

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 6, 2023

The Honorable Brian Schatz
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation and
Housing and Urban Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Cindy Hyde-Smith
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation and
Housing and Urban Development
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Schatz and Ranking Member Hyde-Smith:

As you develop the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill, we urge your continued support for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) homeless assistance programs. Specifically, we urge you to provide 1) at least \$3.8 billion for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG), including at least \$330 million for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) programs, 2) at least \$32.703 billion for Tenant-Based "Section 8" Rental Assistance (TBRA), and 3) consistent funding for HUD's Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Program (HUD-VASH).

The COVID-19 pandemic ignited a housing market frenzy that dramatically increased housing costs in 2021 and 2022. Unsurprisingly, higher housing prices have led to a rise in the number of unhoused Americans. According to HUD's 2022 Annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress, the number of individuals experiencing homelessness has increased in the majority of states since 2020. Moreover, on a single night in 2022, over 22,500 more people were experiencing sheltered homelessness than in 2021. It is crucial that we take proactive measures to address the recent surge in homelessness and better prevent more Americans from becoming unhoused.

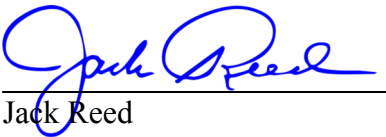
Robust funding for HAG and TBRA must be a priority to ensure that all individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness are able to weather increased costs without losing their homes. Connecting people back to a home as quickly as possible with essential wraparound services is the best way to put them on a path to permanent housing. Ensuring "Housing First," a concept first adopted by the George W. Bush Administration, helps communities avoid costs associated with homelessness, including law enforcement, emergency health care, and corrections costs. We must also ensure service providers have the funding they need to hire and retain experienced staff and execute effective homelessness assistance strategies. By robustly funding the fight against homelessness, Congress would also help address the disproportionate impact of homelessness on minorities as a result of racial discrimination.

We must also maintain our long-standing investment in HUD-VASH, which assists veterans who are homeless and their families in finding and sustaining permanent housing.

Unfortunately, veterans, including those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, continue to be at high risk of homelessness due to their elevated incidence of mental and physical injuries. We must do all that we can to ensure that those who have bravely served our country do not then find themselves without a home.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests and we look forward to working with you on the FY 2024 Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill.

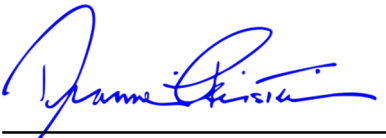
Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



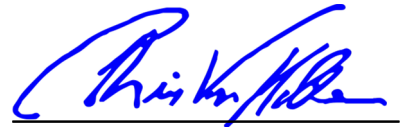
Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



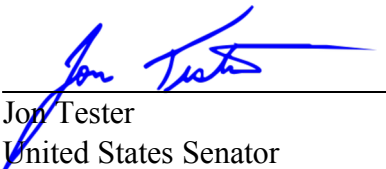
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



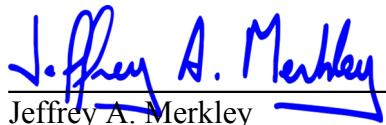
Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



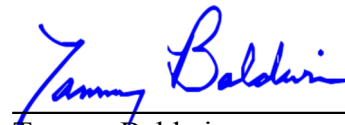
Jon Tester
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



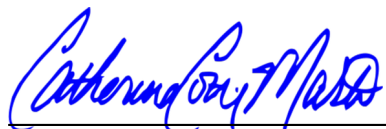
Robert Menendez
United States Senator



Mark R. Warner
United States Senator



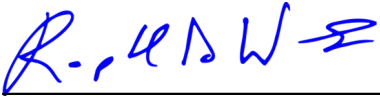
Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



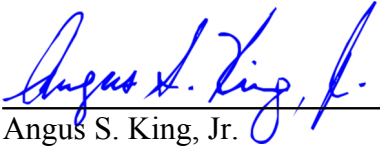
Tina Smith
United States Senator



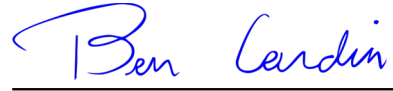
Raphael Warnock
United States Senator



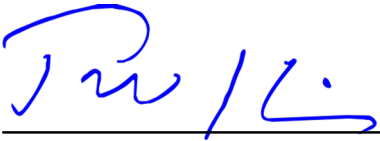
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Tim Kaine
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



Alex Padilla
United States Senator



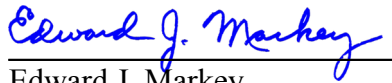
Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



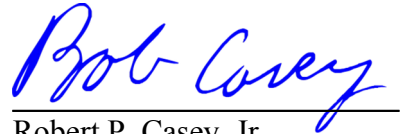
Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



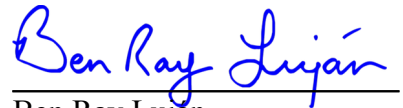
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



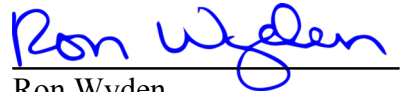
Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senator



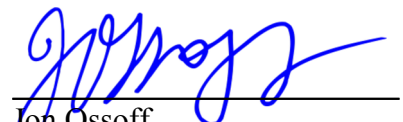
Michael F. Bennet
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



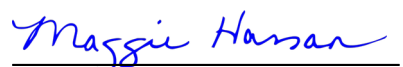
Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator




Jon Ossoff
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen
U.S. Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



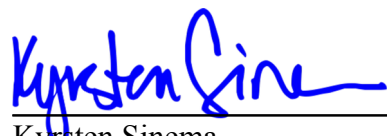
Mark Kelly
United States Senator



Peter Welch
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Kyrsten Sinema
United States Senator

Transportation Housing and Urban Development Group Letter Table
THUD_Reed_Group_230406-045245[LetterID 14623]

ID	Sub	Request Agency or Account	Request Project Name	Request (\$000)
113152	THUD Group	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Public and Indian Housing]/[Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)]/[HUD-VASH Vouchers] [Member Staff] - Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994	HUD-VASH Vouchers [Member's Request (text)] - Consistent Funding	\$50,000
112977	THUD Group	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Community Planning and Development (CPD)]/[Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG)] [Member Staff] - Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994	McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Grants (HAG) [Member's Request (text)] - At least \$3.8 billion, including at least \$330 million for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) programs	\$0
113013	THUD Group	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Public and Indian Housing]/[Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)] [Member Staff] - Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) [Member's Request (text)] - At least \$32.703 billion	\$0

Request ID: 113152

Agency or Account:	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Public and Indian Housing]/[Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)]/[HUD-VASH Vouchers]	Project Name:	HUD-VASH Vouchers
Member/s:	Reed, Jack(D-RI); Baldwin, Tammy(D-WI); Bennet, Michael(D-CO); Blumenthal, Richard(D-CT); Booker, Cory(D-NJ); Brown, Sherrod(D-OH); Cantwell, Maria(D-WA); Cardin, Benjamin(D-MD); Carper, Thomas(D-DE); Casey, Robert(D-PA); Coons, Christopher(D-DE); Cortez Masto, Catherine(D-NV); Duckworth, Tammy(D-IL); Durbin, Richard(D-IL); Feinstein, Dianne(D-CA); Hassan, Margaret Wood(D-NH); Heinrich, Martin(D-NM); Hirono, Mazie(D-HI); Kaine, Tim(D-VA); Kelly, Mark(D-AZ); King, Angus(I-ME); Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN); Luján, Ben Ray(D-NM); Markey, Edward(D-MA); Menendez, Robert(D-NJ); Merkley, Jeff(D-OR); Murphy, Christopher(D-CT); Ossoff, Jon(D-GA); Padilla, Alex(D-CA); Peters, Gary(D-MI); Rosen, Jacky(D-NV); Sanders, Bernard(I-VT); Shaheen, Jeanne(D-NH); Sinema, Kyrsten(D-AZ); Smith, Tina(D-MN); Stabenow, Debbie(D-MI); Tester, Jon(D-MT); Van Hollen, Chris(D-MD); Warner, Mark(D-VA); Warnock, Raphael(D-GA); Warren, Elizabeth(D-MA); Welch, Peter(D-VT); Whitehouse, Sheldon(D-RI); Wyden, Ron(D-OR)	Subcommittee:	THUD
Request Type:	Group	Staff Contact:	Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994
Justification:	HUD-VASH assists veterans who are homeless and their families in finding and sustaining permanent housing. Unfortunately, veterans, including those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, continue to be at high risk of homelessness due to their elevated incidence of mental and physical injuries. We must do all that we can to ensure that those who have bravely served our country do not then find themselves without a home.		
Proposed Bill Language:		Proposed Report Language:	
Member's Request:	\$50,000	Member's Request (text):	Consistent Funding
Enacted Level:	\$0	President's Request:	\$0
CDS Request:	No		

