



November 29, 2022

The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Leahy, Chairwoman DeLauro, Vice Chairman Shelby and Ranking Member Granger:

The Council of Large Public Housing Authorities (CLPHA), MTW Collaborative, National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO), and Public Housing Authorities Directors Association (PHADA) recently wrote to you to provide an update on our federal appropriations request for U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) programs. This request included the need for an additional \$345 million in supplemental funding to address the Public Housing Operating Fund shortfall as well as \$364 million to fund additional Tenant Protection Vouchers (TPVs) to assist households where needed due to recapitalization and redevelopment initiatives including Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) conversions. These TPVs are provided to residents who must relocate while these redevelopment efforts are underway.

We are now writing to urge you to complete fiscal year 2023 (FY23) appropriations legislation for HUD programs to avoid a long-term continuing resolution (CR) or government shutdown. With public housing authorities (PHAs) across the country feeling the effect of a number of financial burdens, it becomes more and more difficult to serve residents of public housing as well as those with Housing Choice Vouchers. Furthermore, PHAs across the country are still feeling the effects of the pandemic and its aftermath and these will continue to affect their fiscal health well into 2023.

As you know, CRs merely maintain a consistent level of funding for federal programs, but inflation and other financial shortfalls are having a detrimental effect on the fiscal health and stability of PHAs. Inadequate funding will exacerbate these problems, reducing the number of households served as well as the ability of PHAs to address the needs of families, seniors and veterans as expeditiously and as fully as possible.

Public Housing. Shutdowns may cause issues for the timing of allocations for capital funding, which PHAs use for repairs critical to ensuring the health and safety of residents. During a shutdown, PHAs must rely on their limited operating reserves, which may force them to limit services for residents and furlough staff.

Housing Choice Vouchers (HCVs). Uncertainty about program budgets and the rising cost of rent has led administrators of HCVs to reissue fewer vouchers and families to leave the program. As a result, HCVs serve tens of thousands of fewer households today than they did even two years ago. Participating landlords rely on payments from PHAs to ensure building expenses are covered. The budgetary uncertainty caused by a shutdown increases participating landlords' financial risk, which may exacerbate the decline in landlord participation that the HCV program has experienced in recent years.

To reiterate, our highest funding priorities for HUD programs are as follows:

- Public Housing Operating Fund: \$5.384 billion (includes the supplemental request)
- Public Housing Capital Fund: \$5 billion
- Section 8 HAP Renewals: \$26.234 billion
- Section 8 Administrative Fees: \$3.046 billion
- Tenant Protection Vouchers: \$364 million
- Family Self-Sufficiency: \$200 million
- Community Development Block Grant: \$4.2 billion
- HOME Investment Partnerships Program: \$2.5 billion

Thank you for your consideration of this request. We look forward to supporting your efforts as you work to finalize the FY23 HUD funding legislation.

Sincerely,

Council of Large Public Housing Authorities
MTW Collaborative
National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials
Public Housing Authorities Directors Association

cc: The Honorable Brian Schatz
The Honorable Susan Collins
The Honorable David Price
The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart