

Dear Senator \_\_\_\_\_ :

I am writing to strongly support the retention of the President's request for \$19.2 million in the FY 2010 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill for the District of Columbia's Permanent Supportive Housing Initiative.

These funds will provide the critical momentum needed to continue the District's initiative to move chronically homeless people into permanent supportive housing and will enable the city to move forward with its goal of ending homelessness. So far, 491 individual and 70 families have been moved out of homelessness into housing. Without this payment, the District will be unable to increase the number of people housed in the next Fiscal Year and will risk losing the inroads it has made against chronic homelessness. The proposed federal funding will enable the DC Department of Human Services to house up to 400 additional individuals and 150 additional families and significantly decrease the District's chronically homeless population.

The District of Columbia has demonstrated the political will and the ability to effectively reduce homelessness by targeting permanent supportive housing resources to those who need it most. We call upon the Federal Government to support our nation's capital in becoming a model city for ending homelessness. We strongly support the retention of the President's request for \$19.2 million in the FY 2010 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Bill.

Sincerely,

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