



May 17, 2016  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

The National Housing Conference (NHC) thanks the Senate for voting to suspend the 24-month commitment deadline for the HOME Investment Partnership funding to ensure that all the HOME funds Congress appropriates go to create housing opportunities for low-income households.

HOME funding is subject to several regulatory deadlines including a 4-year project completion deadline, a 9-month deadline to sell homeownership units, an 18-month occupancy deadline, and a 9-year final expenditure deadline. NHC believes that the 24-month commitment deadline is unnecessary and would cause local participating jurisdictions to lose valuable funding that supports the creation of affordable housing and spurs local economic activity.

HOME has proven to be an effective, locally-driven tool to help states and communities provide access to safe, decent, and affordable housing for low-income households. HOME provides communities with the flexibility and local control to meet the housing needs that they identify as most pressing. HOME is the only federal housing program exclusively focused on addressing a wide range of housing activities, including homeownership assistance, rehabilitation, rental housing production and preservation, and direct rental assistance. HOME has been used in every state and Congressional jurisdiction, in urban, suburban, and rural communities alike.

NHC thanks you for your support to suspend the 24 month commitment deadline for HOME funding through 2019 and urges you to vote for the entire Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies and Military Constructions, Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies appropriations package.

**About the National Housing Conference**

The National Housing Conference represents a diverse membership of housing stakeholders including tenant advocates, mortgage bankers, non-profit and for-profit home builders, property managers, policy practitioners, real estate professional, 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. As a nonpartisan, 501(c) 3 nonprofit, we are a research and education resource working to advance housing policy at all levels of government in order to improve housing outcomes for all in this country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chris Estes".

Chris Estes  
President & CEO