

Rep. Bilirakis to Host Home Foreclosure Assistance Workshop - June 20

PALM HARBOR, Fla. (12 June) - 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, June 20, 2009.

The event will be held at Cypress Woods Elementary, 4900 Cypress Woods Blvd. Palm Harbor, Fla., from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

According to RealtyTrac, the Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater area had 16,464 foreclosure filings in the first quarter of 2009, representing one in every 80 housing units. This represents a nearly 40 percent increase from a year ago, ranking 23rd in the nation among metropolitan areas.

"Homeownership is one of the cornerstones of the American dream. Given the current downturn in the housing market, many families are insecure about their most important investment," said Bilirakis "This event will provide information to families facing foreclosure or who are concerned about their current housing and financial situation."

Among the topics to be discussed include guidance on how to work with lenders and housing counselors as well as refinancing and loan modification options and information about HUD's loss mitigation program for FHA mortgages.

In addition, representatives from the following organizations will be available to provide counseling free of charge:

- HUD
- VA Regional Loan Center
- SunTrust
- Fifth Third Bank
- Bank of America
- Wachovia
- Freddie Mac
- Fannie Mae
- Catholic Charities
- Consumer Credit Counseling Service
- Bay Area Legal Services
- Housing & Education Alliance
- Clearwater Neighborhood Housing
- Tampa Bay Workforce Alliance
- Florida Department of Financial Services
- JP Morgan Chase
- Wells Fargo
- St. Petersburg Neighborhood Housing
- Ocwen Loan Servicing, LLC
- Certified Appraisers Inc.
- H&R Realty
- Worknet Pinellas
- JP Morgan Chase
- Clearwater Neighborhood Housing

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.

```
function fbs_click()
{u=location.href;t=document.title;window.open('http://www.facebook.com/sharer.php?u='+encodeURIComponent(u)+'&t='+encodeURIComponent(t),'sharer','toolbar=0,status=0,width=626,height=436');return false;} html .fb_share_button {
```

```
display: -moz-inline-block; display:inline-block; padding:1px 20px 0 5px; height:15px; border:1px solid #d8dfea;
background:url(http://b.static.ak.fbcdn.net/images/share/facebook_share_icon.gif?8:26981) no-repeat top right; } html
.fb_share_button:hover { color:#fff; border-color:#295582; background:#3b5998
url(http://b.static.ak.fbcdn.net/images/share/facebook_share_icon.gif?8:26981) no-repeat top right; text-decoration:none;
} Share
```