

Elizabeth Mendenhall 2018 President

Bob Goldberg Chief Executive Officer

ADVOCACY GROUP

William E. Malkasian Chief Advocacy Officer/Senior Vice President

Jerry Giovaniello Chief Lobbyist

500 New Jersey Ave., NW Washington, DC 20001-2020 Ph. 202-383-1194 WWW.NAR.REALTOR September 14, 2018

The Honorable Todd Young United States Senate 400 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 The Honorable Maria Cantwell United States Senate 511 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Young and Cantwell:

Affordable housing remains a significant problem in our nation, both for those starting on the housing ladder and those who are dreaming of purchasing a home of their own. The 1.3 million members of the National Association of REALTORS[®] thank you for introducing S. 3231, to establish a task force to look at the problem of affordable housing holistically, and develop solutions to this crisis.

Recent research by NAR found that home buying is out of reach for more families. Households that earn \$35,000-\$50,000 can afford to buy only 28 percent of homes currently on the market. According to the Joint Center for Housing at Harvard University, nearly half of American renters are cost burdened. NAR supports federal programs to alleviate this problem, but more needs to be done.

NAR looks forward to working with you to pass this legislation, and working with the Task Force to review existing programs, and create new policies to address this critical issue.

Sincerely. Lizabeth J. Mendenhale

Elizabeth Mendenhall 2018 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: The Honorable Christopher Coons The Honorable Cory Gardner The Honorable Dean Heller The Honorable Doug Jones The Honorable Tim Kaine The Honorable Angus S. King, Jr. The Honorable Marco Rubio



REALTOR® is a registered collective membership mark which may be used only by real estate professionals who are members of the NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS® and subscribe to its strict Code of Ethics.