NATIONAL LOW INCOME HOUSING COALITION

November XX, 2026

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Majority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Minority Leader
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

To Majority Leader Thune, Minority Leader Schumer, Speaker Johnson, and Minority Leader Jeffries,

We – the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC), the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition (DHRC), and the 72 additional national, state, and local organizations listed below – **urge you to pass a disaster supplemental spending bill before the close of the 119th Congress.** Specifically, we request sufficient amounts of funding be allocated to HUD's Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery (CDBG-DR) for disasters in 2025, 2026, and 2027.

NLIHC leads the Disaster Housing Recovery Coalition (DHRC) of more than 900 national, state, and local organizations, including many working directly with disaster-impacted communities and with first-hand experience recovering after disasters. The DHRC works to ensure that federal disaster recovery efforts reach all disaster survivors, ensuring they receive the assistance they need to fully recover and prepare for future disasters.

The "Reforming Disaster Recovery Act" (RDRA), passed as part of the "21st Century ROAD to Housing Act," became law on July 11th. This bill authorizes the CDBG-DR program for three years and establishes a standing Long-Term Disaster Recovery Fund. It also enacts a slate of key changes that will ultimately create a long-term recovery and mitigation program that is faster, fairer, and more forward-looking.

Since 1992, the CDBG-DR program has been the only source of federal long-term recovery and mitigation funds and provides flexible grants to help presidentially declared disaster areas build housing and other infrastructure, distribute rental assistance, carry out mitigation and resilience activities, aid in economic development, and much more.

On the heels of this historic, bipartisan and bicameral legislation, Congress must now fund the program so that survivors can access the resources they and their communities need to remain intact.

Unfortunately, Congress has failed to fund the program since 2024. Since then, nearly thirty different disasters across nearly twenty different states, territories, and tribes are waiting for

assistance. Survivors from the Central TX Floods, Hurricane Helene, Typhoon Halong in AK, Hurricane Lowell and the Kona Low storms in HI, the LA wildfires, severe tornadoes in MO and IN and other communities across the Midwest and Southeast, Typhoons Sinlaku and Bavi in CNMI, and many more, have been denied their only source of long-term recovery assistance. As a result, their recovery efforts are stagnating – putting these communities at risk.

Periodic disaster supplementals have been passed by both Democratic and Republican controlled Congresses and every previous Administration since 1992. These packages ensure lifesaving disaster programs remain operational and provide Congress with a quick and flexible way to respond to disasters – separate from the appropriations process. Supplemental packages address multiple disasters across several impacted states, territories, and tribes and can fund a slate of disaster assistance programs like FEMA, HUD CDBG-DR, SBA, USDA, and others.

In keeping with this system, we urge Congress to pass a disaster supplemental for disasters in 2025, 2026, and ready the program for future disasters in 2027.

Funds provided via disaster supplemental spending bills not only provide immediate relief to disaster-impacted areas but also serve as economic catalysts which enable communities to restore jobs, rebuild infrastructure, and foster resilience. The impact of these funds is both immediate (stabilizing markets and livelihoods) and permanent (building stronger, more adaptable economies).

Again, on behalf of the disaster survivors we serve in communities across the country, we urge you to pass this important funding before the conclusion of the 2025-2026 Congress and support the millions of Americans waiting on this important assistance.

CC:

Senate Appropriations Committee, Chair Susan Collins

Senate Appropriations Committee Ranking Member, Patty Murray

Senate THUD Appropriations Subcommittee Chair, Cindy Hyde-Smith

Senate THUD Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member, Kirsten Gillibrand

House Appropriations Committee Chair, Tom Cole

House Appropriations Committee Ranking Member, Rosa DeLauro

House THUD Appropriations Subcommittee Chair, Steve Womack

House THUD Appropriations Subcommittee Ranking Member, James Clyburn

Sincerely,

National and Multistate Organizations (29)

Appalachian Citizens' Law Center

Buy-In Community Planning, Inc.

Chesapeake Climate Action Network Action Fund

Climigration Network

Consumer Credit and Budget Counseling, Inc d/b/a National Foundation for Debt Management

Consumer Watchdog

Council of State Community Development Agencies (COSCDA)

Creation Justice Ministries

Disaster Central

Empowering Pacific Islander Communities (EPIC)

The Episcopal Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC

LatinoJustice PRLDEF

League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)

Livelihoods Knowledge Exchange Network

Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)

MDC

My Dog Is My Home

National Alliance to End Homelessness

National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development (National CAPACD)

National Consumer Law Center (on behalf of its low-income clients)

National Homelessness Law Center

Natural Resources Defense Council

The Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies

The Redress Movement

United Native American Housing Association

Union of Concerned Scientists

World Institute on Disability

State and Local Organizations or Governments (43)

California

Altadena Earthseed Community Land Trust

California Coalition for Rural Housing

Civic Sundays

Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP)

Day One

Eaton & Palisades Fires Renters Coalition

Making Housing and Community Happen

Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services (NPHS)

Young & Healthy

Florida

Affordable Homeownership Foundation Inc

Hawaii

Maui Housing Hui

Maui Rapid Response

Maui Roots Reborn

Indiana

Prosperity Indiana

Kentucky

Homeless and Housing Coalition of Kentucky

Louisiana

Common Ground Relief

East St. Tammany Habitat for Humanity Inc.

Emergency Legal Responders

Louisiana Just Recovery Network

Lowlander Center

Micah Six Eight Mission

Michigan

After the Storm

Missouri

Empower Missouri

Nebraska

COPE Elkhorn

New Jersey

Collaborative Support Programs of New Jersey

Fair Share Housing Center

Greater Middlesex and Morris HFH

Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey

Housing and Neighborhood Development Services, Inc.

New Jersey Organizing Project

New Jersey Resource Project

Visions and Pathways

North Carolina

Just Economics

NC Budget & Tax Center

NC League of Conservation Voters

North Carolina Housing Coalition

Yancey Long Term Recovery Group

Pennsylvania

The Rising Tide Community Loan Fund

Rhode Island

HousingWorks RI

South Carolina

BIC Solutions

Helpmyneighborr LLC

Texas

New Liberty Road Community Development Corporation

Texas Appleseed