

Honorable Diane Feinstein  
One Post Street, Suite 2450  
San Francisco, California 94104

August 3, 2006

Dear Senator,

I am writing on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_ to urge your support for a budget supplemental or a provision in the 07 HUD appropriations bill that would make up for this year's \$300 million shortfall in public housing operating funds. Additionally, we would like to ensure that public housing operating budgets are fully funded for FY07. Currently, the President's HUD budget proposal falls short by nearly \$1 billion dollars.

These shortfalls will have dire consequences for San Francisco's 6,000 public housing households, over half of whom are senior and disabled. The San Francisco Housing Authority will potentially lose \$7 (a 24% cut) million dollars in 2006 alone. In 2007 if funding is not increased, Housing Authorities will be funded at only 78% of the need. This will mean cuts to valuable services, such as security, and an increasing backlog of repair needs and vacant units.

We are also very concerned about the impact of these funding cuts on labor. The San Francisco Housing Authority (SFHA) employs over 300 unionized workers who will enter into contract negotiations this year. If funding is not increased, it is certain that workloads will increase, salaries will be cut and layoffs will occur. Our union represents \_\_\_\_\_ workers at the SFHA who face serious job insecurity. We need your help to ensure that we retain these jobs.

*This is why we urge you to take action to ensure that Congress enact an FY06 operating fund supplemental of \$300 million, which would allow housing authorities to receive 100% of operating costs. Also, Congress must adjust upwards the President's 2007 request for operating funds to \$4.5 billion so that devastating funding shortfalls are not faced again next year.*

I thank you for your support on this extremely pressing matter.

Sincerely,