Union Calendar No. 270

111TH CONGRESS 2D SESSION

H.R.5072

[Report No. 111-476]

To improve the financial safety and soundness of the FHA mortgage insurance program.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 2010

Ms. Waters (for herself, Mrs. Capito, Mr. Frank of Massachusetts, and Mr. Al Green of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Financial Services

May 6, 2010

Additional sponsors: Mr. Lynch and Mr. Sherman

May 6, 2010

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on April 20, 2010]

A BILL

To improve the financial safety and soundness of the FHA mortgage in surance program.

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 "FHA Reform Act of			
5	2010".			
6	SEC. 2. MORTGAGE INSURANCE PREMIUMS.			
7	Subparagraph (B) of section $203(c)(2)$ of the National			
8	Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709(c)(2)(B)) is amended—			
9	(1) in the matter preceding clause (i)—			
10	(A) by striking "shall" and inserting			
11	"may"; and			
12	(B) by striking "0.50 percent" and insert-			
13	ing "1.5 percent"; and			
14	(2) in clause (ii), by striking "shall be in an			
15	amount not exceeding 0.55 percent" and inserting			
16	"may be in an amount not exceeding 1.55 percent".			
17	SEC. 3. INDEMNIFICATION BY MORTGAGEES.			
18	Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.			
19	1708) is amended by adding at the end the following new			
20	subsection:			
21	"(i) Indemnification by Mortgagees.—			
22	"(1) In General.—If the Secretary determines			
23	that a mortgage executed by a mortgagee approved by			
24	the Secretary under the direct endorsement program			
25	or insured by a mortagage pursuant to the delegation			

- of authority under section 256 was not originated or 1 2 underwritten in accordance with the requirements es-3 tablished by the Secretary, and the Secretary pays an insurance claim with respect to the mortgage within a reasonable period specified by the Secretary, the 5 6 Secretary may require the mortgagee approved by the 7 Secretary under the direct endorsement program or 8 the mortgagee delegated authority under section 256 to indemnify the Secretary for the loss. 9
- "(2) Fraud or misrepresentation.—If fraud 10 or misrepresentation was involved in connection with 11 12 the origination or underwriting, the Secretary may 13 require the mortgagee approved by the Secretary 14 under the direct endorsement program or the mort-15 gagee delegated authority under section 256 to indem-16 nify the Secretary for the loss regardless of when an 17 insurance claim is paid.
- "(3) Requirements and procedures.—The
 Secretary shall issue regulations establishing appropriate requirements and procedures governing the indemnification of the Secretary by the mortgagee.".
- 22 SEC. 4. DELEGATION OF INSURING AUTHORITY.
- 23 Section 256 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.
- 24 1715z–21) is amended—
- 25 (1) by striking subsection (c);

1	(2) in subsection (e), by striking ", including"
2	and all that follows through "by the mortgagee"; and
3	(3) by redesignating subsections (d) and (e) as
4	subsections (c) and (d), respectively.
5	SEC. 5. AUTHORITY TO TERMINATE MORTGAGEE ORIGINA-
6	TION AND UNDERWRITING APPROVAL.
7	Section 533 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.
8	1735f–11) is amended—
9	(1) in the first sentence of subsection (b), by in-
10	serting "or areas or on a nationwide basis" after
11	"area" each place such term appears; and
12	(2) in subsection (c), by striking "(c)" and all
13	that follows through "The Secretary" in the first sen-
14	tence of paragraph (2) and inserting the following:
15	"(c) Termination of Mortgagee Origination and
16	Underwriting Approval.—
17	"(1) Termination authority.—If the Sec-
18	retary determines, under the comparison provided in
19	subsection (b), that a mortgagee has a rate of early
20	defaults and claims that is excessive, the Secretary
21	may terminate the approval of the mortgagee to origi-
22	nate or underwrite single family mortgages for any
23	area, or areas, or on a nationwide basis, notwith-
24	standing section 202(c) of this Act.
25	"(2) Procedure.—The Secretary".

1	SEC. 6. DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF FHA FOR RISK
2	MANAGEMENT AND REGULATORY AFFAIRS.
3	(a) Establishment of Position.—Subsection (b) of
4	section 4 of the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-
5	ment Act (42 U.S.C. 3533(b)) is amended—
6	(1) by inserting "(1)" after "(b)"; and
7	(2) by adding at the end the following new para-
8	graph:
9	"(2) There shall be in the Department, within the Fed-
10	$eral\ Housing\ Administration,\ a\ Deputy\ Assistant\ Secretary$
11	for Risk Management and Regulatory Affairs, who shall be
12	appointed by the Secretary and shall be responsible to the
13	Federal Housing Commissioner for all matters relating to
14	managing and mitigating risk to the mortgage insurance
15	funds of the Department and ensuring the performance of
16	mortgages insured by the Department.".
17	(b) Termination.—Upon the appointment and con-
18	$firmation\ of\ the\ initial\ Deputy\ Assistant\ Secretary\ for\ Risk$
19	Management and Regulatory Affairs pursuant to section
20	4(b)(2) of the Department of Housing and Urban Develop-
21	ment Act, as amended by subsection (a) of this section, the
22	$position\ of\ chief\ risk\ of\!ficer\ within\ the\ Federal\ Housing\ Ad-$
23	ministration, filled by appointment by the Federal Housing
24	Commissioner, is abolished.

1	SEC. 7. USE OF OUTSIDE CREDIT RISK ANALYSIS SOURCES.				
2	Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.				
3	1708), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act,				
4	is further amended by adding at the end the following new				
5	subsection:				
6	"(j) Use of Outside Credit Risk Analysis				
7	Sources.—The Secretary may obtain the services of, and				
8	enter into contracts with, private and other entities outside				
9	of the Department in—				
10	"(1) analyzing credit risk models and practices				
11	employed by the Department in connection with such				
12	mort gages;				
13	"(2) evaluating underwriting standards applica-				
14	ble to such mortgages insured by the Department; and				
15	"(3) analyzing the performance of lenders in				
16	complying with, and the Department in enforcing,				
17	such underwriting standards.".				
18	SEC. 8. REVIEW OF MORTGAGEE PERFORMANCE.				
19	Section 533 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.				
20	1735f–11) is amended—				
21	(1) in subsection (a), by inserting after the pe-				
22	riod at the end the following: "For purposes of this				
23	subsection, the term 'early default' means a default				
24	that occurs within 24 months after a mortgage is				
25	originated or such alternative appropriate period as				
26	the Secretary shall establish.";				

- 1 (2) in subsection (b), by inserting after the pe-2 riod at the end of the first sentence the following: 3 "The Secretary shall also identify which mortgagees 4 have had a significant or rapid increase, as determined by the Secretary, in the number or percentage 5 6 of early defaults and claims on such mortgages, with 7 respect to all mortgages originated by the mortgagee 8 or mortgages on housing located in any particular ge-9 ographic area or areas."; and
- 10 (3) by adding at the end the following new sub-11 sections:
- "(d) SUFFICIENT RESOURCES.—There is authorized to
 13 be appropriated to the Secretary for each of fiscal years
 14 2010 through 2014 the amount necessary to provide addi15 tional full-time equivalent positions for the Department, or
 16 for entering into such contracts as are necessary, to conduct
 17 reviews in accordance with the requirements of this section
 18 and to carry out other responsibilities relating to ensuring
 19 the safety and soundness of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance
 20 Fund.
- "(e) Reporting to Congress.—Not later than 90
 22 days after the date of enactment of the FHA Reform Act
 23 of 2010 and not less often than annually thereafter, the Sec24 retary shall make available to the Committee on Financial
 25 Services of the House of Representatives and the Committee

