



**Housing Assistance Council**

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June 28, 2007

The Honorable Barney Frank  
Chairman  
Committee on Financial Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frank:

The Housing Assistance Council congratulates you and thanks you on the unveiling of the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund legislation today.

This Fund will go a long way to alleviate the housing problems faced by millions of rural low-income families in the United States. Recognizing that the most vulnerable and lowest-income households face the most serious housing problems, the legislation targets resources accordingly.

As a national organization that works with rural communities across the country, the Housing Assistance Council appreciates that the Fund has been structured so that rural communities have access to its resources. In rural areas, nearly 1.7 million households live in inadequate housing and nearly 7.2 million are cost-burdened. The continuing loss of affordable rural rental units and the scarcity of funding for new units compound the housing needs of the poorest of the poor.

The Housing Assistance Council expects that the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund will make a difference for rural families. We enthusiastically endorse this legislation and look forward to its implementation.

Sincerely,

Moises Loza  
Executive Director

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