

Consumer Federation of America  
Consumers Union  
U.S. Public Interest Research Group (PIRG)

Support Frank and Carson Amendments To HR 2622  
**Increase Furnisher Responsibility.**  
**Permit Resellers to Improve Accuracy.**

The foundation of the entire credit reporting system is the accuracy of information that is reported. Inaccuracies can result in consumers being denied or charged significantly higher rates for credit and other essential services. Unfortunately, HR 2622 does not adequately address the broad and credible evidence that was offered in subcommittee hearings of serious problems with credit reporting accuracy.

**In order to increase the accuracy of credit reports and enhance the overall efficiency and fairness of the credit reporting system, those who provide the underlying information about consumers must do so responsibly.** The Frank amendment will increase the responsibility of creditors and other data furnishers to report accurate information. This amendment uses an existing state standard for responsible behavior by furnishers and applies it uniformly to all furnishers nationally. Not only will this improved standard result in more accurate credit reports for consumers, it is not a new mandate: it is a standard with which creditors operating in Massachusetts are already complying. **We strongly urge you to support the Frank amendment to HR 2622 to ensure more accurate reporting by data furnishers.**

Credit report resellers who conduct reinvestigations of outdated, incorrect, or incomplete credit information during the mortgage application process play an important role in mitigating the damage done by inaccurate credit reports. In addition to other measures intended to reduce the occurrence of errors in credit reports, Congress should be careful to preserve the ability of credit report resellers to reinvestigate errors in credit reports.

**We urge you to support the Carson amendment, which clarifies the intent of HR 2622 and explicitly permits resellers to conduct reinvestigations on behalf of consumers. It is our understanding that this clarifying amendment has the support of the FTC.**

Supporting both amendments will reduce the harm consumers would otherwise suffer through higher cost mortgages or reduced access to homeownership that can result from inaccurate and incomplete credit reports.

While there are other important measures that should also be taken to improve the accuracy of information in credit reports, these two improvements to HR 2622 represent important steps forward.

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