

The Honorable Tom Cole U.S. House of Representatives H-307, The Capitol Committee on Appropriations Washington, D.C. 20515 The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
U.S. House of Representatives
1036 Longworth House Office Building
Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20515

May 14, 2025

Dear Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro,

The lack of housing has reached a level of crisis, impacting constituents across the nation, from major cities to small towns. No state or Congressional district currently meets their full demand for housing. As you deliberate on FY 2026 appropriations, we urge you to prioritize housing assistance to keep Americans in their homes. As members of the New Democrat Coalition, we are dedicated to bipartisan solutions that empower all constituents. We look forward to collaborating with the committee to secure federal funding for Fiscal Year 2026 and address this critical need.

Building Housing Supply

Fundamentally, there are not enough homes in the places that Americans want to live, work, and raise a family. The shortage is most acute among households paid the lowest wages, who face a shortage of over 7.3 million units of affordable, available housing. Federal funds are a powerful incentive to remove barriers and support housing development so all Americans can make their lives where they want. In support of housing supply, we ask that the Committee provide funding of:

- \$1.5 billion for the HOME Investment Partnerships Program; and
- \$1.3 billion to support efforts to boost Tribal housing supply, plus \$150 million for competitive funds targeted to Tribes with the greatest needs.

We ask that you support robust funding for other critical programs that incentivize housing development, including the national Housing Trust Fund, Neighborhood Housing Tax Credit, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, and the PRICE housing program for manufactured housing. We also request robust funding for the Pathways to Removing Obstacles to Housing Program, to assist states and municipalities in lowering barriers to housing development.

Getting Better Data

To better inform federal housing efforts and ensure efficient use of federal funds, we ask that the Committee include language recommending that the Census Bureau consider adding supplemental modules or additional questions to existing federal survey efforts like the American Community Survey, American Housing Survey, and Household Pulse Survey to better understand the scope of residential displacement. We therefore request the following report language be included in the FY26 Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies appropriations bill:

"The Committee is keenly aware of the significant challenges a lack of data causes in understanding the scope of U.S. housing loss, otherwise known as residential displacement, and making federal housing decisions to address it. Many communities are facing a crisis of evictions, foreclosures, and other forms of housing loss, however we do not know the full scale of this crisis because the Federal government does not track residential displacement. The Committee requests that, within 90 days of enactment, the Census Bureau provide an overview of questions related to forced moves at the household level that are currently included in an existing federal survey instrument, for example, the American Community Survey, American Housing Survey, or the Household Pulse Survey; recommendations for additional data modules to existing federal surveys to better understand how many individuals experienced housing loss in the prior year, and for what reason; and recommendations to Congress on what additional resources and authorities are necessary to develop and deploy these additional data modules"

Americans everywhere deserve a high quality of life that housing stability is foundational to. We hope the Committee will support these commonsense programs to uplift American communities and enable them to share in the American Dream of stable and secure housing.

Sincerely,

Brittany Pettersen

Member of Congress

Johnny Oszewski, Jr.

Member of Congress

Jennifer L. McClellan Member of Congress

Ani Sewell

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