

Last week, Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke testified before the Senate Banking Committee regarding his nomination to a second term. The nomination process has brought to light considerable concern over the role of the Federal Reserve, especially regarding its actions prior to and during the financial crisis. While only the Senate will vote on his appointment, I have expressed my concern with the direction the Fed has taken under his chairmanship and have demanded greater transparency by cosponsoring a measure that would require an audit of the Federal Reserve. This bill, [H.R. 1207](#), was introduced by Representative Ron Paul and now has over 300 cosponsors. Importantly, the House Financial Services Committee has included the audit in broader financial reform legislation because of the widespread bipartisan support for this action. The American people have spoken loudly to their representatives on this issue, and I'm pleased that Congress appears to be listening.