

WASHINGTON BUREAU · NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE  
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April 28, 2015

The Honorable Mario Diaz-Balart  
Chairman  
Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development and  
Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable David E. Price  
Ranking Member  
Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing  
and Urban Development and  
Related Agencies  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**RE: NAACP STRONG OPPOSITION TO PROVISION IN THE DRAFT FY 2016 T-HUD  
APPROPRIATIONS BILL PROHIBITING FUNDING OF THE NATIONAL HOUSING TRUST  
FUND**

*via electronic mail*

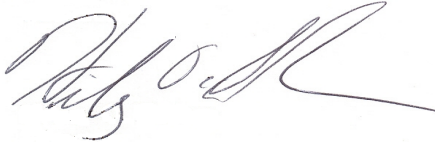
Dear Chairman Diaz-Balart and Ranking Member Price;

On behalf of the NAACP, our nation's oldest, largest and most widely-recognized grassroots-based civil rights organization I am writing to express our organization's strong opposition to the language in the T-HUD Appropriations bill for FY 2016 which prohibits any funding from going to the National Housing Trust Fund (NHTF). The NHTF is good policy which addresses both our nation's severe need for quality, affordable low income housing and our need to create living wage jobs. As such, any move to reduce, cap, or eliminate funding for the NHTF would be counterproductive and misguided.

Signed into law in 2008, by then-President George W. Bush, the federal NHTF will provide funds to states and local municipalities across the nation for the production, construction, preservation, and rehabilitation of badly needed homes that are affordable and secure for the lowest-income Americans. Under the legislation that created the NHTF, 90% of the funds must be used for rental housing that extremely low income families can afford. An infusion of \$1 billion into the Trust Fund will support the immediate construction of 10,000 rental homes. The NHTF would also create American jobs: it is estimated that a \$1 billion investment in the NHTF will create 15,100 construction jobs and 3,800 jobs in on-going operations.

The NHTF addresses two very real needs in America today: a lack of affordable housing and unemployment. I thus encourage you to remove this problematic provision in the draft bill, and give the NHTF you full and unwavering support. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns on the NAACP position, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 463-2940.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Hilary O. Shelton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping flourish at the end.

Hilary O. Shelton  
Director, NAACP Washington Bureau &  
Senior Vice President for Policy and Advocacy

cc: Members, House Appropriations Committee  
Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and  
Related Agencies