

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 31, 2019

Dr. Ben Carson  
Secretary  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7<sup>th</sup> Street SW  
Washington, D.C. 20410

Secretary Carson,

We, the undersigned members of the House of Representatives, write to you to express our dismay at the Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) refusal to review crucial nondiscrimination guidance documents for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) in some HUD facilities.

In early 2017, under your direction, HUD removed for review, six resource documents aimed at helping emergency homeless shelters and other housing providers comply with HUD nondiscrimination policies regarding LGBT service recipients. In accordance with Congressional instructions accompanying the Fiscal Year 2018 Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Act, HUD was directed to expedite its review and issue a formal decision regarding the reissuance of those resources within 180 days of the enactment of that Act.

That 180-day review period expired on September 19, 2018, yet HUD has not issued a final determination as to the relevant documents, nor has it republished the documents in the appropriate locations.

It is now 2019, two years since the guidance was removed from HUD's website, and the continued silence from HUD on this issue is extremely problematic. Every day that this guidance is unavailable to housing service providers nationwide puts lives at risk, the majority of whom are young adults, and is a missed opportunity for achieving better outcomes in emergency housing intervention.

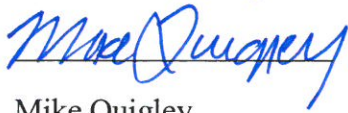
Housing discrimination in the LGBT community is not a small problem. An estimated 40 percent of homeless youth identify as LGBT and nearly 30 percent of transgender Americans say that they have experienced homelessness at some point in their lives. The guidance in question provides practical advice for service providers on critical issues, such as proper identification at shelters and other service locations, as well as best practices for achieving gender-inclusive housing that meets the needs of local communities.

HUD's failure to meet the September 19<sup>th</sup> deadline and to issue any update on the status of the guidance in the months since is deeply concerning.

HUD must act immediately to conclude its review of these resources and reinstate this guidance.

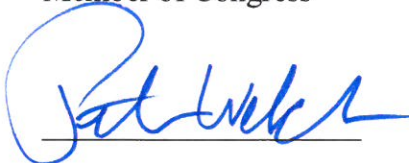
Thank you and we look forward to a prompt reply.

Sincerely,



Mike Quigley

Member of Congress



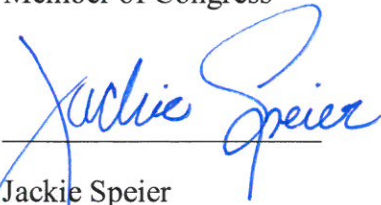
Peter Welch

Member of Congress



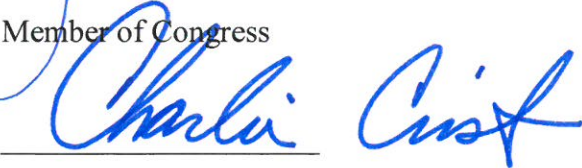
Robert C. "Bobby" Scott

Member of Congress



Jackie Speier

Member of Congress



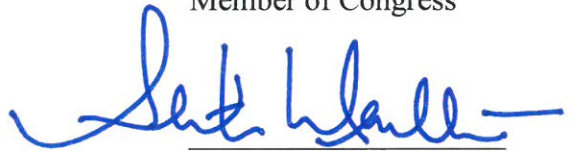
Charlie Crist

Member of Congress



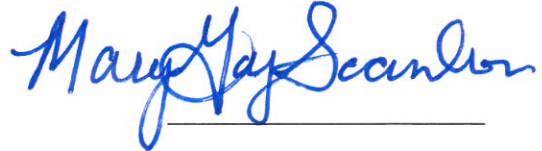
David Price

Member of Congress



Seth Moulton

Member of Congress



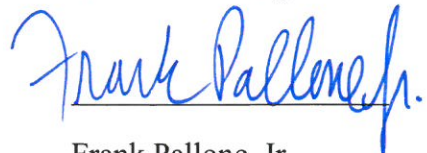
Mary Gay Scanlon

Member of Congress



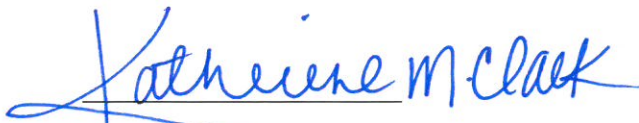
Eleanor Holmes Norton

Member of Congress



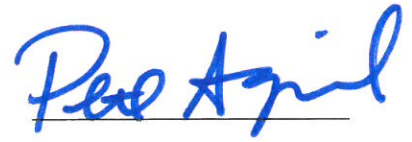
Frank Pallone, Jr.

Member of Congress



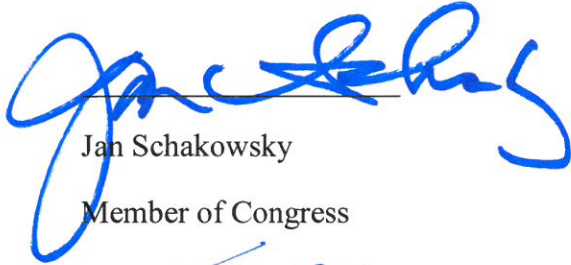
Katherine Clark

Member of Congress



Pete Aguilar

Member of Congress



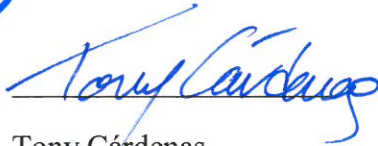
Jan Schakowsky

Member of Congress



Dan Kildee

Member of Congress



Tony Cárdenas

Member of Congress



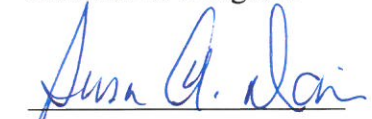
Max Rose

Member of Congress



Henry C. "Hank" Johnson

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Susan A. Davis

Member of Congress



Linda T. Sánchez

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Ann McLane Kuster

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Raja Krishnamoorthi

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Ted W. Lieu

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Gilbert R. Cisneros

Gilbert R. Cisneros

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