

Governor Deval Patrick  
Massachusetts

Governor Jon S. Corzine  
New Jersey

Governor Bill Ritter Jr.  
Colorado

Governor Eliot Spitzer  
New York

Governor Jennifer M. Granholm  
Michigan

Governor Christine O. Gregoire  
Washington

January 17, 2008

The Honorable Barney Frank  
Chairman  
Committee on Financial Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Spencer Bachus  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Financial Services  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Frank and Ranking Member Bachus,

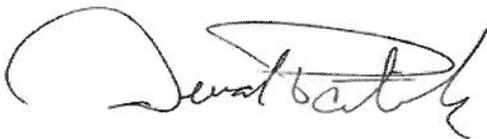
As the House considers the HOPE VI Improvement and Reauthorization Act of 2007 (H.R. 3524), we urge that you retain the green building provisions included in the Committee-passed legislation, and oppose efforts to weaken these provisions.

Under H.R. 3524, new HOPE VI revitalization housing projects would be required to meet Green Communities Criteria or a substantially equivalent standard for residential buildings and a green rating system similar to the requirements for buildings in the Energy Independence and Security Act (H.R. 6) for non-residential buildings. Green Communities as well as non-residential standards like LEED and Green Globes are well respected and widely utilized standards, which promote energy efficiency, water conservation, improved air quality and healthier building materials.

As Governors we have led efforts to incorporate green criteria into our housing policies and commercial developments. We believe that the inclusion of sustainable development criteria within HOPE VI would represent a major step forward in the path towards greener, healthier and more efficient homes and work environments.

We applaud your efforts in this area, and urge you to oppose any attempt to weaken these provisions.

Sincerely,



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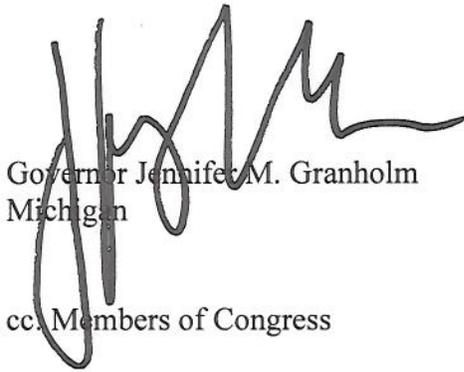
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cc: Members of Congress