

May 16, 2016

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Chairman  
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban  
Affairs  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Crapo and Ranking Member Brown,

The National Housing Conference is pleased to see Pamela Hughes Patenaude nominated as Deputy Secretary of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. Her long-standing commitment to ensuring that all in America have access to affordable housing and her experience finding bipartisan solutions to our nation's housing challenges make her an excellent choice to help lead the department.

Ms. Patenaude has been a housing leader in a variety of roles, including as a member of NHC's Board of Governors since 2014. She is currently the President of the J. Ronald Terwilliger Foundation for America's Families, where she has worked tirelessly with housing leaders from both parties to highlight our nation's critical affordable housing challenges and find practical solutions. Previously, she served as Director of the Bipartisan Policy Center Housing Commission, where she guided a bipartisan group of housing experts to produce detailed recommendations for housing finance reform, rental housing, rural housing, and other pressing issues.

Ms. Patenaude's service as Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at HUD under the George W. Bush administration brings important experience and knowledge of the agency that will be a significant asset to HUD Secretary Carson. It is also important to note that Ms. Patenaude began her career in housing with the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority. This understanding of housing issues at the local and state level will be important for proper regulatory and programmatic implementation and reform.

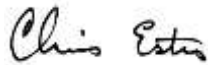
As her experience demonstrates, Ms. Patenaude knows both the business of affordable housing and the powerful role it plays to help people and communities prosper. There is great potential for bipartisan solutions to the nation's housing challenges, and we are confident Ms. Patenaude can help lead the department in those efforts. NHC urges the Senate to confirm her swiftly. We look forward to her confirmation hearing and offer our assistance as you move forward with the confirmation process.

#### **About the National Housing Conference**

Everyone in America should have equal opportunity to live in a quality, affordable home in a thriving community. The National Housing Conference educates decision makers and the public about housing policies and practices to move housing forward together. NHC convenes and

collaborates with our diverse membership and the broader housing and community development sectors to advance our policy, research and communications initiatives to effect positive change at the federal, state and local levels. Founded in 1931, we are a nonpartisan, 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. NHC's research team operated as the Center for Housing Policy until the organizations merged in 2013.

Sincerely,



Chris Estes  
President & CEO

cc:

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby  
The Honorable Bob Corker  
The Honorable Patrick J. Toomey  
The Honorable Dean Heller  
The Honorable Tim Scott  
The Honorable Ben Sasse  
The Honorable Tom Cotton  
The Honorable Mike Rounds  
The Honorable David Perdue  
The Honorable Thom Tillis  
The Honorable John Kennedy

The Honorable Jack Reed  
The Honorable Robert Menendez  
The Honorable Jon Tester  
The Honorable Mark R. Warner  
The Honorable Elizabeth Warren  
The Honorable Heidi Heitkamp  
The Honorable Joe Donnelly  
The Honorable Brian Schatz  
The Honorable Chris Van Hollen  
The Honorable Catherine Cortez Masto