

of many by securing the release of those who had already had some of the same protection certificates that he had worked to distribute, and he was able to help them return to safe houses within the city.

Mr. Wallenberg was not alone. He worked with many of his colleagues and other diplomats who participated in the same types of rescue operations and issued their own neutral countries' protective certificates to Jewish people and found ways to house them.

By the end of 1944, Mr. Wallenberg and others were able to keep the authorities from destroying the ghetto and the individuals who resided there.

By the beginning of 1945, Soviet forces came to Budapest and liberated the city in February. More than 100,000 Jewish people remained.

But what happened to Mr. Wallenberg, like so many others during this time, is unknown. Mr. Wallenberg was last seen in Soviet custody, and it is thought he may have died in prison.

Mr. Speaker, the end of Mr. Wallenberg's life remains a mystery, but the life that he led and especially the actions he took while living in Budapest for those 6 months and saving as many as so many innocents are forever, forever remembered.

Raoul Wallenberg is a hero, not just for those who were in Budapest at that time, but a hero that the world remembers.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Wallenberg's memory lives on and serves as the best kind of reminder for what it means to serve and accomplish the greater good for all of humanity, and it is certainly fitting that we gather, as a Congress, in the rotunda of the United States Capitol, to formally remember and pay tribute to this man, a man who used the tools he was given to work tirelessly for the lives of others, a man who did so much, even at his own peril.

Awarding Mr. Wallenberg the Congressional Gold Medal is the very least that we can do as a grateful Nation and as a grateful member of the world.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of Senate Concurrent Resolution 36. Few people in history have shown the sort of bravery for which we will be honoring Raoul Wallenberg.

As Sweden's special envoy to Hungary during the Second World War, Mr. Wallenberg quietly issued thousands—and I say thousands—of protective passports and sheltered as many Jews as he could in Swedish Embassy buildings, protecting them from being rounded up by the Fascist authorities. It is estimated that his efforts saved potentially up to 100,000 Jews from the horrors of the Holocaust.

Sadly, as the gentlewoman from Michigan pointed out, Mr. Wallenberg would never see the impact of his great work. As the Iron Curtain descended on Eastern Europe, he was apprehended by

Soviet authorities, never to be seen again; but if not for his commitment to the protection of human rights, untold thousands would not be among us today.

One of the lives that he saved was that of our former colleague, Congressman Tom Lantos, who wrote the bill making Raoul Wallenberg an honorary citizen of the United States in 1981.

In 2012, we posthumously awarded Raoul Wallenberg the Congressional Gold Medal in recognition of his achievements and heroic actions during the Holocaust. This resolution will allow the use of the rotunda for a ceremony presenting the Gold Medal to his family in honor of Mr. Wallenberg for his noble and selfless actions.

I urge all Members to support Senate Concurrent Resolution 36, and I yield back the balance of my time.

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Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, as well, I would urge all of my colleagues to support S. Con. Res. 36, which is a resolution authorizing the use of the rotunda of the Capitol for a ceremony to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the next of kin or personal representative of Raoul Wallenberg.

I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution, S. Con. Res. 36.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution was concurred in.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MORTGAGE CHOICE ACT OF 2013

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3211) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to improve upon the definitions provided for points and fees in connection with a mortgage transaction.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 3211

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mortgage Choice Act of 2013".

SEC. 2. DEFINITION OF POINTS AND FEES.

(a) AMENDMENT TO SECTION 103 OF TILA.—Section 103(bb)(4) of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1602(bb)(4)) is amended—

(1) by striking "paragraph (1)(B)" and inserting "paragraph (1)(A) and section 129C";

(2) in subparagraph (C)—

(A) by inserting "and insurance" after "taxes";

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting ", except as retained by a creditor or its affiliate as a result of their participation in an affiliated business arrangement (as defined in section 2(7) of the Real Estate Settlement Proce-

dures Act of 1974 (12 U.S.C. 2602(7))" after "compensation"; and

(C) by striking clause (iii) and inserting the following:

"(iii) the charge is—

"(I) a bona fide third-party charge not retained by the mortgage originator, creditor, or an affiliate of the creditor or mortgage originator; or

"(II) a charge set forth in section 106(e)(1);"; and

(3) in subparagraph (D)—

(A) by striking "accident,"; and

(B) by striking "or any payments" and inserting "and any payments".

(b) AMENDMENT TO SECTION 129C OF TILA.—Section 129C of the Truth in Lending Act (15 U.S.C. 1639c) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)(5)(C), by striking "103" and all that follows through "or mortgage originator" and inserting "103(bb)(4)"; and

(2) in subsection (b)(2)(C)(i), by striking "103" and all that follows through "or mortgage originator" and inserting "103(bb)(4)".

SEC. 3. RULEMAKING.

Not later than the end of the 90-day period beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection shall issue final regulations to carry out the amendments made by this Act, and such regulations shall be effective upon issuance.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials for the RECORD on H.R. 3211, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3211, the Mortgage Choice Act. As someone who worked in the housing industry for a number of years, this is a very important issue to me, and, more importantly, to my constituents in Michigan as well as, frankly, all of our constituents across the country.

Earlier this year, the Qualified Mortgage, also known as the (QM)/Ability to Repay Rule, as mandated by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act went into effect. The QM rule is the primary means for mortgage lenders to satisfy their "ability to repay" requirements.

