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*Federal Housing Finance Board Announces  
Mortgage Index Rate*

Washington, D.C. -- The Federal Housing Finance Board today announced that the final October value of the National Average Contract Mortgage Rate for the Purchase of Previously Occupied Homes by Combined Lenders was 6.66 percent. This is a decrease of 0.20 percent from the September value. Many lenders use this rate in adjusting some adjustable-rate mortgages. This index was the only index rate that Federally chartered savings and loan associations could use as an adjustable-rate mortgage index in the early 1980s. For many years, this index was made available by the former Federal Home Loan Bank Board, and later by the Office of Thrift Supervision.

Interested parties can receive up-to-date information on this index value by calling (202) 408-2940. The November index value will be announced on December 27, 2001. The following table displays the history of this index for the past 13 months.

| <b>Announce Date</b> | <b>Index Month</b> | <b>Index Rate</b> |
|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| November 28, 2001    | October 2001       | 6.66              |
| October 26, 2001     | September 2001     | 6.86              |
| September 26, 2001   | August 2001        | 6.99              |
| August 28, 2001      | July 2001          | 7.10              |
| July 26, 2001        | June 2001          | 7.10              |
| June 26, 2001        | May 2001           | 7.08              |
| May 25, 2001         | April 2001         | 7.01              |
| April 26, 2001       | March 2001         | 7.02              |
| March 27, 2001       | February 2001      | 7.10              |
| February 27, 2001    | January 2001       | 7.25              |
| January 26, 2001     | December 2000      | 7.59              |
| December 26, 2000    | November 2000      | 7.73              |
| November 28, 2000    | October 2000       | 7.81              |