

# Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

March 27, 2025

The Honorable Scott Turner  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, DC 20410

Dear Secretary Turner:

We write to express concern about reports that the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is considering closing nearly two-thirds of the Department's field offices, leaving most states and the District of Columbia without critical sites or staff.<sup>1</sup> These reports follow the unlawful mass termination of probationary federal employees, HUD's announcement that employees at GS-13 and below in the Office of Field Policy and Management would be terminated, and reports that the Department plans to cut its agency-wide workforce by at least half.<sup>2</sup> We urge you to immediately reverse any plans to implement these short-sighted and illegal efforts that undermine the ability of HUD to accomplish its mission and legal obligations.

The United States faces a severe fair and affordable housing and homelessness crisis. HUD is the Federal agency responsible for national policy and programs that address America's housing needs, improve and develop communities, and enforce fair housing laws, deeply impacting millions of families across the nation.<sup>3</sup> HUD field offices collect local data to inform policymaking, administer and oversee department programs, manage and distribute funding, enforce department regulations and policies, provide guidance and support to local stakeholders, and play a critical role in developing and maintaining local relationships that ensure the success of initiatives and projects. In many cases, state and local stakeholders operate with limited capacities and require HUD assistance. HUD currently has at least one field office in every State and the District of Columbia to help implement the Department's important mission at the local level.<sup>4</sup>

Reports that HUD is planning the illegal closure of field offices are extremely concerning. HUD is expressly required by law to maintain a field office in every state.<sup>5</sup> Federal law also requires HUD to conduct and publish a cost-benefit analysis before implementing any "plan for the reorganization of any regional, area, insuring, or other field office of the Department."<sup>6</sup> This analysis is required to include, but not be limited to, an analysis of the impact on the local economy, an estimate of the effect of reorganization on the availability, accessibility, and quality of services provided, and credible evidence substantiating the impact of reorganization on department costs.<sup>7</sup> These legal requirements are designed to protect the Department and the nation, including taxpayers, HUD's business, nonprofit, and government partners, thousands of patriotic civil servants, and millions of families who rely on the services that HUD field offices provide.

---

<sup>1</sup> Bloomberg, Trump Administration Plans to Eliminate Dozens of Housing Offices, March 5, 2025, <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2025-03-05/hud-plans-to-eliminate-dozens-of-state-and-local-field-offices>.

<sup>2</sup> NPR, HUD Employees are Bracing for what they Hear will be 'Drastic' Staff Cuts, February 14, 2025, <https://www.npr.org/2025/02/14/g-s1-49177/hud-employees-are-bracing-for-what-they-hear-will-be-drastic-staff-cuts>

<sup>3</sup> 42 USC § 3531

<sup>4</sup> HUD, Field Office Locations, accessed March 14, 2025, <https://hudgis-hud.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/HUD::hud-field-office-locations/about>

<sup>5</sup> 12 USC §1735f-12

<sup>6</sup> 42 USC §3535(p)

<sup>7</sup> *Id.*

In last year's report on top management challenges, the HUD Office of Inspector General noted that HUD "still faces capacity challenges that affect its ability to oversee grantees, contractors, and financial services counterparties; provide high-touch technical assistance; and modernize its programs and IT systems."<sup>8</sup> Despite this reality, a February 11, 2025, Executive Order directed agency heads, including HUD, to "promptly undertake preparations to initiate large-scale reductions in force (RIF)."<sup>9</sup> A subsequent memo from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to agency heads directed each agency to submit Agency RIF and Reorganization Plans to OMB and OPM by Thursday, March 13, 2025.<sup>10</sup>

We strongly urge HUD to maintain existing field offices with adequate staffing levels and to fully and immediately reinstate civil servants who have been illegally terminated. We also ask for responses to the following information request no later than Wednesday, April 2, 2025.

