

January 15, 2024

Honorable Tim Scott Chairman 104 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 Honorable Elizabeth Warren Ranking Member 309 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Warren:

The National Association of REALTORS® offer our support for Mr. Eric Scott Turner as the Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). NAR urges the Senate Banking Committee to support Mr. Turner's nomination and move his vote quickly to the floor of the Senate.

HUD programs play a critical role in ensuring that all Americans have access to a safe, decent, and affordable home. As a former member of the Texas House of Representatives and the Executive Director of the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council, Mr. Turner understands the key role that access to housing and homeownership plays in the health of individuals and communities and is well-positioned to respond to the needs of all HUD stakeholders. His work on the Opportunity Zone Program especially illustrates his commitment to finding economic opportunities for low-income communities to assist the individuals that live within them.

NAR is eager to work with Mr. Turner to further HUD's mission to expand homeownership in America and create strong, sustainable communities that welcome all. At a time when a national housing inventory shortage has contributed to an affordability crisis, HUD programs are more important than ever in helping Americans overcome barriers to affordable rental housing and sustainable homeownership. The FHA mortgage insurance program provides crucial access to reliable, safe mortgage financing to all qualified borrowers in all economic times. HUD's voucher and multifamily programs provide affordable rental housing for millions of families nationwide. The private sector simply does not provide enough affordable housing on its own; without the subsidies HUD provides, many families would find it difficult, if not impossible, to find safe, decent housing. And of course, NAR supports robust fair housing enforcement and sufficient funding for HUD's fair housing programs, which play an essential role in our efforts to close homeownership gaps among racial groups and reduce residential segregation.

The National Association of REALTORS® looks forward to working with Mr. Turner in his new role as Secretary of Housing and Urban Development. Especially in this current economic climate, the role of HUD's programs in achieving the American dream of homeownership has never been more important. We urge your immediate support for his confirmation.

Sincerely,

Kovin M Seans

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