

MARCIA L. FUDGE

11TH DISTRICT OF OHIO

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON NUTRITION,
OVERSIGHT & DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CONSERVATION & FORESTRY

COMMITTEE ON HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

CHAIR, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS

COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEE ON CIVIL RIGHTS & HUMAN SERVICES

SUBCOMMITTEE ON HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT,
LABOR & PENSIONS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
2344 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-7032; (202) 225-1339 FAX

DISTRICT OFFICES

RICHMOND HIGHLAND CENTER
4834 RICHMOND ROAD, SUITE 150
WARRENSVILLE HEIGHTS, OHIO 44128
(216) 522-4900; (216) 522-4908 FAX

LAWTON COMMUNITY CENTER
1225 LAWTON STREET
AKRON, OHIO 44320
(330) 835-4758; (330) 835-4863 FAX

E-MAIL: <http://fudge.house.gov>

April 2, 2019

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

Dear Chairman Price and Ranking Member Mario Diaz-Balart:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year 2020 appropriations process, we respectfully request your consideration of the needs of the millions of low-income households across the United States without access to affordable housing. Specifically, we ask the Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies (THUD) Appropriations Subcommittee to restore HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funding to at least \$1.5 billion for Fiscal Year 2020.

For over 25 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 (HUD), 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 in gap financing for the Low Income Housing Tax 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 affordable homes 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 1.29 million homes and provided rental assistance to over 356,000 families. The HOME program has a remarkably successful track record of attracting other sources of public and private capital and leverages \$4.38 for every \$1 invested in the program. According to the HOME Coalition's recent report, this investment has supported an estimated 1.75 million jobs and generated \$115 billion in local income.

Despite this success, the HOME program has been underfunded for years - cut nearly in half between FY 2010 and FY 2017. In FY 2018, Congress funded HOME at \$1.362 billion - a significant step in restoring

some of these cuts – yet in FY 2019, Congress cut HOME again to \$1.25 billion, eight percent below FY 2018 and 32 percent less than in FY 2010. Demand for HOME funds 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.

Adequate funding is even more critical this year as we anticipate HOME will be needed to provide additional gap financing in Low Income Housing Tax Credit deals impacted by lower corporate tax rates enacted as part of tax reform and as states and localities across the country redirect their HOME funds to respond and rebuild after natural disasters. Restoring HOME funding to at least \$1.5 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 \$1.5 billion in order to promote local economic development, create jobs, and ensure that every American has access to a safe, affordable home.

Sincerely,



Marcia L. Fudge
Member of Congress



Donald M. Payne, Jr.
Member of Congress


Alan Lowenthal
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress



Raja Krishnamoorthi
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
Member of Congress


Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress


Daniel T. Kildee
Member of Congress


Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress


Thomas R. Suozzi
Member of Congress


Val Demings
Member of Congress



Ro Khanna
Member of Congress

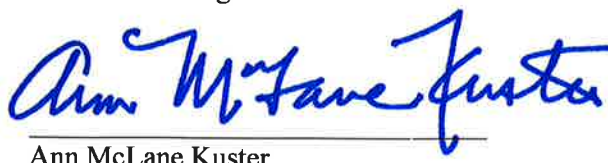

David Scott
Member of Congress


Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress


Mike Doyle
Member of Congress


Filemon Vela
Member of Congress


A. Donald McEachin
Member of Congress


Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress


Chris Pappas
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
Member of Congress



Glenn "GT" Thompson
Member of Congress



John Yarmuth
Member of Congress



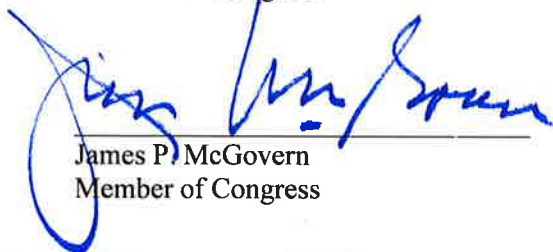
Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress



