



Consumer Federation of America

1620 I Street, N.W., Suite 200 * Washington, DC 20006

IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 28, 2011

Contact: Jack Gillis 202-737-0766

**Statement of Travis Plunkett, Legislative Director, on the
Retirement of Representative Barney Frank**

American consumers and investors will lose one of their most effective champions when Barney Frank retires. Since arriving in Congress in 1981, Frank has racked up an extraordinary record of achievement on affordable housing, preventing lending abuses and reforming financial services regulation. As Chairman of the House Financial Services Committee in 2010, Frank steered to enactment the most consequential overhaul of financial regulation in eighty years. If not for Frank's efforts, this law would not have created a federal agency with the sole mission of protecting consumers from abusive and unsustainable financial practices. The Dodd-Frank Act should provide significant protection for consumers and the economy for decades to come if it is not weakened by Congress or regulators.

Media profiles of Frank over the years have often focused on Frank's personality, especially his sharp wit and considerable debating abilities. It is now more evident than ever that Frank is also an extremely skillful lawmaker. In fact, it is very likely that he will be seen by knowledgeable observers in the future as one of the most effective and accomplished Chairmen in the history of the House of Representatives.

Consumer Federation of America is a nonprofit association of nearly 300 consumer groups that was founded in 1968 to advance the consumer interest through research, advocacy, and education.