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Rep. Jerry McNerney, D-Pleasanton, asked the Obama administration to develop more effective efforts to help San Joaquin County residents stem the tide of property foreclosures.

"The Valley has been ground zero for the foreclosure crisis," McNerney told Congress last week. "The administration's foreclosure prevention initiatives have fallen short in the Valley. Simply put, the administration's programs haven't effectively served the people under water on their mortgage, and the administration hasn't been tough enough on the big banks."

McNerney also said he opposed House Bill 830, which would cancel the Federal Housing Administration refinance program.