

**PALM HARBOR, Fla. (12 May) - U.S. Rep. Gus M. Bilirakis (R-Fla.), representing Florida's 9th Congressional District including portions of Pasco, Pinellas and Hillsborough counties, will be hosting a home foreclosure assistance workshop on Saturday, May 22, 2010.**

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The event will be held at [Freedom High School](#), 17410 Commerce Park Blvd. Tampa, Fla., from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

**Topics to be discussed at the workshop include: guidance on working with lenders and housing counselors, refinancing and loan modification options and information about HUD's loss mitigation program for FHA mortgages.**

**“Given the downturn in the Tampa area housing market, many families are concerned about their most important investment,” said Bilirakis. “This event will provide families who are concerned about their current housing situation with the chance to sit down with banks and institutions that can help them navigate this uncertain time.”**

**According to the latest report from RealtyTrac, the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area ranks 26th**  
in the nation among metropolitan areas for  
**foreclosures**  
**, with a rate of o**  
ne in every 69 housing units.

**Representatives from the following organizations will be available to provide counseling free of charge:**

- Bank of America
- JP Morgan Chase
- SunTrust
- Fifth Third Bank
- Ocwen Financial
- Wells Fargo
- Wachovia
- HUD
- VA Regional Loan Center
- Bay Area Legal Services
- Florida Department of Financial Services
- Hillsborough County Tax Collector
- Hillsborough County Government-Affordable Housing Unit
- Catholic Charities

- Center of Affordable Homeownership
- Tampa Bay CDC Housing
- St. Petersburg Neighborhood Housing
- Consumer Credit Counseling Service
- Housing and Education Alliance

**If attendees plan to meet with a financial institution they should bring copies of the following items to the workshop for better assistance:**

- **Driver's license**
- **W-2 for 2007 and 2008 (IRS Wage and Tax Statement)**
- **Tax returns for the past 2 years**
- **Past due mortgage bill or any relevant mortgage information**
- **Pay stubs for the past three months**

**To RSVP or to obtain additional information on this seminar, please contact Congressman Bilirakis's Palm Harbor District Office at (727) 773-2871.**