

August 5, 2010

The Honorable Mark Begich
United States Senate
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
United States Senate
713 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Begich and Brown:

The below listed groups, representing all aspects of the real estate industry, thank you for introducing S. 3704, the FHA Reform Act of 2010. The FHA single family mortgage insurance program has been a vital part of ensuring America's economic recovery. Just as it was designed to do, FHA is filling the gap during a mortgage finance crisis, and facilitating safe, affordable, and sustainable homeownership for American families.

S. 3704 implements changes necessary to help FHA remain strong and rebuild its capital reserves. The legislation helps to ensure that risks of government backed mortgages are not placed on taxpayers. The legislation also provides for increased enforcement power, authorizing FHA to seek indemnification for improper underwriting. In addition, it addresses the increased need for affordable rental housing by raising FHA's multifamily loan limits for elevator properties.

We stand ready to work with you to quickly pass this important legislation. FHA needs this legislation to protect taxpayers, and continue its mission of serving the needs of American families.

Sincerely,

Mortgage Bankers Association
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of REALTORS®