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Rep. Jerry McNerney said he was glad to learn that five banks have agreed to a settlement in the foreclosure crisis, especially considering that San Joaquin County has been hard hit by home foreclosures.

“I am hopeful that people in our region will be helped by this settlement, but we must be vigilant in monitoring how effectively this settlement is carried out and make sure the banks live up to their commitments,” McNerney, D-Pleasanton, said in a news release.

“Far too many families have been forced out of their homes, and millions more remain at risk of foreclosure or underwater in their homes,” he said.

“I am interested to find out exactly how the promise that folks in the hardest-hit areas — like Northern California — will be made a priority for assistance, and how we can make sure the maximum amount of homeowners are being helped,” McNerney said.