1. Please provide a copy of any formal analysis conducted by HUD's Office of General Counsel regarding HUD's plans to close field offices, including an analysis of how such plans align with existing legal requirements that HUD maintain an office in each state.
2. Please provide a copy of the cost-benefit analysis of field reorganizations required at 42 U.S.C. 3535 that HUD has conducted as part of its plans to close field offices. Please indicate when this analysis will be published in the Federal Register and detail any additional actions the agency has already taken to alter, reduce, or reorganize field offices.
3. Please provide any formal analysis HUD has performed regarding the impact of reported office reductions on the Department's ability to:
  - a. Collect data used to inform HUD's policy decisions and department strategies.
  - b. Administer, monitor, and oversee complex programs including ensuring compliance with regulations and policies.
  - c. Manage and distribute federal funding and ensure these funds are used appropriately.
  - d. Enforce department policies related to fair housing, including investigating complaints related to violations of the Fair Housing Act.
  - e. Provide technical assistance to local and state agencies, non-profit organizations, and other department stakeholders.
  - f. Conduct public outreach including educating the local community and developing partnerships with local organizations to address housing and community development challenges.
4. Please identify the DOGE Team Lead at HUD and the name and employing agency of all DOGE Task Force members working under the team leader.
5. Please provide a copy of all HUD and DOGE documents reflecting any plans to reduce, alter, or eliminate HUD programs, functions or offices.
6. Please provide a copy of all HUD and DOGE documents reflecting any staff reduction that has already taken place and future staff reduction plans by program office and further disaggregated by field office and Washington, DC headquarters. Indicate whether the Department plans to eliminate or backfill each impacted position.
7. Please provide copies of HUD's formal Agency RIF and Reorganization Plans as submitted to OMB.

---

<sup>8</sup> HUD OIG, Top Management Challenges Facing the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, October 15, 2024, [https://www.hudoig.gov/sites/default/files/2024-10/hud-oig-fy-2025-tmc-report\\_final\\_508\\_1.pdf](https://www.hudoig.gov/sites/default/files/2024-10/hud-oig-fy-2025-tmc-report_final_508_1.pdf)

<sup>9</sup> White House, EO Implementing The President's "Department of Government Efficiency" Workforce Optimization Initiative, February 11, 2025, <https://www.whitehouse.gov/presidential-actions/2025/02/implementing-the-presidents-department-of-government-efficiency-workforce-optimization-initiative/>

<sup>10</sup> OPM, OPM and OMB Memorandum providing guidance on Agency RIF and Agency Reorganization Plans (ARRP), February 26, 2025, <https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/latest-memos/guidance-on-agency-rif-and-reorganization-plans-requested-by-implementing-the-president-s-department-of-government-efficiency-workforce-optimization-initiative.pdf>

We thank you for your prompt attention to this urgent matter.

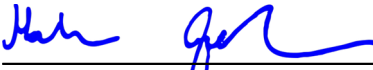
Sincerely,



Emanuel Cleaver, II  
Member of Congress



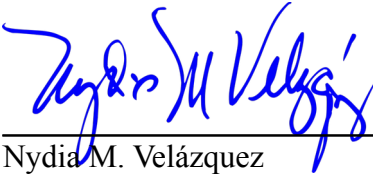
Alex Padilla  
United States Senator




Hakeem Jeffries  
Member of Congress



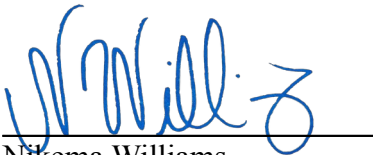
Charles E. Schumer  
United States Senator



Nydia M. Velázquez  
Member of Congress



Elizabeth Warren  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Banking,  
Housing, and Urban Affairs



Nikema Williams  
Member of Congress



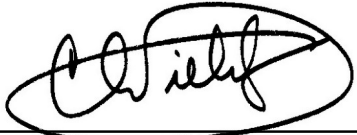
Tina Smith  
United States Senator



David Scott  
Member of Congress

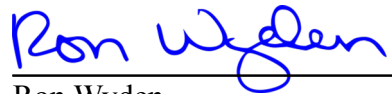


Adam B. Schiff  
United States Senator



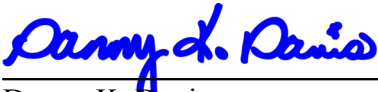
---

Cleo Fields  
Member of Congress



---

Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



---

Danny K. Davis  
Member of Congress



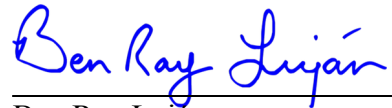
---

Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



---

Paul D. Tonko  
Member of Congress



---

Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



---

Rashida Tlaib  
Member of Congress



---

Chris Van Hollen  
United States Senator



---

Frank J. Mrvan  
Member of Congress



---

Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



---

Frederica S. Wilson  
Member of Congress



---

Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



---

Joyce Beatty  
Member of Congress




---

Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



---

Nanette Diaz Barragán  
Member of Congress



---

Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



---

Gwen S. Moore  
Member of Congress



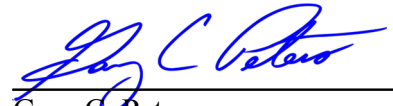
---

Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



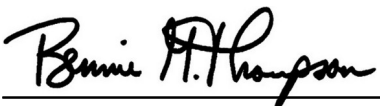
---

Pramila Jayapal  
Member of Congress



---

Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



---

Bennie G. Thompson  
Member of Congress



---

Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



---

Brad Sherman  
Member of Congress



---

Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



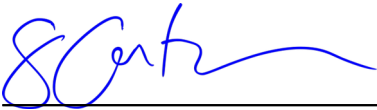
---

Becca Balint  
Member of Congress



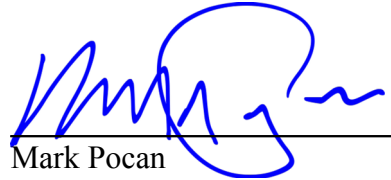
---

Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



---

Sean Casten  
Member of Congress



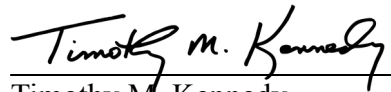
---

Mark Pocan  
Member of Congress



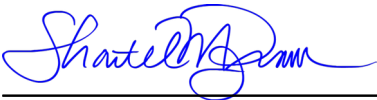
---

Kevin Mullin  
Member of Congress



---

Timothy M. Kennedy  
Member of Congress



---

Shontel M. Brown  
Member of Congress



---

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez  
Member of Congress



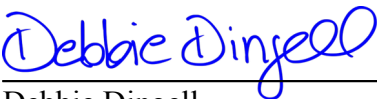
---

Ritchie Torres  
Member of Congress




---

Eleanor Holmes Norton  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Dingell  
Member of Congress



---

Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
Member of Congress



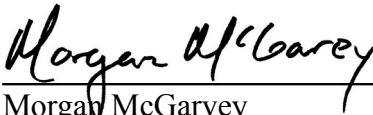
---

James P. McGovern  
Member of Congress



---

Al Green  
Member of Congress



---

Morgan McGarvey  
Member of Congress



---

Mark DeSaulnier  
Member of Congress



---

Delia C. Ramirez  
Member of Congress



---

Ilhan Omar  
Member of Congress



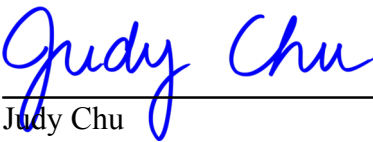
---

J. Luis Correa  
Member of Congress



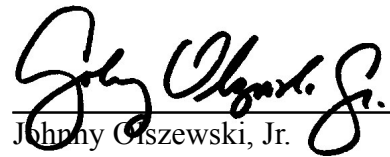
---

Dwight Evans  
Member of Congress



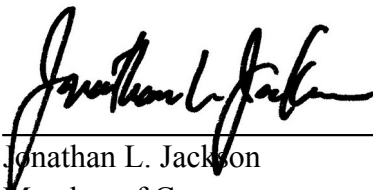
---

Judy Chu  
Member of Congress



---

Johnny Ciszewski, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Jonathan L. Jackson  
Member of Congress



---

Ayanna Pressley  
Member of Congress



---

Ted W. Lieu  
Member of Congress



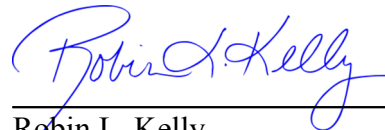
---

Ro Khanna  
Member of Congress



---

Gilbert Ray Cisneros, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Robin L. Kelly  
Member of Congress



