



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

The Voice For Real Estate®

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January 13, 2009

The Honorable Christopher Dodd
Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs
448 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Dodd:

On behalf of the 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, we offer our strong support for the nomination of Shaun Donovan as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. His valuable previous experience at HUD and across the housing and finance sectors, along with his exemplary service as commissioner of the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development make him an ideal selection to head this agency, whose role has never been more critical. Importantly, he has demonstrated a willingness to utilize creative partnerships in order to provide additional affordable housing opportunities.

A proven leader is critical for HUD during these troubled times in the nation's housing market—a leader who will take effective action to restore stability in our housing markets, thus leading to overall economic recovery. Shaun Donovan is an acknowledged expert in housing with a record of solving challenges at HUD and the New York City Department of Housing, Preservation and Development. In addition, his hands-on experience in the public, private and nonprofit sectors will be extremely helpful. These times require an experienced and innovative leader in the housing arena and we believe Shaun Donovan is that person.

The National Association of REALTORS® urges swift confirmation of Shaun Donovan, and stands ready to work with the Department and Congress on working toward solutions to the housing crisis.

Sincerely,

Charles McMillan, CIPS, GRI
2009 President, National Association of REALTORS®