



NATIONAL
ASSOCIATION of
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June 1, 2017

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen
Chairman
House Committee on Appropriations
2306 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Ranking Member
House Committee on Appropriations
2365 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Lowey:

As you continue to work through the FY2018 Appropriations bills, the National Association of REALTORS® would appreciate your consideration and support for the following requests:

Agriculture Appropriations

- 1) Provide \$2.5 million for the Rural Housing Service (RHS) to implement provisions in PL 114-201 (*The Housing Opportunity through Modernization Act*) allowing local approved lenders to approve loans. Rep. Andy Harris (R-MD) has submitted this request as well as language that would permit RHS to allocate their already authorized per loan fee of not more than \$50 for the implementation of this program.

Interior Appropriations

- 1) Provide \$147 million for the 3D Elevation Program (3DEP) in order to obtain high definition topographic elevation data to be used by several agencies, including the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

Homeland Security Appropriations

- 1) Maintain FY17 level funding for FEMA Flood Mapping program (\$190M)
- 2) Include language submitted by Rep. Tom Rooney (R-FL) that clarifies the role of the Flood Advocate Office.
- 3) Fully fund the Office of the Flood Advocate at the FY17 level (\$5 million).
- 4) Include language submitted by Rep. Andy Harris (R-FL) directing FEMA to report to Congress on the cost of developing additional flood insurance rate tables.

Financial Services and General Government Appropriations

- 1) Include the text of H.R.1153, "*The Mortgage Choice Act*." Rep. David Joyce (R-OH) submitted this request to ensure greater consumer choice in mortgage and settlement services through changes to the Qualified Mortgage (QM) mortgage rule.

Attached please find additional information for each provision listed above. Thank you for considering these requests on behalf of NAR's 1.2 million members.

Sincerely,

William E. Brown
2017 President, National Association of REALTORS®

Enclosures:

- NAR March 11, 2016 Letter on Agriculture Appropriations
- NAR May 24, 2017 Letter on Interior Appropriations
- NAR May 10, 2017 Letter on Homeland Security Appropriations
- NAR March 28, 2017 Letter on Financial Services and General Government Appropriations



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