Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 23, 2025

The Honorable Cindy-Hyde Smith
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development & Related Agencies
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kristen Gillibrand
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development & Related Agencies
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Steve Womack
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Jim Clyburn
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair Hyde-Smith, Ranking Member Gillibrand, Chair Womack, and Ranking Member Clyburn:

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (THUD) and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, we respectfully request that you include funding to ensure that the nearly 60,000 households who are currently being served by the Emergency Housing Voucher (EHV) program do not fall into homelessness.

During the pandemic, Congress appropriated $5 billion in mandatory funding for the EHV program to help people experiencing or at risk of experiencing homelessness, including survivors of domestic violence and victims of human trafficking, access safe, stable and affordable housing during a moment of crisis.

Since 2021, the success of the EHV program and its design, which includes critical administrative flexibilities that are responsive to a tumultuous housing market, cannot be overstated. The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) reported that EHVs are leasing at a rate faster than any previous housing voucher program within HUD and drove unprecedented collaboration among public housing agencies (PHAs), homeless services organizations, and victim services organizations to provide rapid and effective housing assistance to vulnerable populations. PHAs in every state have benefited from the improved voucher issuance and utilization that the EHV program provides, as have the people and communities they serve. Congress must provide sufficient and robust funding to ensure that the families who rely on EHVs don't lose their housing.

We understand that the Subcommittee must make difficult decisions. However, the EHV program provides rental assistance to help end and prevent homelessness. At a time when housing costs and homelessness continue to rise, we respectfully request that you provide adequate funding in the FY26 THUD Appropriations bill to renew all EHVs to ensure that those who have been served by the program do not lose their housing support and to ensure landlords continue receiving the rental payments they depend on to maintain their properties. Thank you for your consideration of this request and your continued support for the most vulnerable Americans.

Sincerely,

Alex Padilla
United States Senator

Elizabeth Warren
Ranking Member
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Maxine Waters
Ranking Member
Committee on Financial Services

Angela Alsobrooks
United States Senator

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

Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator

Yassamin Ansari
Member of Congress

Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator

Becca Balint
Member of Congress

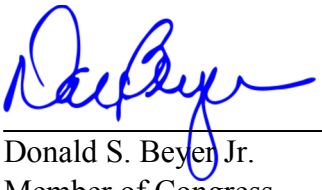
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator

Nanette Diaz Barragán
Member of Congress

Lisa Blunt Rochester
United States Senator

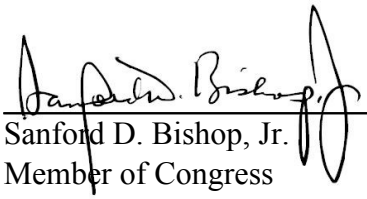
Joyce Beatty
Member of Congress

Maria Cantwell
United States Senator

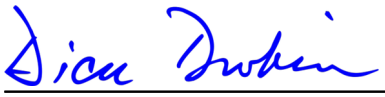


Donald S. Beyer Jr.
Member of Congress

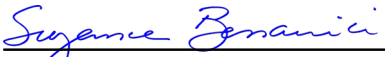
Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



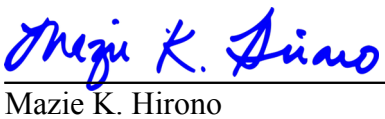
Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.
Member of Congress



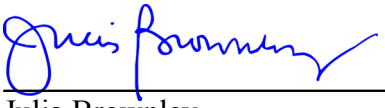
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Suzanne Bonamici
Member of Congress

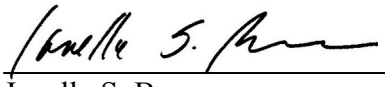


Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator

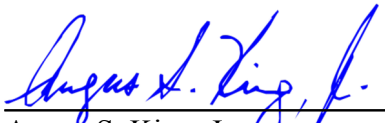


Julia Brownley
Member of Congress

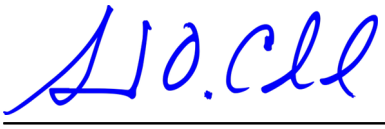
Andy Kim
United States Senator



Janelle S. Bynum
Member of Congress



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Salud Carbajal
Member of Congress

Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator

André Carson
Member of Congress

Ben Ray Luján
United States Senator

Greg Casar
Member of Congress

Edward J. Markey
United States Senator

Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.
Member of Congress

Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator

Emanuel Cleaver, II
Member of Congress

Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator

Steve Cohen
Member of Congress

Jack Reed
United States Senator

Joe Courtney
Member of Congress

Bernard Sanders
United States Senator

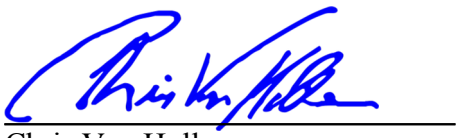
Sharice L. Davids
Member of Congress

Adam B. Schiff
United States Senator

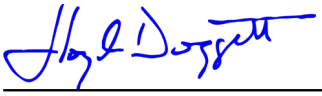
Danny K. Davis
Member of Congress

Tina Smith
United States Senator

Maxine Dexter
Member of Congress



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator

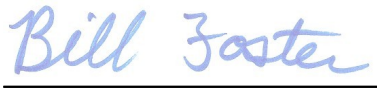


Lloyd Doggett
Member of Congress

Mark R. Warner
United States Senator

Cleo Fields
Member of Congress

Peter Welch
United States Senator

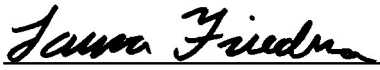


Bill Foster
Member of Congress

Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator

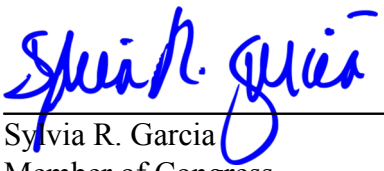
Valerie P. Foushee
Member of Congress

Ron Wyden
United States Senator



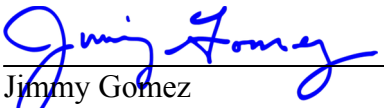
Laura Friedman
Member of Congress

Jesús G. "Chuy" García
Member of Congress



Sylvia R. Garcia
Member of Congress

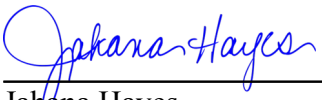
Dan Goldman
Member of Congress



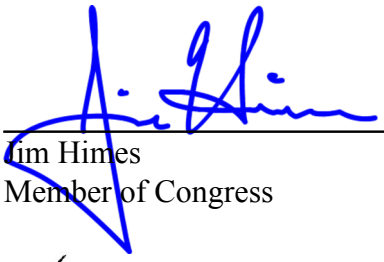
Jimmy Gomez
Member of Congress

Maggie Goodlander
Member of Congress

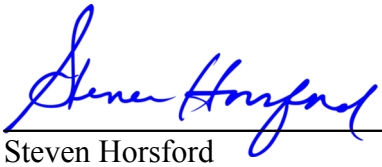
Al Green
Member of Congress



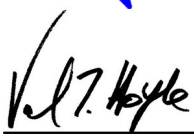
Jahana Hayes
Member of Congress



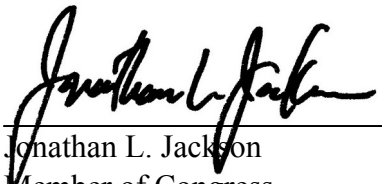
Jim Himes
Member of Congress



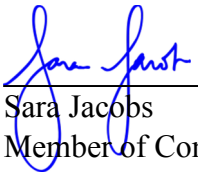
Steven Horsford
Member of Congress



Val Hoyle
Member of Congress



Jonathan L. Jackson
Member of Congress

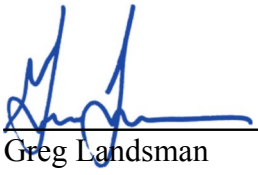


Sara Jacobs
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Robin L. Kelly
Member of Congress

Ro Khanna
Member of Congress



Greg Landsman
Member of Congress

John B. Larson
Member of Congress

Sam T. Liccardo
Member of Congress

Ted W. Lieu
Member of Congress

Stephen F. Lynch
Member of Congress

Morgan McGarvey
Member of Congress

James P. McGovern
Member of Congress

LaMonica McIver
Member of Congress

Gregory W. Meeks
Member of Congress

Dave Min
Member of Congress

Gwen S. Moore
Member of Congress

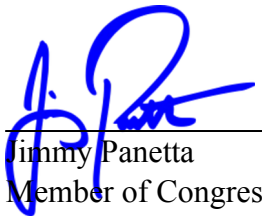
Kevin Mullin
Member of Congress

Jerrold Nadler
Member of Congress

Eleanor Holmes Norton
Member of Congress

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Member of Congress

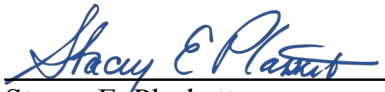
Ilhan Omar
Member of Congress



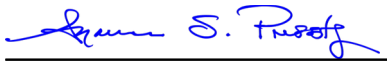
Jimmy Panetta
Member of Congress

Scott H. Peters
Member of Congress

Brittany Pettersen
Member of Congress



Stacey E. Plaskett
Member of Congress

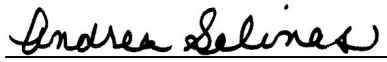


Ayanna Pressley
Member of Congress

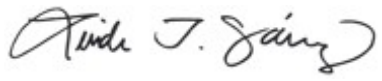
Delia C. Ramirez
Member of Congress

Luz M. Rivas
Member of Congress

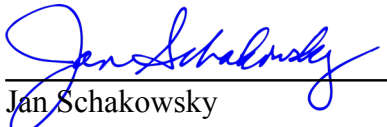
Raul Ruiz, M.D.
Member of Congress



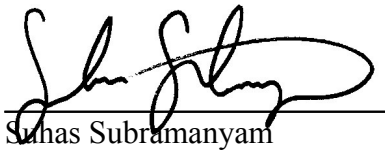
Andrea Salinas
Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez
Member of Congress



Jan Schakowsky
Member of Congress



Suhas Subramanyam
Member of Congress

Shri Thanedar
Member of Congress

Rashida Tlaib
Member of Congress

Derek T. Tran
Member of Congress

Nydia M. Velázquez
Member of Congress

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress

Frederica S. Wilson
Member of Congress