

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 08, 2019

The Honorable Susan Collins
Chair
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development
And Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Jack Reed
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Transportation
Housing and Urban Development
And Related Agencies
Senate Committee on Appropriations
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chair Collins and Ranking Member Reed:

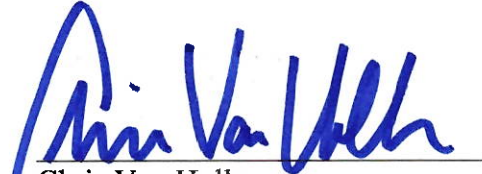
We write to respectfully request that as your Subcommittee works to complete its FY 2020 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies appropriations bill, you support a funding level of \$40 million for the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing Program.

The Section 4 Program allows HUD to partner with national nonprofit community development organizations to provide education, training, and financial support to local community development corporations (CDCs) across the country. Section 4 funds are required by law to be matched 3:1 with private investments, but program funds have consistently leveraged substantially higher amounts. For each dollar of Section 4 funding, a total of \$20 or more in private investment has been brought into local communities for economic and community development. From 2014 to 2018, Section 4 helped 973 local CDCs nationwide leverage approximately \$7.7 billion for community and economic development and helped to build or preserve more than 39,000 homes in low-income neighborhoods. Since the Program's inception, Section 4 has benefitted all 50 states as well as the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. The targeted federal investments made through Section 4 attract and accelerate private sector involvement and funding into critical local community development projects.

We are disappointed that the President's budget has slated this program for elimination after decades of successful economic and community development. Since the HUD Demonstration Act was authorized in 1993, Section 4 has proven to be a valuable and cost-effective program that has produced tangible results. Through a nationwide support network, Section 4 provides programmatic and training assistance to local organizations, ensuring program goals are met while granting the necessary flexibility to meet community-specific needs. As communities across the country continue to look for ways to expand economic development and provide affordable housing, funding for Section 4 remains critically important.

As the Subcommittee works through the process of determining how to effectively appropriate federal funds, it is our hope that you will continue your support for Section 4 in FY 2020. We thank you for your consideration.


Sincerely,



Chris Van Hollen
United States Senator



Todd Young
United States Senator



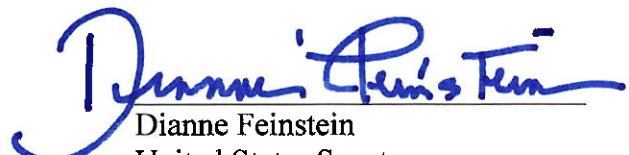
Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
United States Senator



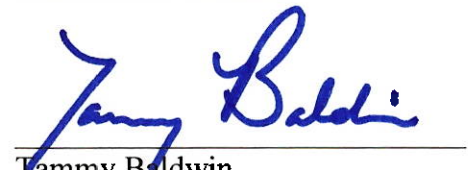
Richard Blumenthal
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper
United States Senator



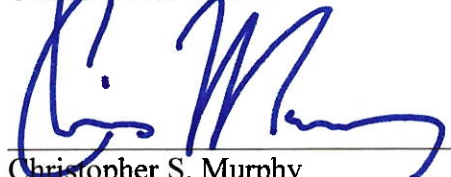
Tammy Baldwin
United States Senator



Catherine Cortez Masto
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator



Christopher S. Murphy
United States Senator



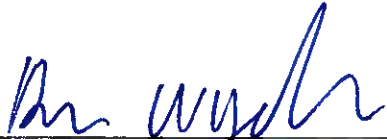
Tammy Duckworth
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar
United States Senator



Ron Wyden
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown
United States Senator



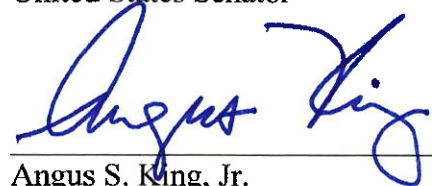
Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.
United States Senator