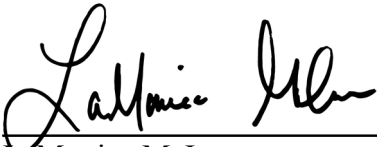
---

Dina Titus  
Member of Congress



---

Deborah K. Ross  
Member of Congress



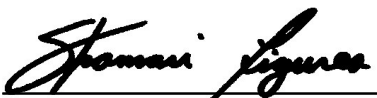
---

LaMonica McIver  
Member of Congress



---

Mike Quigley  
Member of Congress



---

Shomari Figures  
Member of Congress



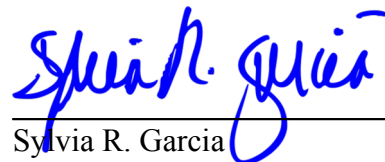
---

Gabe Amo  
Member of Congress



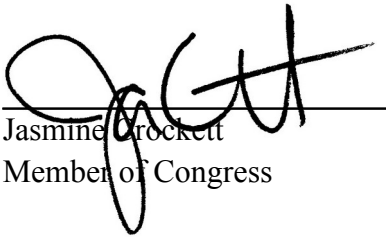
---

Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr.  
Member of Congress



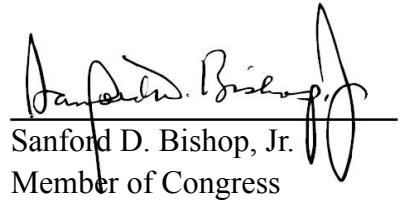
---

Sylvia R. Garcia  
Member of Congress



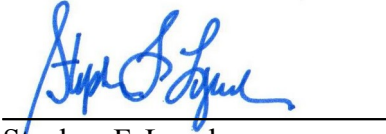
---

Jasmine Crockett  
Member of Congress




---

Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.  
Member of Congress



---

Stephen F. Lynch  
Member of Congress




---

MARK TAKANO  
Member of Congress



---

Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress



---

Sam T. Liccario  
Member of Congress



---

Robert J. Menendez  
Member of Congress



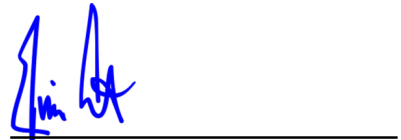
---

Jamie Raskin  
Member of Congress



---

Chrissy Houlahan  
Member of Congress



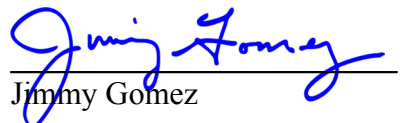
---

Jim Costa  
Member of Congress



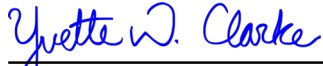
---

Mary Gay Scanlon  
Member of Congress



---

Jimmy Gomez  
Member of Congress



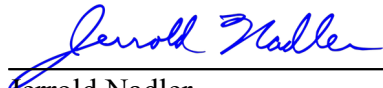
---

Yvette D. Clarke  
Member of Congress



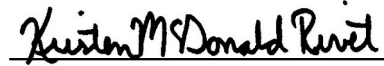
---

Troy A. Carter, Sr.  
Member of Congress



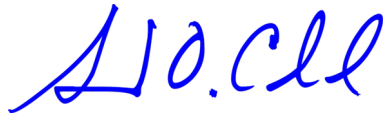
---

Jerrold Nadler  
Member of Congress



---

Kristen McDonald Rivet  
Member of Congress



---

Salud Carbajal  
Member of Congress



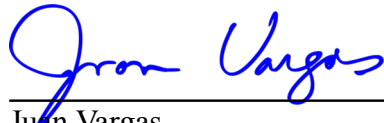
---

JM Tokuda  
Member of Congress




---

Marc A. Veasey  
Member of Congress



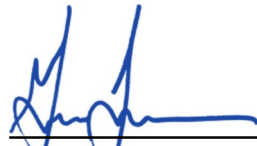
---

Juan Vargas  
Member of Congress



---

Haley M. Stevens  
Member of Congress



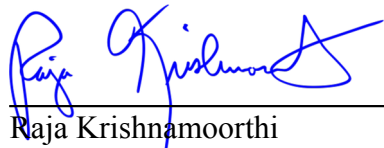
---

Greg Landsman  
Member of Congress



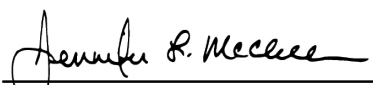
---

Terri A. Sewell  
Member of Congress



---

Raja Krishnamoorthi  
Member of Congress



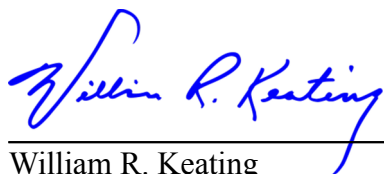
---

Jennifer L. McClellan  
Member of Congress



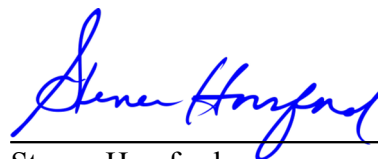
---

Doris Matsui  
Member of Congress



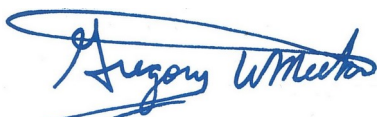
---

William R. Keating  
Member of Congress



---

Steven Horsford  
Member of Congress



---

Gregory W. Meeks  
Member of Congress



---

Steve Cohen  
Member of Congress



---

Laura Friedman  
Member of Congress