on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs of the Senate any information and conclusions pursuant to the reviews required under subsection (a). Such report shall not include 3 detailed information on the performance of individual 5 mortgages.". SEC. 9. USE OF NATIONWIDE MORTGAGE LICENSING SYS-7 TEM AND REGISTRY. 8 (a) Use by Mortgagees, Officers, and Owners: Use for Insured Mortgages.— 10 (1) Mortgagees, officers, and owners.— 11 Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 12 1708), as amended by the preceding provisions of this 13 Act, is further amended by adding at the end the fol-14 lowing new subsections: 15 "(k) Use of Nationwide Mortgage Licensing Sys-TEM AND REGISTRY FOR MORTGAGEES, OFFICERS, AND 16 17 Owners.—The Secretary may require, as a condition for approval of a mortgagee by the Secretary to originate or 18 19 underwrite mortgages on single family that are insured by 20 the Secretary, that the mortgagee— 21 "(1) obtain and maintain a unique company 22 identifier assigned by the Nationwide Mortgage Li-23 censing System and Registry, as established by the

Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the Amer-

24

- 1 ican Association of Residential Mortgage Regulators;
- 2 and
- 3 "(2) obtain and maintain, as relates to any and 4 all officers or owners of the mortgagee who are subject 5 to the requirements of the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licens-6 ing Act of 2008, or are otherwise required to register 7 with the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and 8 Registry, the unique identifier assigned by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and Registry, as 9 10 established by the Conference of State Bank Supervisors and the American Association of Residential 11 12 Mortgage Regulators.".
- 13 (2) Insured mortgages.—Section 203 of the 14 National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1709) is amended 15 by adding at the end the following new subsection:
- "(y) Use of Nationwide Mortgage Licensing SysTEM and Registry for Insured Loans.—The Secretary
 may require each mortgage insured under this section to
 include the unique identifier (as such term is defined in
 section 1503 of the S.A.F.E. Mortgage Licensing act of 2008

 1 (12 U.S.C. 5102)) and any unique company identifier asigned by the Nationwide Mortgage Licensing System and
 Registry, as established by the Conference of State Bank Su-
- 24 pervisors and the American Association of Residential
- 25 Mortgage Regulators.".

1	(b) Coordination With State Regulatory Agen-					
2	CIES.—Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.					
3	1708), as amended by the preceding provisions of this Act,					
4	is further amended by adding at the end the following new					
5	subsection:					
6	"(l) Information Sharing With State Regu-					
7	LATORY AGENCIES.—					
8	"(1) Joint Protocol on Information Shar-					
9	ING.—The Secretary shall, through consultation with					
10	State regulatory agencies, pursue protocols for infor-					
11	mation sharing, including the appropriate treatment					
12	of confidential or otherwise restricted information, re-					
13	garding either actions described in subsection $(c)(3)$ of					
14	this section or disciplinary or enforcement actions by					
15	a State regulatory agency or agencies against a mort-					
16	gagee (as such term is defined in subsection $(c)(7)$).					
17	"(2) Coordination.—To the greatest extent pos-					
18	sible, the Secretary and appropriate State regulatory					
19	agencies shall coordinate disciplinary and enforce-					
20	ment actions involving mortgagees (as such term is					
21	defined in subsection $(c)(7)$.".					
22	SEC. 10. REPORTING OF MORTGAGEE ACTIONS TAKEN					
23	AGAINST OTHER MORTGAGEES.					
24	Section 202 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.					
25	1708(e)), as amended by the preceding provisions of this					

