

# Hearings Set In Toledo On Redlining Ohio House Panel

Blade Columbus Bureau

COLUMBUS — The Ohio House financial institution subcommittee is scheduled to meet in Toledo Friday to hold public hearings on a bill which deals with alleged redlining by mortgage lenders.

State Rep. John D. Thompson, Jr. (D., Cleveland), subcommittee chairman, said that the hearings will involve House Bill 934, which would prohibit redlining. He described redlining as a policy allegedly used by some lending institutions to exclude systematically and deliberately some neighborhoods from consideration of mortgage loans.

He said it is charged that the institutions "blackball" loan applications involving certain geographical areas or neighborhoods because of a suspected or an apparent decline in the quality of the physical structures.

The subcommittee meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. at the Greater Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce, 218 Huron St. The morning session will be for proponents of the bill, and the afternoon for opponents. Mr. Thompson said public testimony is invited.

"To systematically choke off mortgage loans to an area because of a downward trend in the quality of neighborhood property may, in fact, only hasten deterioration," Mr. Thompson, sponsor of the anti-redlining bill, said. "Because no lending institution honors mortgage applications from a red-lined area, little property turnover and little property upgrading occurs."