

Steve Brown, AB, CIPS, CRS, GREEN 2014 President

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The Honorable Tim Johnson Chairman Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs

136 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo Ranking Member Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs 239 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Crapo:

On behalf of the more than one million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, I write to express our strong support for the nomination of San Antonio Mayor Julián Castro to be Secretary of Housing and Urban Development, which includes the Federal Housing Administration (FHA).

NAR is encouraged by Mayor Castro's work in San Antonio to revitalize the downtown area and promote homeownership in the city center. This comprehensive work, involving numerous agencies, has enabled San Antonio to avoid the "doughnut hole" of decay that plagues many American cities. His vision for strong communities and affordable housing is especially appropriate for HUD, which has helped make the dream of homeownership a reality for millions of Americans.

We know that Mayor Castro's public service has been characterized by his willingness to reach out and work with all sectors. We look forward to working with him and the Committee in the months and years ahead as we continue to foster housing opportunity and healthy communities across the nation.

Sincerely,

Steve Brown

2014 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: Members of the Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs