

News Brief

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AMERICAN LAND TITLE ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT TESTIFIES THAT MORE TRANSPARENCY IS NEEDED IN MORTGAGE DISCLOSURES

American Land Title Association President Anne Anastasia testified on July 13, 2011, during a hearing before the House Financial Services Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity. She stated that, "As we seek to improve the mortgage origination process, we need to fundamentally rethink federal mortgage disclosure laws, which are a key part of the architecture of the current process."

To read her comments and the press release, please visit: http://www.alta.org/press/ALTA_Press_Release_anastasi_testimony.pdf

POTENTIAL CHANGES TO FHA SINGLE-FAMILY LOAN LIMITS BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2011

Barring Congressional action, Federal Housing Administration (FHA) loan limits will revert back to loan limits determined under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act (HERA) for loans insured by FHA on or after October 1, 2011. As a result, FHA loan limits would likely decline in 669 of the 3,334 counties or county equivalents that are eligible for FHA insurance.

To view the detailed, 23 page analysis with charts, tables and loan limit data, please visit: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/documents/huddoc?id=fhaloanlmhera.pdf>

PMI TO PAY UNDERWATER BORROWERS TO STAY PUT

Private mortgage insurer, PMI, Group will offer cash incentives to some homeowners in negative equity to help prevent mortgage defaults. The program launched Monday, July 11, 2011, and will start in select real estate markets where falling house prices left borrowers owing significantly more on their mortgage than what

the property is worth. Participation in RH Reward is voluntary and there is no cost to the homeowner, according to PMI. The cash will come after a lengthy period of keeping the mortgage current, generally from 36 to 60 months. According to PMI, the reward will be between 10 to 30% of the unpaid principal balance.

By Jacob Gaffney 7/11/2011 | To read the article in full, please visit: <http://www.housingwire.com/2011/07/11/pmi-to-pay-underwater-borrowers-to-stay-put>

MBA PROPOSES RESERVE ACCOUNT TO COVER SERVICING OF DELINQUENT LOANS

The Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA), Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, and Ginnie Mae are in the process of developing new servicing compensation structures to provide greater flexibility for the servicing of nonperforming loans. The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) is recommending that they consider the idea of a new "reserve account" strategy to cover the higher expenses associated with default servicing.

By Carrie Bay of DSNews 7/08/2011 | To read the article in full, please visit: <http://www.dsnews.com/articles/mba-proposes-reserve-account-to-cover-servicing-of-delinquent-loans-2011-07-08>

TRADE GROUP FIGHTS TO KEEP NATIONAL FLOOD INSURANCE PROGRAM

The American Land Title Association is fighting back against one congresswoman's quest to end the National Flood Insurance Program. The federally-backed program provides affordable flood insurance to homeowners living in certain at-risk communities. On Tuesday, the House of Representatives passed the bill.

By Kerri Panchuk 7/12/2011 | To read the article in full, please visit: <http://www.housingwire.com/2011/07/12/trade-group-fights-to-keep-national-flood-insurance-program>



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