

this Commission will ensure that the panel's composition is bipartisan, independent, and focused on producing a nonpartisan report—not scoring political points.

In closing, The Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 is a good government bill. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

I yield back the balance of my time. Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, finally, in closing, I would remind the body that this is a bipartisan, bicameral consensus. We have worked together on a bipartisan basis in the House and the Senate.

The bill will prevent fraud by clarifying the fraud statutes and strengthen the False Claims Act. It will, I think very importantly, provide significant resources for fighting the fraud.

Finally, the value of the commission will be judged by its product, and we would all assume that the appointments would be people whose reputation is beyond reproach and we will get a good product from the commission.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to support S. 386, the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009.

The bursting of the housing bubble and the subsequent deterioration of the economy revealed fundamental weaknesses in our mortgage and financial industries. Predatory lending and discriminatory practices coupled with a lack of regulation and oversight resulted in many people being steered towards loans that they could not afford, or being given higher cost loans than they qualified for.

Fraud, by definition, is the crime or offense of deliberately deceiving another in order to damage them—usually to obtain property or services unjustly. The practices that I just discussed certainly fit this definition.

Mr. Speaker, during the height of the housing bubble, many were blinded by greed, and their actions played a large role in bringing about the economic hardships that we hear about on a daily basis. We must never allow such practices to happen again, and those guilty of mortgage fraud should be sought out and prosecuted.

This bill would do precisely that. It would expand the definition of "financial institution" to include mortgage lending businesses or any person who makes federally related mortgage loans. It also extends the prohibition of providing false information for mortgage documents to employees and agents of the mortgage lending business.

This bill also takes a comprehensive approach to investigating and enforcing mortgage fraud. It authorizes monies for a wide swath of government agencies to strengthen their individual efforts and therefore strengthening their collective efforts.

Mr. Speaker, much work remains to be done as we move forward, and while this piece of legislation is not the be-all-end-all solution, it is a meaningful first step, and I support it in full.

I thank my friend and colleague Representative JOHN CONYERS Jr. for introducing this legislation.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to support S. 386, the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009.

As the country continues to recover from the current economic crisis, we need to do everything possible to understand all the factors that caused the financial meltdown and ensure that the appropriate laws and resources are in place to prevent a similar crisis in the future. We have also made an unprecedented investment of taxpayer dollars as part of our economic recovery effort, and we must ensure that this investment is spent wisely and efficiently.

We know that lax supervision of the financial industry contributed to the current economic conditions, and we must do everything we can to learn from these mistakes and prevent future economic meltdowns. This bill will help us understand the causes of the economic crisis by establishing a bipartisan commission to study the conditions that triggered the economic collapse. The Commission will also provide Congress with recommendations to prevent future economic problems.

The legislation also includes a clear commitment to fighting waste, fraud and abuse. It strengthens current law and increases funding to hire investigators and prosecutors so law enforcement agencies can effectively combat these issues. It will also help protect taxpayer dollars by amending current law to protect funds expended under the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) and the economic stimulus package.

The Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act of 2009 will help the government increase its understanding of the factors that caused the economic collapse, and provide the resources necessary to help prevent this from happening again. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 386, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the yeas have it.

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, proceedings will resume on motions to suspend the rules previously postponed. Votes will be taken in the following order:

H. Res. 367, by the yeas and nays;

S. 386, by the yeas and nays.

H. Res. 348, de novo.

The first electronic vote will be conducted as a 15-minute vote. Remaining electronic votes will be conducted as 5-minute votes.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL TRAIN DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The unfinished business is the vote on the motion to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 367, on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. CORRINE BROWN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 367.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 426, nays 0, not voting 7, as follows:

[Roll No. 234]

YEAS—426

Abercrombie	Carney	Fleming
Ackerman	Carson (IN)	Forbes
Aderholt	Carter	Poster
Adler (NJ)	Cassidy	Foxx
Akin	Castle	Frank (MA)
Alexander	Castor (FL)	Franks (AZ)
Altmire	Chaffetz	Frelinghuysen
Andrews	Chandler	Fudge
Arcuri	Childers	Gallegly
Austria	Clarke	Garrett (NJ)
Baca	Clay	Gerlach
Bachmann	Cleaver	Giffords
Bachus	Clyburn	Gingrey (GA)
Baird	Coble	Gohmert
Baldwin	Coffman (CO)	Gonzalez
Barrett (SC)	Cohen	Goodlatte
Barrow	Cole	Gordon (TN)
Bartlett	Conaway	Granger
Barton (TX)	Connolly (VA)	Graves
Bean	Conyers	Grayson
Becerra	Cooper	Green, Al
Berkley	Costa	Green, Gene
Berman	Costello	Griffith
Biggert	Courtney	Grijalva
Bilbray	Crenshaw	Guthrie
Bilirakis	Crowley	Gutierrez
Bishop (GA)	Cuellar	Hall (NY)
Bishop (NY)	Culberson	Hall (TX)
Bishop (UT)	Cummings	Halvorson
Blackburn	Dahlkemper	Hare
Blunt	Davis (AL)	Harman
Bocchieri	Davis (CA)	Harper
Boehner	Davis (IL)	Hastings (FL)
Bonner	Davis (KY)	Hastings (WA)
Bono Mack	Davis (TN)	Heinrich
Boozman	Deal (GA)	Heller
Boren	DeFazio	Hensarling
Boswell	DeGette	Herger
Boucher	Delahunt	Herseth Sandlin
Boustany	DeLauro	Higgins
Boyd	Dent	Hill
Brady (PA)	Diaz-Balart, L.	Himes
Brady (TX)	Diaz-Balart, M.	Hinchee
Bralley (IA)	Dicks	Hinojosa
Bright	Dingell	Hirono
Broun (GA)	Doggett	Hodes
Brown (SC)	Donnelly (IN)	Hoekstra
Brown, Corrine	Doyle	Holden
Brown-Waite,	Dreier	Holt
Ginny	Driehaus	Honda
Buchanan	Duncan	Hoyer
Burgess	Edwards (MD)	Hunter
Burton (IN)	Edwards (TX)	Inglis
Butterfield	Ehlers	Inslee
Buyer	Ellison	Israel
Calvert	Ellsworth	Issa
Camp	Emerson	Jackson (IL)
Campbell	Engel	Jackson-Lee
Cantor	Eshoo	(TX)
Cao	Etheridge	Jenkins
Capito	Fallin	Johnson (GA)
Capps	Farr	Johnson (IL)
Capuano	Fattah	Johnson, E. B.
Cardoza	Filner	Johnson, Sam
Carnahan	Flake	Jones