

**METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS
777 NORTH CAPITOL STREET, NE
WASHINGTON, DC 20002**

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE ALLOCATION OF ADDITIONAL FEDERAL FUNDS TO ENSURE
HOUSING STABILITY DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on the health and safety of our residents, and the recession caused by the pandemic has adversely affected the region's economy and workforce, threatening current and future housing stability for many of our residents; and

WHEREAS, new research projects this recession could cause a major increase in homelessness;

WHEREAS, even before the pandemic, people of color were significantly more likely to experience evictions and homelessness and will also likely experience greater housing burdens in the aftermath of this acute crisis;

WHEREAS, the creation of new housing was a top regional priority before the pandemic and investment in housing provides a wide range of benefits, including economic mobility and healthy living, and helps shape a more equitable future;

WHEREAS, on March 27, 2020 the federal government passed the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act allocating \$12 billion in housing and homelessness resources and other critical protections for low-income renters; and

WHEREAS, an additional \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance through the Emergency Rental Assistance and Rental Market Stabilization Act (S. 3685/H.R. 6820) would offer states and localities flexible resources to provide direct support to households in need with short-and medium-term rental assistance or to cover up to 6 months of back rent and late fees; and

WHEREAS, amending and extending the Eviction and Foreclosure Moratoria provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) would afford people more time to recover from the economic shock and job losses caused by the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, including at least \$14 billion in the HOME Investment Partnership Program in the next comprehensive coronavirus package can ensure that existing housing for lower-income households remains viable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE METROPOLITAN WASHINGTON COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS THAT:

The Board urges the federal government to take the following actions as part of its next COVID-19 response legislation to help ensure housing stability—especially for those who are facing an increased risk of evictions and homelessness due to the recession caused by the pandemic.

- 1) Support the Emergency Rental Assistance and Rental Market Stabilization Act (S. 3685/H.R. 6820) for \$100 billion in emergency rental assistance; and
- 2) Amend and extend the Eviction and Foreclosure Moratoria provisions in the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act); and
- 3) Include at least \$14 billion in the HOME Investment Partnership Program to allow a flexible and community-specific response to the current crisis.

The Board authorizes the Executive Director, or his designee, to send a letter on behalf of the COG Board of Directors to congressional leadership communicating this request.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT the foregoing resolution was adopted by the COG Board of Directors July 8, 2020

Janele Partman

COG Communications Specialist