

July 29, 2021

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
Chairman
Senate Banking Committee
United States Senate
503 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 25010

The Honorable Pat Toomey
Ranking Republican
Senate Banking and Housing Committee
United States Senate
248 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 25010

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairman Brown, and Ranking Member Toomey:

The undersigned organizations enthusiastically encourage the Senate to confirm the nomination of Julia Gordon as HUD Assistant Secretary for Housing and Commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration (FHA). We believe Ms. Gordon is highly qualified for this important position.

FHA faces challenges and opportunities to finance home ownership and rental housing at a critical time. Most immediately, many households, rental property owners, and communities are struggling to recover from economic disruptions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. In the longer run, rising home prices and rents and supply shortages are making housing less affordable for middle- and lower-income families, including renters and first-time home buyers. FHA has an important role in addressing these challenges, consistent with responsible lending practices and maintaining healthy insurance fund reserves.

Julia Gordon brings deep experience to address these challenges. She is a seasoned housing finance policy maker, having served as Single-Family Policy Manager at the Federal Housing Finance Agency. Through her leadership of the National Community Stabilization Trust, she has a nuanced understanding of local housing markets and how they can function sustainably even when under stress. She also has the skills, experience, and relationships to bring people together, both within FHA and among stakeholders, to address challenges collaboratively and effectively.

We urge the Senate to consider Ms. Gordon's nomination favorably and expeditiously.

Center for Community Progress
Cinnaire
Enterprise Community Partners
Grounded Solutions Network
Habitat for Humanity International
Housing Advisory Group
Housing Assistance Council
Housing Partnership Network
Housing Policy Council
Local Initiatives Support Corporation/National Equity Fund
Manufactured Housing Institute
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Affordable Housing Management Association
National Alliance of Community Economic Development Associations (NACEDA)
National Apartment Association
National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders
National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Association of Realtors
National Association of Residential Property Managers
National Community Reinvestment Coalition
National Council of State Housing Agencies
National Fair Housing Alliance
National Housing Conference
National Leased Housing Association
National Multifamily Housing Council
Next Step
Novogradac
Prosperity Now
Structured Finance Association
Unidos US
Up for Growth Action