1	Act, is further amended by adding at the end the following
2	new subsection:
3	"(m) Notification of Mortgagee Actions.—The
4	Secretary shall require each mortgagee, as a condition for
5	approval by the Secretary to originate or underwrite mort-
6	gages on single family or multifamily housing that are in-
7	sured by the Secretary, if such mortgagee engages in the
8	purchase of mortgages insured by the Secretary and origi-
9	nated by other mortgagees or in the purchase of the serv-
10	icing rights to such mortgages, and such mortgagee at any
11	time takes action to terminate or discontinue such pur-
12	chases from another mortgagee based on any determination,
13	evidence, or report of fraud or material misrepresentation
14	in connection with the origination of such mortgages, the
15	mortgagee shall, not later than 15 days after taking such
16	action, shall notify the Secretary of the action taken and
17	the reasons for such action.".
18	SEC. 11. ANNUAL ACTUARIAL STUDY AND QUARTERLY RE-
19	PORTS ON MUTUAL MORTGAGE INSURANCE
20	FUND.
21	Subsection (a) of section 202 of the National Housing
22	Act (12 U.S.C. 1708(a)) is amended—
23	(1) in the second sentence of paragraph (4), by
24	inserting before the period at the end the following: ",
25	any changes to the current or projected safety and

1	soundness of the Fund since the most recent report
2	under this paragraph or paragraph (5), and any
3	risks to the Fund"; and
4	(2) in paragraph (5)—
5	(A) in subparagraph (D), by striking "and"
6	at the end;
7	(B) in subparagraph (E), by striking the
8	period at the end and inserting "; and";
9	(C) by adding at the end the following:
10	"(F) any other factors that are likely to
11	have an impact on the financial status of the
12	Fund or cause any material changes to the cur-
13	rent or projected safety and soundness of the
14	Fund since the most recent report under para-
15	graph(4).
16	The Secretary may include in the report under this
17	paragraph any recommendations not made in the
18	most recent report under paragraph (4) that may be
19	needed to ensure that the Fund remains financially
20	sound.".
21	SEC. 12. REVIEW OF DOWNPAYMENT REQUIREMENTS.
22	Section 205 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C.
23	1711) is amended by adding at the end the following new
24	subsection:

1	"(g) Review of Downpayment Requirements.—If,
2	at any time when the capital ratio (as such term is defined
3	in subsection (f)) of the Mutual Mortgage Insurance Fund
4	does not comply with the requirement under subsection
5	(f)(1), the Secretary establishes a cash investment require-
6	ment, for all mortgages or mortgagors or with respect to
7	any group of mortgages or mortgagors, that exceeds the
8	minimum percentage or amount required under section
9	203(b)(9), thereafter upon the capital ratio first complying
10	with the requirement under subsection (f)(1) the Secretary
11	shall review such cash investment requirement and, if the
12	Secretary determines that such percentage or amount may
13	be reduced while maintaining such compliance, the Sec-
14	retary shall subsequently reduce such requirement by such
15	percentage or amount as the Secretary considers appro-
16	priate.".
17	SEC. 13. DEFAULT AND ORIGINATION INFORMATION BY
18	LOAN SERVICER AND ORIGINATING DIRECT
19	ENDORSEMENT LENDER.
20	(a) Collection of Information.—Paragraph (2) of
21	section 540(b) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 1712
22	$U.S.C.\ 1735 extit{f-}18(b)(2))$ is amended by adding at the end
23	the following new subparagraph:
24	"(C) For each entity that services insured
25	mortgages, data on the performance of mortgages

- 1 originated during each calendar quarter occur-
- 2 ring during the applicable collection period,
- 3 disaggregated by the direct endorsement mort-
- 4 gagee from whom such entity acquired such serv-
- 5 icing.".
- 6 (b) Applicability.—Information described in sub-
- 7 paragraph (C) of section 540(b)(2) of the National Housing
- 8 Act, as added by subsection (a) of this section, shall first
- 9 be made available under such section 540 for the applicable
- 10 collection period (as such term is defined in such section)
- 11 relating to the first calendar quarter ending after the expi-
- 12 ration of the 12-month period that begins on the date of
- 13 the enactment of this Act.

