



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS

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October 13, 2005

Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert! Alert!

TO: All Mayors

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tom Cochran".

FROM: Tom Cochran

RE: CDBG Housing Amendment

Senators Leahy, Coleman, Sarbanes, Graham and Reed are planning to file an amendment to the Transportation, Treasury, and HUD appropriations bill to restore funding to the following housing and community development programs:

\$200M for the Community Development Block Grant Program (formula funding)

\$200M for the Section 8 Voucher Program (to fully fund the program in FY06)

\$200M for the Public Housing Operating and Capital Funds

The amendment is offset by increasing the rescission of Section 8 funds from prior years from \$1.5 billion (currently in the the Senate bill)to to \$2.1 billion. In its budget, HUD built in a \$2.5 billion rescission. The Senate agreed to take \$1.5 billion, the House took the full \$2.5 billion. This amendment splits the difference. A copy of the amendment is attached.

Please call your Senators and urge them to cosponsor the amendment. They should call Jessica Berry in Senator Leahy's office (202) 224-2407), Andrew Siracuse in Senator Coleman's office (202) 224-5641) or Kristen Sarri in Senator Reed's office (202) 224-4661)) by Tuesday morning to cosponsor. The Senate is expected to start considering the Transportation, Treasury, and HUD appropriations bill on Monday (October 17).

If you have any questions, please call Assistant Executive Director Gene Lowe at (202) 861-6710.