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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION
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WATER RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSIT
RAILROADS, PIPELINES, AND
HAZARDOUS MATERIALS

COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE,
AND TECHNOLOGY
INVESTIGATIONS AND OVERSIGHT
(RANKING MEMBER)

November 6, 2025

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

Dear Secretary Turner:

I am writing to urge the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to renew all existing Continuum of Care grants expiring in 2026 for an additional 12-month period in accordance with the two-year Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) authorized by Congress. Reports that HUD intends to issue a new NOFO for fiscal year 2025 with substantial changes to how grants are awarded are extremely concerning. This funding is critical to addressing homelessness in my district, and any delays, disruptions, or cuts to CoC funding will only hurt our communities.

The CoC Program is the single largest source of funding to address homelessness, distributing nearly \$3.5 billion in funding to assist individuals and families moving into transitional or permanent housing. Despite issuing a two-year NOFO for fiscal years 2024 and 2025, HUD has indicated they intend to release an arbitrary NOFO for fiscal year 2025, creating red tape for projects that have already been approved and are underway. Worse still, according to reports from HUD employees, HUD plans to create a 30 percent cap on CoC funds for permanent housing projects, which do not have a designated length of stay, and mandate work requirements for transitional housing. These cuts could put more than 170,000 people at risk of homelessness nationwide. In Ohio, where 72 percent of funds for permanent housing come from the CoC, and this cap would cut \$80 million in funding for Ohioans in need.

In my district, CoC funding supports a total of 2,686 beds for those in need in Stark and Summit Counties, with the 1,924 permanent housing beds making up the vast majority of these beds. Each of these beds represents a person off the streets and into safer living conditions, including 328 veterans, 1,208 families, and 49 youth.¹² Proposed cuts from HUD would slash Summit County's funding by an estimated \$3.6 million and negatively impact an estimated 700 families, including children. Stark County would see an estimated \$1.6 million cut in funding, impacting

¹ https://files.hudexchange.info/reports/published/CoC_HIC_CoC_OH-508-2024_OH_2024.pdf

² https://files.hudexchange.info/reports/published/CoC_HIC_CoC_OH-506-2024_OH_2024.pdf

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187 individuals and families. Additionally, about 75 jobs related to administering this funding across these two counties would be impacted by these cuts. As many people without stable housing cycle through emergency rooms, shelters, and jails, supportive housing funded by the CoC is not only a lifeline, but also one of the most cost effective services to keep Ohioans affordably housed.

In addition to reports of this unnecessary NOFO and CoC cuts, the Administration's budget proposal includes sweeping cuts across HUD programs that would seriously undermine the CoC, the Community Development Block Grant, and several other programs aimed at lowering housing costs. Especially as costs continue to rise, my community and communities across the country cannot afford delays or cuts. I urge you to expeditiously renew CoC grants for fiscal year 2025 without issuing an unnecessary NOFO.

Yours in Service,



Emilia Strong Sykes
Member of Congress
13th Congressional District of Ohio