



***"Do Justice, love mercy and walk humbly with your God"***  
***Micah 6:8***

**The "American Housing and Economic Mobility Act" introduced in the House of Representatives**

**Urge Your Representative to Sign On!**

**Senator Elizabeth Warren's (D-MA) "**

**American Housing and Economic Mobility Act**

**" now has companion legislation in the House of Representatives, introduced yesterday by Representatives Cedric Richmond (D-LA), Gwen Moore (D-WI), Barbara Lee (D-CA), and Elijah Cummings (D-MD).**

**The bill proposes new solutions to the ongoing affordable housing crisis in America by expanding or improving several vital programs, including a major increase in funding to the national Housing Trust Fund (HTF) to build and preserve homes for the lowest income households in America.**

**URGE YOUR REPRESENTATIVE**

**TO CO-SPONSOR THE BILL!**

**CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVE TODAY!**

**Building support in the final days of this Congressional session will provide momentum for the bill when it is reintroduced next year.**

**Among the bill's important provisions:**

- Invests \$445 billion to the HTF over 10 years!**
- Expands the Fair Housing Act to ban housing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, and source of income (protecting households who depend on Housing Choice Vouchers).**
- Provides \$10 billion for new competitive grants to communities that remove local barriers to housing development and work toward inclusive zoning.**
- Invests \$2 billion in HUD's Indian Housing Block Grants to create 200,000 new affordable homes on tribal lands.**
- Expands USDA rental housing programs in rural communities by \$523 million.**
- Provides \$25 billion to the Capital Magnet Fund to further investment through Community Development Financial Institutions.**
- Assists homeowners who lost significant wealth as a result the financial crisis of the Great Recession by providing \$2 billion for households underwater on their mortgages.**

**NLIHC and MICAHA enthusiastically supports this bold bill, applauding its major new investments in the national Housing Trust Fund. More than 1,880 organizations nationwide have signed on to a letter calling on Congress to expand the HTF. Join these efforts and endorse the National Housing Trust Fund campaign today!**

## **Congress Passes Stop-Gap Spending Bill to Fund Federal Government until December 21**

**Congress averted a government shutdown by passing a two-week stopgap funding measure on December 7. The House and Senate both passed the measure, known as a continuing resolution (CR), by a unanimous vote. The CR will keep the government funded until December 21. Congress has failed to enact several federal spending bills for FY19, including those that fund affordable housing and community development programs.**

**Lawmakers have floated the idea of a year-long CR through September 30, 2019 instead of passing the remaining full-year spending bills that have largely been negotiated and agreed to. A CR carries forward funding levels from the previous year.**

**A year-long CR would cause thousands of families to lose access to stable housing. For FY19, HUD needs approximately \$1.3 billion and USDA needs at least \$10 million more than FY18 funding to maintain current program levels and renew existing housing assistance contracts.**

**A year-long CR at FY18 levels would result in deep cuts to critical housing programs that could cause thousands of families and children to lose access to stable housing, putting them at increased risk of homelessness.**

**A year-long CR would also put other vital investments in affordable housing at risk. Both the House and Senate proposed bills for HUD that would increase resources to help provide affordable, stable, and accessible housing for more seniors, people with disabilities, families with children, and people experiencing homelessness.**

**Call your U.S. Congressman and Senators to urge them to enact clean, full-year the bipartisan Senate version of FY19 spending bills for HUD and USDA.**

**God's peace,  
Sue Watlov Phillips,  
Executive Director, MICAH**

**Together, We are Bringing  
Every One HOME!**

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about our work together are  
available at our website.**

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