14 SEC. 14. THIRD PARTY SERVICER OUTREACH.

- 15 (a) AUTHORITY.—The Secretary of Housing and
- 16 Urban Development may, to the extent any amounts for fis-
- 17 cal year 2010 or 2011 are made available in advance in
- 18 appropriation Acts for reimbursements under this section,
- 19 provide reimbursement to servicers of covered mortgages (as
- 20 such term is defined in subsection (e)) for costs of obtaining
- 21 the services of independent third parties meeting the re-
- 22 quirements under subsection (b) of this section to make in-
- 23 person contact with mortgagors under covered mortgages
- 24 whose payments under such mortgages are 60 or more days

past due, solely for the purposes of providing information to such mortgagors regarding— 3 (1) available counseling by housing counseling 4 agencies approved by the Secretary; and (2) available mortgage loan modification, refi-5 6 nance, and assistance programs. 7 (b) Qualified Independent Third Parties.—An 8 independent third party meets the requirements of this sub-9 section if the third party— 10 (1) is an entity, including a housing counseling 11 agency approved by the Secretary, that meets stand-12 ards, qualifications, and requirements (including re-13 garding foreclosure prevention training, quality mon-14 itoring, safeguarding of non-public information) es-15 tablished by the Secretary for purposes of this section for in-person contact about available mortgage loan 16 17 modification, refinance, and assistance programs; and 18 (2) does not charge any fees or require other pay-19 ments, directly or indirectly, from any mortgagor for 20 making in-person contact and providing information 21 and documents under this section. 22 (c) Treatment of Personal, Non-public, and Con-23 FIDENTIAL INFORMATION.—An independent third party whose services are obtained using amounts made available

for use under this section and the mortgage servicer obtain-

1	ing such services shall not use, disclose, or distribute any
2	personal, non-public, or confidential information about a
3	mortgagor obtained during an in-person contact with the
4	mortgagor, except for purposes of engaging in the process
5	of modification or refinance of the covered mortgage.
6	(d) Date of Contact and Disclosures.—Each
7	independent third party whose services are obtained by a
8	mortgage servicer using amounts made available for use
9	under this section shall—
10	(1) initiate in-person contact with a mortgagor
11	not later than 10 days after the date upon which pay-
12	ments under the covered mortgage of the mortgagor
13	become 60 days past due; and
14	(2) upon making in-person contact with a mort-
15	gagor, provide the mortgagor with a written docu-
16	ment that discloses—
17	(A) the name of, and contact information
18	for, the independent third party and the mort-
19	gage servicer;
20	(B) that the independent third party has
21	contracted with the mortgage servicer to provide
22	the in-person contact at no charge to the mort-
23	gagor;
24	(C) that the independent third party is an
25	agent of the mortgage servicer;

- 1 (D) that the in-person contact with the
 2 mortgagor consists of providing information
 3 about available counseling by a housing coun4 seling agency approved by the Secretary and
 5 available mortgage loan modification, refinance,
 6 and assistance programs;
- 7 (E) that the independent third party and 8 the mortgage servicer are prohibited from the 9 use, disclosure, or distribution of personal, nonpublic, and confidential information about the 10 11 mortgagor, obtained during the in-person con-12 tact, except for purposes of engaging in the proc-13 ess of modification or refinance of the covered 14 mortgage;
- 15 (F) any other information that the Sec-16 retary determines should be disclosed.
- 17 (e) DEFINITION OF COVERED MORTGAGE.—For pur-18 poses of this section, the term "covered mortgage" means 19 a mortgage on a 1- to 4-family residence insured under the 20 provisions of subsection (b) or (k) of section 203, section 21 234(c), or 251 of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 22 1709, 1715y, 1715z-16).

