



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](http://www.realtors.org/governmentaffairs)

Vicki Cox Golder  
CRB  
*President*

Dale A. Stinton  
CAE, CPA, CMA, RCE  
Chief Executive Officer

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS DIVISION  
Jerry Giovaniello, Senior Vice President  
Gary Weaver, Vice President  
Joe Ventrone, Vice President  
Jamie Gregory, Deputy Chief Lobbyist

March 11, 2010

The Honorable Herb Kohl  
United States Senate  
330 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Kohl:

On behalf of the 1.2 million members of the National Association of REALTORS®, I urge you to immediately extend commitment authority for the Section 502, Rural Housing Service (RHS) Single Family Housing Guaranteed Loan Program. Section 502 loans can be used to build, repair, renovate or relocate a home, or to purchase and prepare sites, including providing water and sewage facilities. The 502 program is critical to our nation's rural citizens, and needs immediate Congressional attention.

RHS has announced that existing program commitment authority will be exhausted by the end of April. These loans are funded by private lenders, and simply insured by the RHS. As private mortgage markets have dried up, many rural families will be left out in the cold without these guaranteed loans. Increasing the commitment authority will assist rural families, local housing markets, create jobs and generate new tax revenues.

RHS anticipates a need for an additional \$10 billion in commitment authority through the end of FY2010. If additional authority is not provided, the program will cease to operate, and rural families will be unable to utilize this vital program. We urge you to move this request to the floor for immediate passage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Vicki Cox Golder".

Vicki Cox Golder, CRB  
2010 President, National Association of REALTORS®

cc: Sen. Daniel Inouye, Senate Appropriations Committee Chair

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies