

PRESS RELEASE

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**HOME LOAN FINANCIAL CORPORATION
ANNOUNCES FOURTH STOCK REPURCHASE PROGRAM**

COSHOCTON, OHIO, March 27, 2000 – The Home Loan Financial Corporation (Nasdaq: HLFC) announced its intention today to repurchase up to an additional 5% of its outstanding shares, or 96,380 shares, in the open market. The shares will be purchased at prevailing market prices from time to time depending upon market conditions.

Robert C. Hamilton, President, indicated that the Board of Directors approved this fourth repurchase program in view of the current price level of the Corporation's common shares and the strong capital position of the Corporation and its subsidiary, The Home Loan Savings Bank. Hamilton stated, "We believe the continued repurchase of our shares represents an attractive investment opportunity which will benefit the Corporation and our shareholders. The repurchased shares will become treasury shares available for general corporate purposes, including the issuance of shares in connection with the exercise of stock options."

The Corporation completed its conversion to a publicly-owned stock company on March 25, 1998, with the sale of 2,248,250 shares at \$10 per share. In May 1999, the Corporation paid a special cash distribution to shareholders of \$4.00 per share. This is the fourth 5% stock repurchase initiated by the Corporation since the completion of the conversion. At December 31, 1999 the Corporation had \$109.2 million in assets and shareholders' equity of \$19.4 million.

Home Loan Financial Corporation is the holding company for The Home Loan Savings Bank. The Home Loan Savings Bank has two offices located in Coshocton, Ohio and a branch in West Lafayette, Ohio.