Mike Thompson
Member of Congress



Eric Swalwell
Member of Congress



James P. McGovern
Member of Congress



Jamie Raskin
Member of Congress



Mark DeSaulnier
Member of Congress



Cedric L. Richmond
Member of Congress



Antonio Delgado
Member of Congress



Dwight Evans
Member of Congress



Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress



Debbie Wasserman Schultz
Member of Congress



Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress



Seth Moulton
Member of Congress



Katie Hill
Member of Congress



Brendan F. Boyle
Member of Congress



Robert C. "Bobby" Scott
Member of Congress



Susan A. Davis
Member of Congress



Conor Lamb
Member of Congress



Jim Himes
Member of Congress



Cheri Bustos
Member of Congress



Dean Phillips
Member of Congress



Anthony G. Brown
Member of Congress



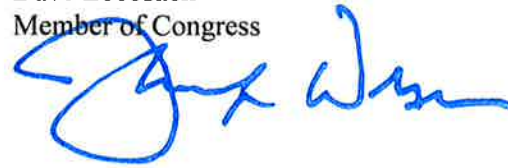
Zoe Lofgren
Member of Congress



Salud O. Carbajal
Member of Congress



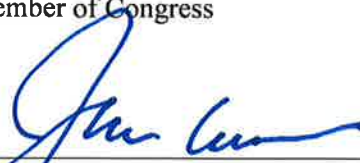
Dave Loebsack
Member of Congress



Jennifer Wexton
Member of Congress



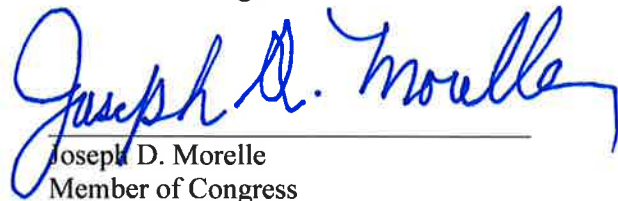
Ed Perlmutter
Member of Congress



Jason Crow
Member of Congress



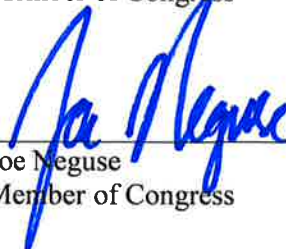
Deb Haaland
Member of Congress



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress



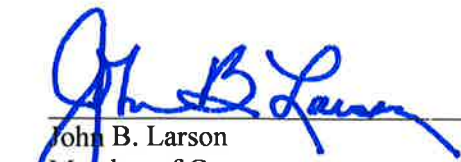
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Joe Neguse
Member of Congress



Tulsi Gabbard
Member of Congress



John B. Larson
Member of Congress



Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



Jared Huffman
Member of Congress



Rashida Flaib
Member of Congress



Ami Bera, M.D.
Member of Congress



Jim Langevin
Member of Congress



Steve Cohen
Member of Congress



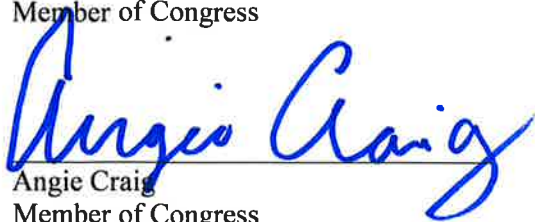
Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress



