



OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Cedric Richmond
420 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Barbara Lee
2267 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
2163 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Gwen Moore
2252 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives,

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “American Housing and Economic Mobility Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

Opportunity Starts at Home is a national, multi-sector campaign to build a broad movement in support of federal policies that meet the housing needs of the most vulnerable low-income people. Through the campaign, a diverse array of leading national organizations is working shoulder-to-shoulder, alongside state partners, to raise awareness and push for solutions. Research is increasingly showing that housing is a critical driver of outcomes in many other areas of life: education, health, civil rights, food security, poverty reduction, and more. Our partners come from a wide range of sectors, each with their own perspectives and concerns. Yet they all understand the importance of housing within their different fields, and all believe that more robust and equitable federal housing policies will help them achieve their own respective goals. Together, this campaign is pushing for federal policies that 1) significantly increase rental assistance, 2) significantly expand the supply of deeply affordable housing, and 3) prevent housing instability through emergency financial assistance for households experiencing unexpected economic shocks.

The “American Housing and Economic Mobility Act” will help elevate the issue of affordable homes as a national priority and spark a much-needed conversation about overdue federal action. Your bill demonstrates that ambitious solutions, such as a major investment in the national Housing Trust Fund, are well within our nation’s reach and merit serious, ongoing deliberation. We sincerely applaud your bold efforts and look forward to partnering with all those who work to ensure that the most vulnerable people have access to safe, decent, affordable homes in neighborhoods of opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mike Koprowski
National Campaign Director
Opportunity Starts at Home

Campaign Steering Committee

National Low Income Housing Coalition (Chair) • Catholic Charities USA • Center on Budget and Policy Priorities • Children’s Defense Fund • Children’s HealthWatch • Food Research & Action Center • Make Room • NAACP • National Alliance to End Homelessness • National Alliance on Mental Illness • National Association of Community Health Centers • National Association of Social Workers • National Education Association • National League of Cities • UnidosUS



OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Elizabeth Warren
U.S. Senate
317 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Warren:

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “American Housing and Economic Mobility Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable James Clyburn
U.S. House of Representatives
242 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Clyburn:

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “Housing, Opportunity, Mobility, and Equity Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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The “Housing, Opportunity, Mobility, and Equity Act” will help elevate the issue of affordable homes as a national priority and spark a much-needed conversation about overdue federal action. Your bill demonstrates that ambitious solutions, such as refundable tax credits for renters, are well within our nation’s reach and merit serious, ongoing deliberation. We sincerely applaud your bold efforts and look forward to partnering with all those who work to ensure that the most vulnerable people have access to safe, decent, affordable homes in neighborhoods of opportunity.

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OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Cory Booker
U.S. Senate
359 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Booker:

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “Housing, Opportunity, Mobility, and Equity Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Scott Peters
1122 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Yvette Clarke
2058 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Lucille Roybal-Allard
2083 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Anna Eshoo
241 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Salud Carbajal
212 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representatives,

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “Rent Relief Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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The “Rent Relief Act” will help elevate the issue of affordable homes as a national priority and spark a much-needed conversation about overdue federal action. Your bill demonstrates that ambitious solutions, such as refundable tax credits for renters, are well within our nation’s reach and merit serious, ongoing deliberation. We sincerely applaud your bold efforts and look forward to partnering with all those who work to ensure that the most vulnerable people have access to safe, decent, affordable homes in neighborhoods of opportunity.

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OPPORTUNITY STARTS AT HOME

December 20, 2018

The Honorable Kamala Harris
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Blumenthal
706 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Margaret Hassan
330 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “Rent Relief Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary not only to expand resources, but also to set overarching policy priorities and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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December 20, 2018

The Honorable Todd Young
400 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dean Heller
324 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cory Gardner
354 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maria Cantwell
511 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tim Kaine
231 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Marco Rubio
284 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Angus King
133 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Doug Jones
326 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Chris Coons
127A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators,

On behalf of the *Opportunity Starts at Home* campaign, I commend your leadership in introducing the “Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Act.” As you know, rental housing affordability has worsened dramatically over the past 15 years, and more American families than ever are struggling to pay the rent and make ends meet. For those at the bottom of the income scale, the problem is most acute. Bolder federal action is necessary to expand resources, set overarching policy priorities, and incentivize and support coordinated efforts at the state and local levels.

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The “Task Force on the Impact of the Affordable Housing Crisis Act” will help elevate the issue of affordable homes as a national priority and spark a much-needed conversation about overdue federal action. I sincerely applaud your bold efforts and look forward to partnering with all those who work to ensure that the most vulnerable people have access to safe, decent, affordable homes in neighborhoods of opportunity.

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