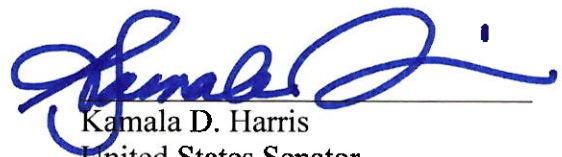
Robert Menendez
United States Senator



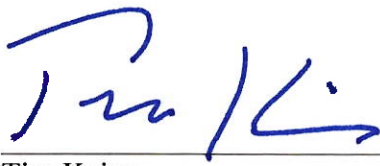
Brian Schatz
United States Senator



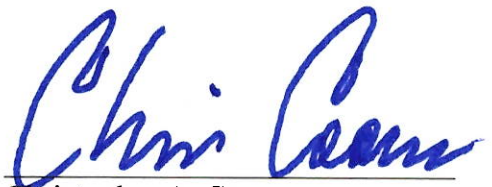
Jacky Rosen
United States Senator



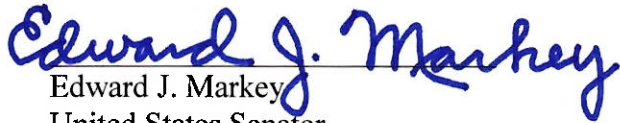
Kamala D. Harris
United States Senator



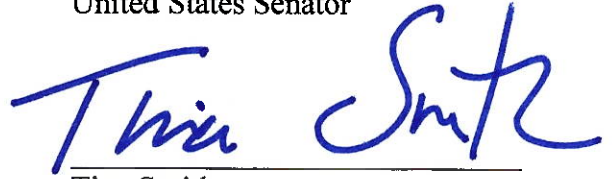
Tim Kaine
United States Senator



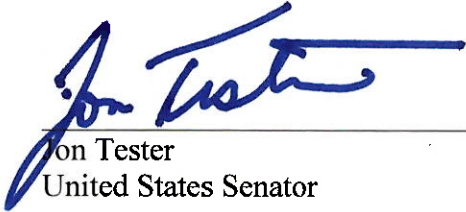
Christopher A. Coons
United States Senator



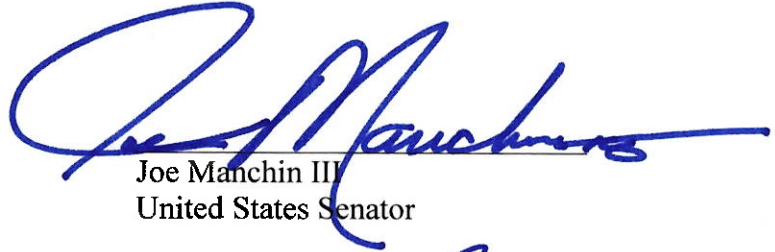
Edward J. Markey
United States Senator



Tina Smith
United States Senator



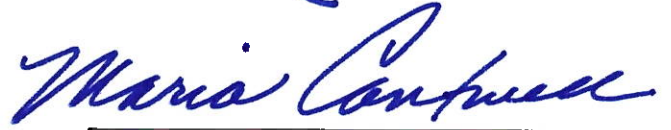
Ron Tester
United States Senator



Joe Manchin III
United States Senator



Krysten Sinema
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell
United States Senator



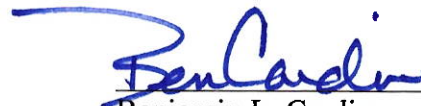
Jeffrey A. Merkley
United States Senator



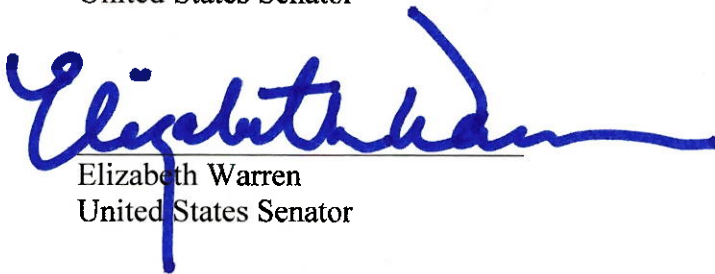
Kirsten E. Gillibrand
United States Senator



Gary C. Peters
United States Senator



Benjamin L. Cardin
United States Senator



Elizabeth Warren
United States Senator