

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 30, 2021

The Honorable David E. Price
Chairman
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing, Urban Development and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
2108 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation,
Housing, Urban Development and
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
404 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Diaz-Balart:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 appropriations process, we respectfully ask the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) to restore funding for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) to at least \$1.85 billion for FY 2022. The additional funds would help meet the needs of the millions of low-income households across the U.S. without access to affordable housing.

For nearly 30 years, HOME has proven to be one of the most effective, locally driven tools to help states and communities address their most pressing housing challenges. Overseen by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HOME is the only federal block grant program exclusively focused on helping states and communities address their affordable housing needs for low-income households, including veterans, persons with disabilities, seniors and persons experiencing homelessness. HOME has also proven critical as gap financing for the Housing Credit and Rental Assistance Demonstration, and it is often used by communities rebuilding from natural disasters.

HOME can be used for new multi-family rental construction and rehabilitation, homeowner rehabilitation, homebuyer assistance, and tenant-based rental assistance. States and local communities use HOME to fund new production where affordable housing is scarce, rehabilitation where housing quality is a challenge, rental assistance when units are available, and provide homeownership opportunities when those are most needed. This flexibility means that states and communities can quickly react to changes in their local housing markets.

HOME funds serve as a critical resource for communities in all 50 states and in every congressional district. Since 1992, HOME has helped to create over 1.33 million homes and provided rental assistance to over 384,000 families, 43 percent of which are extremely low-income. The HOME program has a remarkably successful track record of attracting other sources of public and private capital and leverages nearly \$5 for every \$1 invested in the program. According to the HOME Coalition's recent report, this investment has supported an estimated 1.9 million jobs and generated \$124 billion in local economic impact.

Despite its success, the HOME program has been underfunded for years—cuts in funding since FY 2011 reduced production of affordable homes by 69 percent, annually. While Congress provided \$1.35 billion for HOME in FY 2020 and FY 2021—marking the second highest allocations since FY 2011—demand for HOME funds continue to far outstrip supply. On average, HOME grantees are only able to finance two out of five shovel-ready projects intended to help vulnerable members in their communities, according to a recent HOME Coalition survey.

Last year, Congress established a 4 percent minimum rate for bond-financed Housing Credit properties, giving communities across the nation the opportunity to build more affordable housing.

To meet this objective, many of these properties will need HOME financing too, creating increased demand for limited HOME resources. Restoring HOME funding to at least \$1.85 billion must be part of any effort to address American households' acute and growing need for affordable housing.

We urge you to restore HOME program funding to at least \$1.85 billion in order to promote local economic development, create jobs, and ensure that every American has access to a safe, affordable home.

Sincerely,



Joyce Beatty, OH-03
Member of Congress

Member of Congress

**HOME Investment Partnerships Program
Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Request
List of Signatories**

Nydia M. Velázquez [NY-07]	Kathleen M. Rice [NY-04]
Steve Cohen [TN-09]	Albio Sires [NJ-08]
Cheri Bustos [IL-17]	Mike Doyle [PA-18]
Stacey E. Plaskett [VI-AL]	James P. McGovern [MA-02]
Robin L. Kelly [IL-02]	Frank Mrvan [IN-01]
John Yarmuth [KY-03]	Vicente Gonzalez [TX-15]
Alan Lowenthal [CA-47]	Joseph D. Morelle [NY-25]
Mark DeSaulnier [CA-11]	Julia Brownley [CA-26]
Adam Smith [WA-09]	Frank Pallone, Jr. [NJ-06]
Danny K. Davis [IL-07]	Deborah K. Ross [NC-02]
Earl Blumenauer [OR-03]	Suzanne Bonamici [OR-01]
Chellie Pingree [ME-01]	Linda T. Sánchez [CA-38]
John Garamendi [CA-03]	Juan Vargas [CA-51]
Debbie Dingell [MI-12]	Gerald E. Connolly [VA-11]
Eleanor Holmes Norton [DC-AL]	Jim Himes [CT-04]
Kaiali'i Kahele [HI-02]	Adam B. Schiff [CA-28]
Donald M. Payne, Jr. [NJ-10]	Jared Huffman [CA-02]
Kim Schrier, M.D. [WA-08]	Filemon Vela [TX-34]
Jahana Hayes [CT-05]	Seth Moulton [MA-06]
Lisa Blunt Rochester [DE-AL]	Rick Larsen [WA-02]
Eric Swalwell [CA-15]	Maxine Waters [CA-43]
Jan Schakowsky [IL-09]	Antonio Delgado [NY-19]
Paul D. Tonko [NY-20]	Dina Titus [NV-01]
Thomas R. Suozzi [NY-03]	Daniel T. Kildee [MI-05]
Mike Levin [CA-49]	Jason Crow [CO-06]
Donald S. Beyer Jr. [VA-08]	Bill Foster [IL-11]
Michael R. Turner [OH-10]	Peter A. DeFazio [OR-04]
Salud Carbajal [CA-24]	Marc Veasey [TX-33]
Donald Norcross [NJ-01]	Joaquin Castro [TX-20]
Bill Pascrell, Jr. [NJ-09]	Doris Matsui [CA-06]
Anthony G. Brown [MD-04]	Conor Lamb [PA-17]
Peter Welch [VT-AL]	David Scott [GA-13]
James R. Langevin [RI-02]	A. Donald McEachin [VA-04]
John P. Sarbanes [MD-03]	Ilhan Omar [MN-05]
Elissa Slotkin [MI-08]	Ami Bera, M.D. [CA-07]
Andy Kim [NJ-03]	Nikema Williams [GA-05]
Joe Courtney [CT-02]	Sheila Jackson Lee [TX-18]