Request ID: 112977

Agency or Account:	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Community Planning and Development (CPD)]/[Homeless Assistance Grants (HAG)]	Project Name:	McKinney-Vento Homelessness Assistance Grants (HAG)
Member/s:	Reed, Jack(D-RI); Baldwin, Tammy(D-WI); Bennet, Michael(D-CO); Blumenthal, Richard(D-CT); Booker, Cory(D-NJ); Brown, Sherrod(D-OH); Cantwell, Maria(D-WA); Cardin, Benjamin(D-MD); Carper, Thomas(D-DE); Casey, Robert(D-PA); Coons, Christopher(D-DE); Cortez Masto, Catherine(D-NV); Duckworth, Tammy(D-IL); Durbin, Richard(D-IL); Feinstein, Dianne(D-CA); Hassan, Margaret Wood(D-NH); Heinrich, Martin(D-NM); Hirono, Mazie(D-HI); Kaine, Tim(D-VA); Kelly, Mark(D-AZ); King, Angus(I-ME); Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN); Luján, Ben Ray(D-NM); Markey, Edward(D-MA); Menendez, Robert(D-NJ); Merkley, Jeff(D-OR); Murphy, Christopher(D-CT); Ossoff, Jon(D-GA); Padilla, Alex(D-CA); Peters, Gary(D-MI); Rosen, Jacky(D-NV); Sanders, Bernard(I-VT); Shaheen, Jeanne(D-NH); Sinema, Kyrsten(D-AZ); Smith, Tina(D-MN); Stabenow, Debbie(D-MI); Tester, Jon(D-MT); Van Hollen, Chris(D-MD); Warner, Mark(D-VA); Warnock, Raphael(D-GA); Warren, Elizabeth(D-MA); Welch, Peter(D-VT); Whitehouse, Sheldon(D-RI); Wyden, Ron(D-OR)	Subcommittee:	THUD
Request Type:	Group	Staff Contact:	Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994
Justification:	At least \$3.8 billion for HAG and TBRA must be a priority to ensure that all individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness have a safe place to live through the pandemic recovery and beyond.		
Proposed Bill Language:		Proposed Report Language:	
Member's Request:	\$0	Member's Request (text):	At least \$3.8 billion, including at least \$330 million for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG) programs
Enacted Level:	\$0	President's Request:	\$0
CDS Request:	No		

Request ID: 113013

Agency or Account:	[Title II]/[Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)]/[Public and Indian Housing]/[Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)]	Project Name:	Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)
Member/s:	Reed, Jack(D-RI); Baldwin, Tammy(D-WI); Bennet, Michael(D-CO); Blumenthal, Richard(D-CT); Booker, Cory(D-NJ); Brown, Sherrod(D-OH); Cantwell, Maria(D-WA); Cardin, Benjamin(D-MD); Carper, Thomas(D-DE); Casey, Robert(D-PA); Coons, Christopher(D-DE); Cortez Masto, Catherine(D-NV); Duckworth, Tammy(D-IL); Durbin, Richard(D-IL); Feinstein, Dianne(D-CA); Hassan, Margaret Wood(D-NH); Heinrich, Martin(D-NM); Hirono, Mazie(D-HI); Kaine, Tim(D-VA); Kelly, Mark(D-AZ); King, Angus(I-ME); Klobuchar, Amy(D-MN); Luján, Ben Ray(D-NM); Markey, Edward(D-MA); Menendez, Robert(D-NJ); Merkley, Jeff(D-OR); Murphy, Christopher(D-CT); Ossoff, Jon(D-GA); Padilla, Alex(D-CA); Peters, Gary(D-MI); Rosen, Jacky(D-NV); Sanders, Bernard(I-VT); Shaheen, Jeanne(D-NH); Sinema, Kyrsten(D-AZ); Smith, Tina(D-MN); Stabenow, Debbie(D-MI); Tester, Jon(D-MT); Van Hollen, Chris(D-MD); Warner, Mark(D-VA); Warnock, Raphael(D-GA); Warren, Elizabeth(D-MA); Welch, Peter(D-VT); Whitehouse, Sheldon(D-RI); Wyden, Ron(D-OR)	Subcommittee:	THUD
Request Type:	Group	Staff Contact:	Max Cavas max_cavas@reed.senate.gov 202-224-6994
Justification:	At least \$32.703 billion for Tenant-Based "Section 8" Rental Assistance must be a priority to ensure that all individuals and families who are at risk of homelessness have a safe place to live through the pandemic recovery and beyond.		
Proposed Bill Language:		Proposed Report Language:	
Member's Request:	\$0	Member's Request (text):	At least \$32.703 billion
Enacted Level:	\$0	President's Request:	\$0
CDS Request:	No		