Rick Larsen
Member of Congress



Darren Soto
Member of Congress



Angie Craig
Member of Congress



Max Rose
Member of Congress



Stephanie Murphy
Member of Congress



Kathy Castor
Member of Congress



Michael R. Turner
Member of Congress



Frank Pallone, Jr.
Member of Congress



Diana DeGette
Member of Congress



Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress



Peter A. DeFazio
Member of Congress



Andre' Carson
Member of Congress



Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress



Shellie Pingree
Member of Congress



Peter Welch
Member of Congress



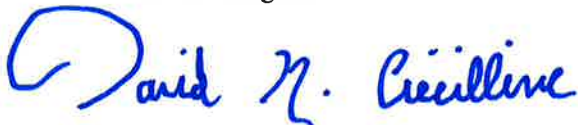
Bobby L. Rush
Member of Congress



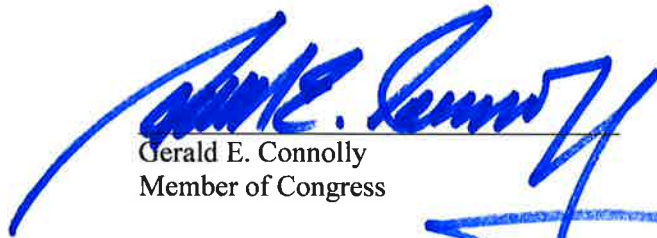
Collin C. Peterson
Member of Congress



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress



David N. Cicilline
Member of Congress



Gerald E. Connolly
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



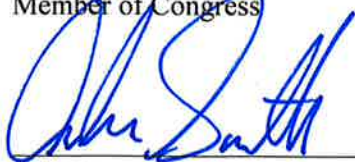
Joaquin Castro
Member of Congress



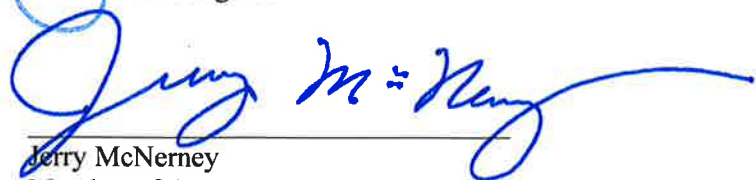
Juan Vargas
Member of Congress



Julia Brownley
Member of Congress



Adam Smith
Member of Congress



Jerry McNerney
Member of Congress



Albio Sires
Member of Congress



Adam B. Schiff
Member of Congress

Harley Rouda

Harley Rouda
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Joyce Beatty

Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Doris Matsui

Doris Matsui
Member of Congress

Don Young

Don Young
Member of Congress

Sean Patrick Maloney

Sean Patrick Maloney
Member of Congress

Joe Courtney

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Emanuel Cleaver, II

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Raul Ruiz, M.D.

Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress

Al Green

Al Green
Member of Congress

Marc Veasey

Marc Veasey
Member of Congress

Alcee L. Hastings

Alcee L. Hastings
Member of Congress

Bill Foster

Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Jan Schakowsky

Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress

John Garamendi

John Garamendi
Member of Congress

Paul Tonko

Paul Tonko
Member of Congress

John P. Sarbanes

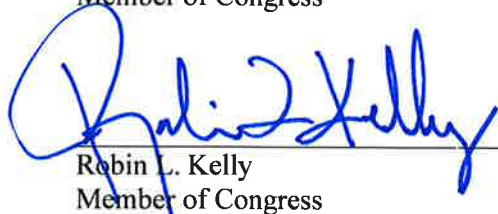
John P. Sarbanes
Member of Congress


Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress


Bill Pascrell, Jr.
Member of Congress

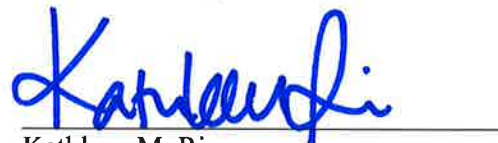

Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan
Member of Congress



Rosa L. DeLauro
Member of Congress


Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress



Wm. Lacy Clay
Member of Congress


Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress


Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Member of Congress


Donald Norcross
Member of Congress


Alex X. Mooney
Member of Congress


Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress


Denny Heck
Member of Congress


John Katko
Member of Congress


Brian Higgins
Member of Congress


Dina Titus
Member of Congress


Jackie Speier
Member of Congress


Barbara Lee
Member of Congress



Maxine Waters
Member of Congress



Judy Chu
Member of Congress



Elijah E. Cummings
Member of Congress