



Vol. 18, No. 10

March 16, 2015

Ask Your Senators To Support USDA Rural Housing Funding!

This afternoon, Sen. Schumer released a [Dear Colleague Letter](#) asking fellow Senators to join him in supporting funding for USDA Rural Housing programs.

Please call your Senators and ask them to (1) sign onto the [Schumer Dear Colleague Letter](#) and (2) submit an [Appropriations Request](#) for these critical programs.

Senators can sign on by contacting Lane Bodian (lane_bodian@schumer.senate.gov) by next **Tuesday, March 24th.**

The "Ask"

We are asking all Senators to both sign onto the Schumer Dear Colleague Letter and to submit an Appropriations Request. Whether or not your

Senator signs onto the Dear Colleague Letter, it is still very important that they submit an Appropriations Request electronically.

To help them complete their electronic Appropriations Requests, NRHC created an Appropriations Request Spreadsheet that tracks the information they need to make an online request, including the program levels that NRHC recommends, as well as other critical information.

Please be sure to share both the [Dear Colleague Letter](#) and the [Appropriations Spreadsheet](#) with your Senator.

Senate Targets

A great place to start is with the [21 Senators who signed on last year](#), including Baldwin, Boxer, Cantwell, Carper, Coons, Durbin, Franken, Gillibrand, Heitkamp, Hirono, Kaine, Klobuchar, Leahy, Manchin, Sanders, Schatz, Shaheen, Stabenow, Tester, Warner, and Wyden.

In addition, a few additional Senators signed on in [FY14](#) or [FY13](#), including King, Brown, and Bennet.

Also, there are a number of new Senators who serve states with large rural populations, including Capito, Daines, Ernst, Gardner, Perdue, Peters, Rounds, Sasse, Sullivan, and Tillis.

Additional Resources.

In addition to sharing a copy of the [Dear Colleague Letter](#) and [Appropriations Spreadsheet](#), please feel free to share NRHC's [fact sheets on key programs](#). NRHC also created a [step-by-step guide](#) to help you advocate for USDA Rural Housing Programs, including a sample script and a list of NRHC's targets in the Senate.

Thank you for your support,

Sarah Mickelson