

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 10, 2011

The Honorable Patty Murray  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Transportation and  
Housing and Urban Development  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Transportation and  
Housing and Urban Development  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Murray and Ranking Member Collins:

We write to request that you include \$362 million in funding for the Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS (HOPWA) program in the Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year (FY) 2012. HOPWA is the only federal program that helps states and municipalities address the housing needs of people living with HIV/AIDS.

HOPWA has provided a national safety net of housing and support services for people battling HIV/AIDS since 1992. The program provides considerable flexibility to states and communities to respond to local housing needs and shortfalls. The administrative costs are capped, ensuring that program funds directly benefit people with HIV/AIDS.

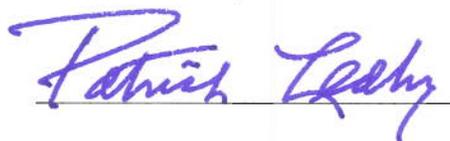
Roughly half of the people living with HIV/AIDS in the United States will require some form of housing assistance during their illness. Demand for this assistance will only grow as people live longer with HIV/AIDS and many Americans face financial hardship in the wake of the economic recession.

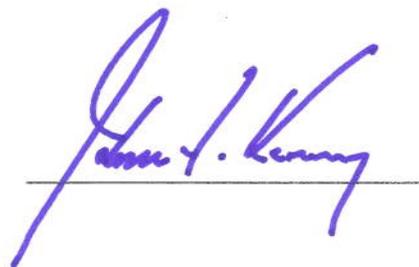
The HOPWA program offers people living with HIV/AIDS and their families the security and stability necessary to benefit from drug treatments that have dramatically reduced AIDS mortality in this nation. We appreciate the committee's past support of HOPWA and we urge your continued leadership in funding this crucial program.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Rumba

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patrick Leahy

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
John F. Kennedy

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Kirsten E. Gillibrand

Ron Wyden

Bob Sanders

Dan Doherty

Allyson E. Stinebaugh

Chris Sch

Frank R. Lautenberg

Jeffrey A. Merkley

Shirley

Samuel H. Hanks

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