



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REALTORS®

*The Voice For Real Estate®*

500 New Jersey Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20001-2020  
202.383.1194 Fax 202.383.7580  
www.realtors.org/governmentaffairs

Richard F. Gaylord  
CIPS, CRB, CRS, GRI  
President

Dale A. Stinton  
CAE, CPA, CMA, RCE  
EVP/CEO

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS  
Jerry Giovaniello, Senior Vice President  
Walter J. Witek, Jr., Vice President  
Gary Weaver, Vice President

May 2, 2008

The Honorable Christopher J. Dodd  
Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby  
Committee on Banking, Housing & Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Dodd & Ranking Member Shelby:

On behalf of the more than 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, I want to express our support for the nomination, and swift confirmation, of Steve Preston as Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

NAR has had a positive experience working with Administrator Steve Preston in his role with the U.S. Small Business Administration, and we believe he brings the experience and leadership necessary to help HUD, and the nation, navigate through the housing downturn and the mortgage crisis.

Mr. Preston's past experience, both as CEO of ServiceMaster and as the SBA Administrator, provide an exceptional understanding of the needs of the many small businesses that are an indispensable component of the real estate and housing industries. Mr. Preston's experience will be particularly invaluable in evaluating the new HUD RESPA proposal which has serious implications for small business, consumers, and the economy.

We look forward to working with you and Senator Shelby to ensure his rapid confirmation at this critical time for our nation's economy and the housing market. Together, with Congress and the administration, we look forward to implementing new legislation and regulations that will help stabilize the housing market.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Gaylord, CIPS, CRB, CRS, GRI  
2008 President, National Association of REALTORS®