



**CONSORTIUM FOR CITIZENS
WITH DISABILITIES**

October 26, 2009

The Honorable Jack Reed
United States Senate
728 Hart Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reed:

On behalf of the Consortium for Citizens With Disabilities (CCD) Housing Task Force, we are writing to offer our strong support for your introduction of the Preserving Homes and Communities Act of 2009 (S. 1731). The CCD Housing Task Force is a coalition of national disability organizations which advocates on behalf of the housing needs of people with a variety of disabilities, including developmental disabilities, mental illness, sensory, and physical disabilities.

CCD is extremely pleased that this legislation provides for \$1 billion from the TARP program for the National Housing Trust Fund. CCD has strongly supported the NHTF since it was initially introduced. The NHTF is a major step forward in efforts to develop rental housing affordable to extremely low-income households. As you know, people with disabilities living on Supplemental Security Income (SSI) are (on average) at less than 18% area median income. The NHTF will be a critical resource therefore in expanding access to affordable and accessible rental housing for people with disabilities.

CCD looks forward to working with you and your colleagues in the Senate to ensure prompt passage of S. 1731.

Sincerely,

American Association of People with Disabilities
American Association on Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
American Foundation for the Blind
American Network of Community Options and Resources
Association of University Centers on Disabilities
Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law
Easter Seals
Lutheran Services in America
Mental Health America

National Alliance on Mental Illness
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Council for Community Behavioral Healthcare
National Council on Independent Living
National Disability Rights Network
National MS Society
National Spinal Cord Injury Association
The Arc of the United States
United Cerebral Palsy
United Spinal Association

For further information contact the Housing Task Force Co-Chairs:

Andrew Sperling, National Alliance on Mental Illness (Andrew@nami.org)
Liz Savage, The Arc and UCP Disability Policy Collaboration (savage@thedpc.org)
Jessica Sadowsky, American Network of Community Options and Resources,
(Jsadowsky@ancor.org)