

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

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February 1, 2005

U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative:

Once again, Representatives Ken Calvert (R-CA) and Paul Kanjorski (D-PA) have introduced "The Community Choice in Real Estate Act," H.R. 111. On behalf of over 1 million members of the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR) involved in all aspects of the real estate business, I strongly urge you to cosponsor this important legislation.

This bill would ensure that real estate brokerage, management and property leasing continue to be treated as commercial activities that are not financial in nature, or incidental or complementary to financial activities. This will preserve congressional intent that commercial and financial activities should remain separate under our banking laws.

For the past three years, this legislation has garnered over 250 bipartisan cosponsors in the House. In addition, for each of the past three years, Congress has passed temporary prohibitions as part of appropriations measures. The time to finish the job and pass a permanent bill is overdue. Please cosponsor H.R. 111 and help to ensure that Congress' intent is fulfilled.

In addition to NAR, the National Federation of Independent Business, Consumers Union, the National Association of Home Builders, the National Community Reinvestment Coalition, the International Council of Shopping Centers, and many others support passage of the "Community Choice in Real Estate Act."

I hope that we can count on you to cosponsor this important legislation and help promote homeownership and the continued vitality of the real estate sector of our economy.

Sincerely,

Al Mansell President

