Honorable Sherrod Brown
713 Hart Senate Office Bldg.
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Brown,

On behalf of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO) and its 17,000 individual members and 2,800 agency members, I would like to extend our thanks for the unanimous passage of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act (HR 3700, S 3083). Your leadership made this historic legislation happen.

The passage of this bipartisan bill strengthens and improves the effectiveness of federal rental assistance while achieving some modest savings. This is particularly important as the Department of Housing and Urban Development continues to face difficult budget pressures. The Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act will help state and local agencies stretch limited funds and reduce the risk of harsh cuts in assistance to families in need. Most importantly, it will allow our member agencies better serve their residents and communities.

The Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act is the culmination of years of hard work by NAHRO and a wide variety of stakeholders from across the country. Most of the provisions in this bill are non-controversial ideas that have been debated in various forms for nearly a decade. We have a deep appreciation for your role in transforming these ideas into law.

Above all, we thank you for reaffirming to our members that the government can work. The bill has given new hope to many industry representatives and residents alike that we can move in a new direction to enact responsible housing policies that will enable us to help vulnerable families secure decent, safe, and affordable housing. Once again, thank you for the passage of the Housing Opportunity Through Modernization Act and please let us know if there is anything that NAHRO and its membership can assist you with in the future.

Sincerely,

John Bohm
Acting CEO
NAHRO

Stephen W. Merritt, PHM, President; Carl S. Richie, Jr., NCC, NAHRO Fellow, Senior Vice President; Julie Brewen, Vice President-International Research and Global Exchange; Donna Brown-Rego, Vice President-Member Services; Donovan Duncan, Vice President-Community Revitalization and Development; Duane Hopkins, Vice President-Professional Development; Richard Leco, PHM, Vice President-Commissioners; Regina Mitchell, SPHM, PHM, Vice President-Housing; John F. Bohm, Acting Chief Executive Officer.

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