Additionally, Dodd-Frank provides that a QM may not have points and fees in excess of 3 percent of the loan amount. As currently defined, points and fees include, among other charges:

One, fees paid to affiliated, but not unaffiliated, title companies; two, salaries paid to loan originators; three, amounts of insurance and taxes held in escrow; four, loan level price adjustments; and number five, payments by lenders to corresponding banks as they

interact with them, credit unions, and mortgage brokers in wholesale transactions—not in any kind of retail transaction.

As a result of this confusing and problematic definition, many affiliated loans, particularly those made to low and moderate-income borrowers, would not qualify as QMs and would be unlikely to be made or would only be made available at much higher rates due to heightened liability risks. Consumers would lose the ability to take advantage of the convenience and the market efficiencies offered by one-stop shopping.

I, along with Representative GREGORY MEEKS, introduced H.R. 3211, a strong, bipartisan bill that would modify and clarify the ways points and fees are calculated. I should note, Mr. Speaker, that of our nine original cosponsors, two of them were Republicans, seven of them were Democrats, and we are very pleased that this has seen wide and broad support.

This legislation is narrowly focused to promote access to affordable mortgage credit without overturning the important consumer protections and sound underwriting required under Dodd-Frank's "ability to repay" provisions.

Specifically, my bill, H.R. 3211, would provide equal treatment for affiliated title fees compared with unaffiliated title fees. What that means is, for companies that are owned and integrated in, those same requirements and same designations would apply to those who are totally separate and independent companies. It also would clarify the treatment of insurance and taxes held in escrow. Now think about that. We are talking about taxes that no one makes a profit off of, that just literally get sent to the government, being counted in this points and fees definition. That, to me, just seems fundamentally unfair. And only—again, I might add—if they are an affiliated company versus an unaffiliated company.

These commonsense changes will promote access to affordable mortgage credit for low and moderate-income families and first-time home buyers by ensuring that safer, properly underwritten mortgages pass the QM test.

I would like to thank my colleague, Representative MEEKS, along with many others, who have worked tirelessly to help fix this flawed provision currently being implemented.

Mr. Speaker, this evening, Congress has the opportunity to help more Americans realize a portion of the American Dream, not by some grandiose law or decree or something that is going to be big, but by simply reforming a burdensome regulation. Homeownership has been a pillar in American life for generations. Tonight, we can reaffirm that pillar and reassert that homeownership can and should be an attainable goal.

I urge my colleagues to vote in support of H.R. 3211 and make the dreams

of so many Americans a reality by ensuring that all consumers have greater access to mortgage credit and more choices to credit providers. I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, it has been a pleasure to work with Representative HUIZENGA on this very, very important bill.

This legislation is about two things: fairness and opportunity. My fellow cosponsors—both Democrats and Republicans—and I support H.R. 3211, which is the Mortgage Choice Act, because of our shared concern about access; access to credit, yes, for all consumers, but especially for lower-income consumers and middle-income consumers, and to ensure that everybody in America that needs a home and wants a home, when securing a loan, that they have a choice in selecting both the mortgage and the title insurance providers of their choice.

I urge my colleagues to support this needed legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I am prepared to close, but I, too, would like to thank my friend, Mr. SCOTT from Georgia, for working with Representative MEEKS to bring this to the forefront. With that, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my strong support for the Mortgage Choice Act. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for his leadership on this important bill.

Owning a home has long been the cornerstone of the American Dream, but regulations are currently restricting consumer access to mortgage credit for low and moderate income homebuyers. The Mortgage Choice Act will ensure that potential homeowners can borrow funds for their home in a responsible manner while keeping intact consumer protections established by Dodd-Frank's ability to pay provisions.

I urge passage of this bill today. This is a legislative initiative that merits strong bipartisan support.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3211.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPEDITED FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT AMENDMENT

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1679) to amend the Expedited Funds Availability Act to clarify the application of that Act to American Samoa, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1679

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. APPLICATION OF THE EXPEDITED FUNDS AVAILABILITY ACT.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Expedited Funds Availability Act (12 U.S.C. 4001 et seq.) is amended—

(1) in section 602(20) (12 U.S.C. 4001(20)) by inserting “, located in the United States,” after “ATM”;

(2) in section 602(21) (12 U.S.C. 4001(21)) by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”;

(3) in section 602(23) (12 U.S.C. 4001(23)) by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”; and

(4) in section 603(d)(2)(A) (12 U.S.C. 4002(d)(2)(A)), by inserting “American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands,” after “Puerto Rico,”.

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2016.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. HUIZENGA) and the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DAVID SCOTT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and submit extraneous materials in the RECORD on H.R. 1679, as amended, currently under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to also thank my colleague, Delegate FALEOMAVAEGA, for introducing this bill. This bill makes a technical change to clarify that the Expedited Funds Availability Act applies to banks located in American Samoa and the Northern Mariana Islands, as well as the other 50 States and contiguous States. It was an inadvertent error that these territories were not included in this act. This legislation remedies this error.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Our Financial Services Committee simply amends the Expedited Funds Availability Act to apply it to American Samoa. Essentially, it does just these few things. It extends by 2 business days for American Samoa any time periods established for large or re-deposited checks, repeated overdraft, reasonable cause, or other emergency exceptions to the 30-day funds availability requirements for deposits in a depository institution account by a new depositor.

It also applies this 2-day extension to any deposit in an account at a depository institution located in American