STATE OF MICHIGAN
RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR
MICHIGAN STATE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
LANSING
GARY HEIDEL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

June 19, 2012

Dear Congressman Benishek:

I am writing to thank you for meeting with the MSHDA team in Washington DC this past April to discuss the federal programs and funding that we use to build affordable housing. We requested your support for HR 3661 which makes permanent the minimum credit rate (9% floor) for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (Housing Credits) program. We understand that co-sponsorship of this bill presents difficulties in the current political environment but I believe that you truly understand how important this program is to the citizens of Michigan. With that in mind, we request that you communicate your support for the Housing Credit program to your colleague and Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, Congressman Dave Camp giving the program the attention it deserves when the broader discussion on tax reform takes place.

Housing Credits have not only been successful and effective for creating affordable housing, but have also meant jobs for Michigan residents in every congressional district across the State of Michigan. During the NCSHA legislative conference in Washington DC, we met and provided your staff with brochures highlighting the MSHDA developments in your district and the partnerships we have built with developers, service providers and local elected officials. If it were not for Housing Credits many of those developments would never have been financially feasible.

Since the Housing Credit program was created as part of the Tax Reform Act of 1986, Michigan has;

- Leveraged over $4,000,000,000
- Created over 11,000 jobs
- Constructed or rehabilitated approximately 81,000 units of affordable housing

This program works for Michigan. We humbly ask that you to continue showing your support for the Housing Credit program along with the work we do at MSHDA.

We build strong and vibrant communities throughout Michigan by forging creative and collaborative partnerships, sharing knowledge and targeting resources to provide affordable housing, thereby sustaining communities and improving quality of life across the board. The Housing Credit is perhaps the single largest tool the federal government has provided us to complete this important mission and has been heralded as the most successful affordable rental housing production program in U.S. history. As you engage in the very serious discussions to control the growth and scope of federal spending, please recognize the good that this credit creates for the benefit of Michigan's most vulnerable citizens.

Please do not hesitate to contact me or Jennifer Bowman, Director of Governmental and Media Affairs (517-373-0617) with any specific questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you as we continue to address this important issue.

Sincerely,

Gary Heidel

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Executive Director

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