



July 16, 2015

The Honorable Matt Cartwright  
1419 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Representative Cartwright:

The National Housing Conference is pleased by the introduction of the Preparedness and Risk Management for Extreme Weather Patterns Assuring Resilience and Effectiveness Act, the PREPARE Act. We write to express our support.

The National Housing Conference represents a diverse membership of housing stakeholders including tenant advocates, mortgage bankers, nonprofit and for-profit home builders, property managers, policy practitioners, real estate professionals, equity investors, and more, all of whom share a commitment to safe, decent and affordable housing for all in America. We are the nation's oldest housing advocacy organization, dedicated to the affordable housing mission since our founding in 1931. We are a nonpartisan, 501(c)3 nonprofit that brings together our broad-based membership to advocate on housing issues.

The National Housing Conference supports the PREPARE Act because housing is a basic necessity and a major investment in every community. Natural disasters are an ongoing and severe threat to all, but particularly to the lowest income households. The PREPARE Act is a first step in the right direction towards building resilient communities through planning and addressing vulnerable investments and communities before a disaster occurs. The PREPARE Act will enable the federal government to more effectively plan for disasters and create an approach that is proactive in addition to responding to disasters once they occur. NHC believes this legislation is one important tool, among many, towards becoming more resilient in the face of natural disasters.

In closing, NHC endorses the PREPARE Act and looks forward to working with you on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Estes". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chris Estes  
President and CEO