTIV board.

Superintendent Brown has also won widespread praise for his efforts to increase energy conservation; creating an energy education program and overseeing the Commonwealth's first energy efficient school in Alvaton, KY. These initiatives have saved the school district over \$2 million in energy costs over the last three years, demonstrating a remarkable local commitment to our nation's quest to promote energy independence.

More than 23 different native languages are spoken by Warren County School District students. Mr. Brown has created a new comprehensive language program for limited