

April 6, 2018

The Honorable Mario Díaz-Balart
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable David Price
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member, Appropriations Subcommittee on
Transportation, Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Díaz -Balart, Ranking Member Price, Chairwoman Collins, and Ranking Member Reed:

On behalf of the more than 1,500 national, state, and local members of the HOME Coalition, we thank you for supporting the proven outcomes of the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) by providing \$1.362 billion for the program in the Fiscal Year (FY) 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act. This is a significant step in restoring funding to one of the most effective, locally driven tools to help states and communicates increase access to safe, decent and affordable housing for low-income households.

The HOME Coalition is encouraged by what states and localities will be able to accomplish with their increased FY 2018 HOME allocations, from producing new units where affordable housing is scarce, rehabilitating housing where quality is a challenge, and providing the right mix of rental and homeownership housing.

We also know that communities across the country will face increased demands for HOME funding, including providing additional gap financing in Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credit) deals impacted by lower corporate tax rates enacted as part of tax reform; financing more Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversions as the omnibus more than doubled the cap of eligible public housing units; and redirecting their HOME funds to respond and rebuild after natural disasters. This is why increased funding for HOME is even more critical.

Thank you again for providing \$1.362 billion for HOME in FY 2018, a significant step in restoring funding for a successful program that has weathered cuts too often in the past. We look forward to working with you to ensure that Congress continues to restore funding for HOME in FY 2019.

If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Althea Arnold (aarnold@ncsha.org) with the National Council of State Housing Agencies or Clay Kerchof (ckkerchof@enterprisecommunity.org) with Enterprise Community Partners.

Sincerely,

The HOME Coalition