



BIPARTISAN POLICY CENTER

February 3, 2014

The Honorable Tim Johnson  
Chairman, Senate Banking Committee  
534 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Crapo  
Ranking Member, Senate Banking Committee  
534 Senate Dirksen Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Johnson and Ranking Member Crapo:

Thank you for your ongoing engagement with the Bipartisan Policy Center Housing Commission, and for your leadership in designing a sustainable housing finance system that can meet the mortgage credit needs of America's families. We appreciate the priority attention you have given to housing finance reform, and the open, deliberate, and bipartisan process that you and your staff have employed in drafting legislation to address this complicated but critical issue. Despite the polarized views on many issues facing Congress today, your committee has demonstrated that housing finance reform is one area where we can build a bipartisan path forward.

At our recent Forum on the Role of Private Capital in a Reformed Housing Finance System, you reinforced your commitment to marking up legislation early this year. We encourage you to build on the momentum you created in 2013, continue efforts towards this goal, and report out a bill as soon as possible. Like you, we believe housing finance reform needs to happen soon as the status quo is unsustainable.

We wish to reiterate our readiness to provide assistance to you and your staff as you continue the important work of developing a comprehensive legislative bill that can garner bipartisan support. Please do not hesitate to call on us for assistance in answering questions, considering options, and bringing together a team of expert commissioners and advisors as the discussion in Congress continues.

Sincerely,

Henry Cisneros  
Commission Co-Chair

Mel Martinez  
Commission Co-Chair

George J. Mitchell  
Commission Co-Chair

Robert M. Couch  
Commission Member

Frank Keating  
Commission Member

Nicolas P. Retsinas  
Commission Member