



November 13, 2017

The Honorable Sean Duffy  
2330 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Emanuel Cleaver  
2335 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Duffy and Ranking Member Cleaver:

I am writing to express the strong support of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities\* and the National Low Income Housing Coalition\*\* for H.R. 4258, the Family Self-Sufficiency Act, which you introduced on November 6<sup>th</sup>. We thank you for your work to improve this important program and for expediting consideration of the bill.

**H.R. 4258 will increase the number of families able to benefit from participation in the FSS program**, by expanding eligibility to families receiving Section 8 project-based rental assistance in privately-owned properties (if owners opt to offer the program) and merging the FSS programs that public housing agencies offer to residents of public housing and families in the Housing Choice Voucher program. Recent appropriations bills have included these changes on a temporary basis, but to have full effect they need to be incorporated in permanent authorizing law.

**The bill also will enhance the impact of the FSS program**, by making funding for program coordinators more predictable yet also subject to ongoing compliance with HUD-determined performance standards and periodic evidence-based review and revision. In addition, the bill will encourage innovation and facilitate substantial increases in incomes that will make homeownership or moves to private market rental housing more feasible.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barbara Sard".

Barbara Sard  
CBPP Vice President for Housing Policy

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Diane Yentel".

Diane Yentel  
NLIHC President and CEO

\*The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities is an independent, nonprofit policy institute that conducts research and analysis on a range of federal and state policy issues affecting low- and moderate-income families. The Center's housing work focuses on improving the effectiveness of federal low-income housing programs.

\*\*The National Low Income Housing Coalition is dedicated solely to achieving socially just public policy that assures people with the lowest incomes in the United States have affordable and decent homes. We focus on what is in the best interests of extremely low income households who receive or need housing assistance. Members include state and local housing coalitions, a broad range of housing and homeless service providers, public housing agencies, local and state government agencies, faith-based organizations, residents of public and assisted housing, and concerned citizens.