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May 30, 2014

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
United States Senate
Russell Senate Office Building #317
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Minority Leader McConnell:

The one million members of the National Association of REALTORS® thank you for introducing S. 1916, the “HELP Rural Communities Act”. This bill will allow rural communities to petition the Consumer Financing Protection Bureau (CFPB) about their designation as a “non-rural” community.

Rural citizens face unique challenges finding access to credit. Communities should not be excluded from rural programs based on a single determination. This bill simply allows communities to contest a federal determination that they are “non-rural”. It requires federal agencies to consider a range of criteria to make a final decision about the status of a community.

This legislation will ensure that our rural citizens continue to have access to financing appropriate to their needs. We thank you for introducing S. 1916, and stand ready to work with you on its passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Steve Brown'.

Steve Brown
2014 President, National Association of REALTORS®



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