

Congressman Al Green
Testimony Before the U.S. House Financial Services Committee
Member Day
June 24, 2025

Chairman Hill and Ranking Member Waters, thank you for the opportunity to testify in today's hearing. I rise today to speak on the Original Legislation Awarding a Historic Congressional Gold Medal, Collectively, to Africans and Their Descendants Enslaved Within Our Country from August 20, 1619 to December 6, 1865; the Reforming Disaster Recovery Act; the Shielding Community Banks from Systemic Risk Assessments Act; H.R. 3716, the Systemic Risk Authority Transparency Act; the Financial Compensation for CFPB Whistleblowers Act; H.R. 68, the Housing Fairness Act of 2025; and H.R. 166, the Fair Lending for All Act.

The Original Legislation Awarding a Historic Congressional Gold Medal, Collectively, to Africans and Their Descendants Enslaved Within Our Country from August 20, 1619 to December 6, 1865, would award a Congressional Gold Medal to the foundational mothers and fathers of our country: the over 10 million enslaved men, women, and children who toiled for 240 years to build our nation's economic and infrastructural foundation.

The Reforming Disaster Recovery Act would codify into federal law the fundamental requirements and policy objectives of the Community Development Block Grant-Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) program. This legislation would ensure the timely and efficient distribution of relief funds appropriated by Congress to disaster victims.

The Shielding Community Banks from Systemic Risk Assessments Act would exempt community banks from any special assessment of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation following the use of a systemic risk exception.

The Systemic Risk Authority Transparency Act would require financial regulators to issue a report following the invocation of the systemic risk exception. This legislation would help inform the public about why regulators take certain measures following the collapse of financial institutions.

The Financial Compensation for CFPB Whistleblowers Act would require the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to provide awards to whistleblowers who come forward with evidence of wrongdoing. This legislation would incentivize whistleblowers to reveal evidence of unlawful activity and help the Bureau better fulfill its mandate.

The Housing Fairness Act would expand efforts to detect and address housing discrimination. This legislation would require the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to conduct a nationwide testing program to detect and document differences in the treatment of prospective renters, homebuyers, or mortgage borrowers, as well as to measure the patterns and prevalence of such discriminatory practices across housing and mortgage lending markets.

The Fair Lending for All Act would create an Office of Fair Lending Testing within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to expose invidious discrimination and hold predatory financial institutions and individuals accountable. This office would test financial institutions for compliance with the Equal Credit Opportunity Act (ECOA), similarly to how the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity tests for compliance with the Fair Housing Act.

Thank you for your consideration.