23 SEC. 15. GAO REPORTS ON FHA AND GINNIE MAE.

Not later than the expiration of the 12-month period 25 beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the

- 1 Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to 2 the Congress the following reports: 3 (1) FHA REPORT.—A report on the single fam-4 ily mortgage insurance programs of the Secretary of 5 Housing and Urban Development and the Mutual 6 Mortgage Insurance Fund established under section 202(a) of the National Housing Act (12 U.S.C. 7 8 1708(a)) that—9 (A) analyzes such Fund, the economic net worth, capital ratio, and unamortized insurance-10 11 in-force (as such terms are defined in section 12 205(f)(4) of such Act (12 U.S.C. 1711(f)(4))) of 13 such Fund, the risks to the Fund, how the cap-14 ital ratio of the Fund affects the mortgage insur-15 ance programs under the Fund and the broader 16 housing market, the extent to which the housing 17 markets are more dependent on mortgage insur-18 ance provided through the Fund since the finan-19 cial crisis began in 2008, and the exposure of the 20 taxpayers for obligations of the Fund; 21 (B) analyzes the methodology of the capital 22
 - ratio for the Fund under section 205(f) of such

 Act and examines other alternative methodologies

 with respect to which methodology is most ap-

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1	propriate to meet the operational goals of the					
2	Fund under section $202(a)(7)$;					
3	(C) analyzes the effects of the increases in					
4	the limits on the maximum principal obligation					
5	of mortgages made by the FHA Modernization					
6	Act of 2008 (title I of division B of Public Law					
7	110–289), section 202 of the Economic Stimulus					
8	Act of 2008 (Public Law 110–185; 122 Stat.					
9	620), section 1202 of division A of the American					
10	Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public					
11	Law 111-5; 123 Stat. 225), and section 166 of					
12	the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010					
13	(as added by section 104 of division B of Public					
14	Law 111–88; 123 Stat. 29723) on—					
15	(i) the risks to and safety and sound-					
16	ness of the Fund;					
17	(ii) the impact on the affordability and					
18	availability of mortgage credit for borrowers					
19	for loans authorized under such higher loan					
20	limits;					
21	(iii) the private market for residential					
22	mortgage loans that are not insured by the					
23	Secretary of Housing and Urban Develop-					
24	ment; and					

1	(iv) the Federal National Mortgage As-
2	sociation and the Federal Home Loan Mort-
3	gage Corporation; and
4	(D) analyzes the impact on affordability to
5	FHA borrowers, and the impact to the Fund, of
6	seller concessions or contributions to a borrower
7	purchasing a residence using a mortgage that is
8	insured by the Secretary.
9	(2) Ginnie Mae.—A report on the Government
10	National Mortgage Association that identifies—
11	(A) the volume and share of the residential
12	mortgage market that consists of mortgages that
13	back securities for which the payment for prin-
14	cipal and interest is guaranteed by such Associa-
15	tion and how the Association has been affected
16	by the economic recession, credit crisis, and
17	downturn in the housing markets occurring dur-
18	ing 2008, 2009, and 2010;
19	(B) the capacity of the Association to man-
20	age the volume of business it conducts and secu-
21	rities it guarantees, particularly with regard to
22	the recent dramatic increase in such volume, in-
23	cluding the ability of the Association to conduct
24	appropriate oversight of contractors and issuers
25	of securities for which the payment of principal

and interest is guaranteed by the Association and to determine whether the characteristics of various mortgage products constitute appropriate collateral for the federally guaranteed securities for which payment of principal and interest is guaranteed by such Association;

- (C) the impacts, if any, resulting from such increased volume of business conducted by the Association and securities it guarantees and the challenges such increased volume poses to the internal controls of the Association; and
- (D) the existing capital net worth requirements for aggregators of mortgages that issue securities that are based on or backed by such mortgages and payment of principal and interest on which is guaranteed by such Association and recommends an appropriate required level of net worth for such aggregators and issuers to protect the financial interests of the Federal Government and the taxpayers.

Union Calendar No. 270

1117H CONGRESS H. R. 5072

[Report No. 111-476]

A BILL

To improve the financial safety and soundness of the FHA mortgage insurance program.

May 6, 2010

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed