Sample Letter to Members of Congress

[Date]

The Honorable [Senator/Representative First and Last Name]
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

To Senator [Senator/Representative Last Name]:

I am writing on behalf of [organization], based in [city], to voice strong concern about the Trump Administration’s recent budget outline that proposes eliminating the HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) program. Eliminating HOME will only make it that much harder for seniors, people with disabilities, low-income families with children, veterans, and people experiencing homelessness to access safe, decent, and affordable housing. We urge you to do everything you can to restore HOME funding to at least $1.2 billion.

[Add 1-2 sentences on what your organization does and its mission].

HOME is exactly the type of program that Congress should be investing in, not eliminating. HOME gives communities the flexibility they need to address their most pressing housing challenges, ranging from homeownership to rental to rehabilitation in urban, suburban, and rural areas alike. It also plays a critical key role in leveraging other federal, state, and private investments because it often provides the gap financing necessary to make affordable housing developments financially feasible. In fact, every HOME dollar leverages an additional $4.

Over 20 years, HOME has helped build and preserve more than [number] affordable homes and has served as direct rental assistance to [number] families in [state]. According to the HOME Coalition, this statewide investment has led to the creation of [number] jobs and has generated [dollar amount] in local income. [You can find this data on our HOME Fact Sheets located: https://www.ncsha.org/homecoalition/home-coalition-resources-by-state ]

HOME is critical to the work we do in [state]. [Add examples of how your organization has used HOME funds to serve constituents in your state and why the funding is important to the work that you do].

Despite its successes, HOME has been slashed by 50 percent in recent years from $1.8 billion in 2010 to $950 million in 2016. We cannot afford any further cuts to highly successful, locally driven, and effective federal housing programs, like HOME.

If you have any questions about the HOME program or how it’s been used to help families in our community, please feel free to contact me directly at [phone number] and [email address].

Sincerely,

[Your name, title, organization, and contact information]

The HOME Coalition
The HOME Coalition is comprised of about 40 national organizations—ranging from housing developers, state and local government agencies, and advocates. It is exclusively focused on restoring HOME Investment Partnerships program funding.

For more information, visit www.ncsha.org/HOMECoalition