

# JCPA

JEWISH COUNCIL  
FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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National Member Agencies  
American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Congress  
Anti-Defamation League  
B'nai B'rith  
Hadassah  
Jewish Labor Committee  
Jewish War Veterans  
National Council  
of Jewish Women  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Union of Orthodox Jewish  
Congregations of America  
United Synagogue  
of Conservative Judaism  
Women's American ORT  
Women's League  
for Conservative Judaism

June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2007

The Honorable Barney Frank  
Chairman, House Financial Services Committee  
2252 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Frank:

On behalf of the Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA), I write to offer our support of the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007.

The organized Jewish community has long demonstrated a commitment to safe and affordable housing. Our faith informs our position, as our scriptures command, "If a community lacked a synagogue and a shelter for the poor, it was first obligated to build a shelter for the poor" (Seder Hasidim). As the representative of 14 national agencies and 125 Jewish local community relations councils in 44 states across the country, the JCPA has long been driven by this mandate, advocating for a policy solution that address our nation's affordable housing crisis.

The Jewish Council for Public Affairs has been a long-time member of the coalition to realize a National Housing Trust Fund. While our local member agencies have taken concrete steps to address the shortage of affordable housing for low-income Americans in their communities, we cannot address this crisis alone.

We appreciate your demonstrated commitment to pass a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund bill that would build, rehabilitate and preserve 1.5 million units of rental housing for the lowest income families over the next 10 years.

In our 2004 Resolution on Affordable Housing, the JCPA stated that "a national housing trust fund offers the best hope for a generation of affordable housing" and called the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund a "policy option with a tremendous amount of potential". We look forward to working with you in harnessing that potential to make this bill a reality in this Congress.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,



Hadar Susskind  
Washington Director  
Jewish Council for Public Affairs