

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 17, 2018

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Chair  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development and Related  
Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development and Related  
Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chair Collins and Ranking Member Reed:

As you consider the Fiscal Year 2019 funding bill for the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Related Agencies, we urge you to support \$356 million for HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes, including \$100 million for the Healthy Homes Program and \$6 million for the Lead Technical Studies Program.

Across the country, nearly 6 million families are living in untenable housing conditions, struggling with issues like broken heating and plumbing systems and damaged or leaking roofs, not to mention the millions living with dire health and safety concerns like mold, exposed wiring and toxic chemicals.

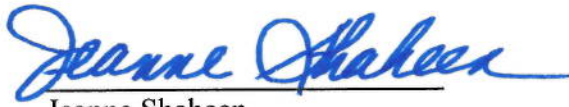
As you know, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes has directly addressed lead and other health hazards in nearly 420,000 homes over the last two decades through programs that treat individual units for lead hazards, improve lead safety with enforcement action and upgrade substandard housing with healthy homes interventions. It is crucial that we continue to make strong investments in programs that help respond to lead contaminations before more families are forced to suffer.

The crisis in Flint, Michigan serves as an urgent reminder of the devastating consequences that exposure to lead and other toxic substances in the home can have on our children. HUD Secretary Carson has noted the harmful effects of substandard housing and lead paint poisoning on health, illustrating that this is a bipartisan issue and one of significant concern. This is also a matter of economic common sense, as studies show that every \$1 spent to reduce home lead hazards provides a benefit of at least \$17.

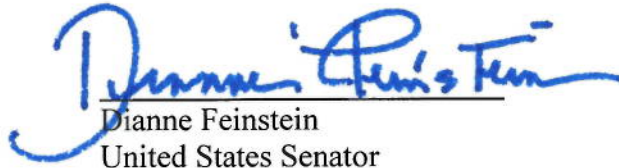
By providing the Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes with \$356 million, we can ensure that this critical initiative will continue protecting families from these easily preventable health hazards.

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



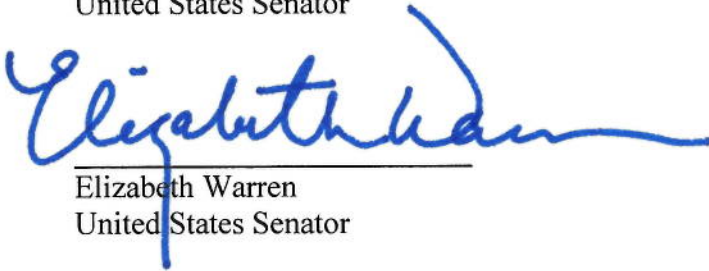
Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



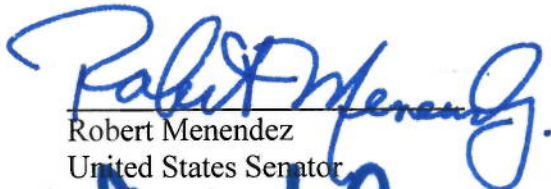
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



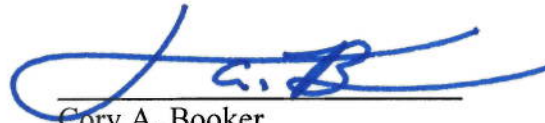
Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



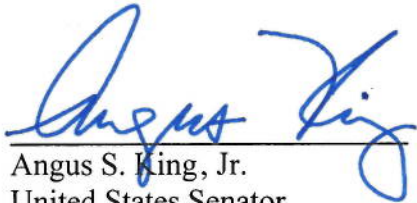
Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



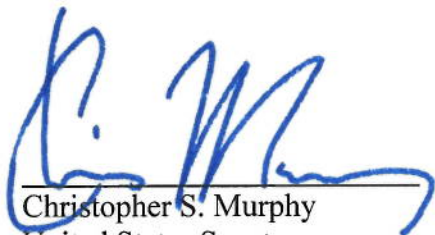
Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



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Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



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Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



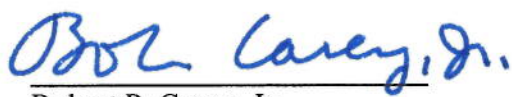
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Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



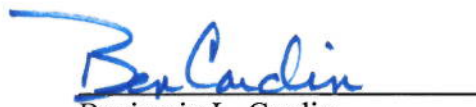
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Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



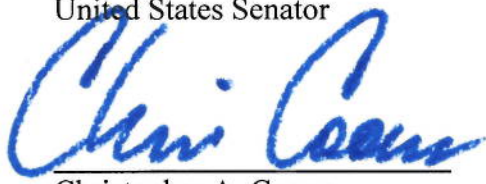
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Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



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Benjamin L. Cardin  
United States Senator




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Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator




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Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



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Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



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Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator



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Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator