



October 2, 2023

The Honorable Patty Murray
Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
Vice Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
Chairwoman
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, District Columbia 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, District Columbia 20515

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chair, Senate Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing,
and Urban Development
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Ranking Member, Senate Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing,
and Urban Development
Washington, District of Columbia 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chair, House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing,
and Urban Development
Washington, District of Columbia 20515

The Honorable Mike Quigley
Ranking Member, House Appropriations
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing
and Urban Development
Washington, District of Columbia 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Vice Chair Collins, Chairwoman Granger, Ranking Member DeLauro, Chairman Schatz, Ranking Member Hyde-Smith, Chairman Cole, and Ranking Member Quigley:

As Congress endeavors to finalize appropriations legislation for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, on behalf of the HOME Coalition, we respectfully urge members to support no less than the \$1.5 billion in funding as provided in the bill reported favorably out of the Senate Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) appropriations subcommittee.

Housing supply is a serious challenge, and the HOME program is a critical way for local communities to respond—through affordable homeownership, rental development, and tenant-based rental assistance where needed. HOME is also an important gap filler for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC), our country’s number one tool for affordable rental housing. As inflation has driven up costs, HOME is an essential way for LIHTC developments to close. Communities across the country also use HOME as a first line of defense to provide rental assistance and rebuild when there is a natural disaster. HOME is also a smart investment — leveraging \$4.76 in public and private funds for every dollar in HOME funding — and has supported more than 2 million jobs and generated more than \$131 billion in local income according to the HOME Coalition’s most recent analysis.

Our country cannot afford cuts to HOME, especially those proposed by the House Appropriations Committee which would result in nearly 17,000 fewer affordable homes built or rehabilitated this year, and rental assistance for 5,000 fewer people in need compared to this year and the Senate's FY 2024 proposal. The HOME-ARP program, an entirely different emergency program, has different purposes that are also important but are not a replacement for HOME.

HOME is the only federal grant program that provides states and localities the resources and flexibility they need to address the affordable housing crisis, and it is imperative for Congress to provide adequate resources for this essential purpose. Accordingly, we respectfully urge you to continue to support no less than the Senate THUD funding level of \$1.5 billion in any eventual FY 2024 funding legislation. If you have any questions about this letter, please contact Robert Henson (rhenson@ncsha.org) with the National Council of State Housing Agencies, Josh Shumaker (jshumaker@coscda.org) with the Council of State Community Development Agencies, or Xavier Arriaga (xarriaga@enterprisecommunity.org) at Enterprise Community Partners.

CC: The Honorable Chuck Schumer, Majority Leader, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Minority Leader, U.S. Senate
The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries, Minority Leader, U.S. House of Representatives

