About the Housing Commission

- Created by the Bipartisan Policy Center, a non-profit organization founded in 2007 by former Senate Majority Leaders Howard Baker, Tom Daschle, Bob Dole and George Mitchell

- Launched in October 2011 with four co-chairs:
  - Christopher S. “Kit Bond – Former U.S. Senator; Former Governor of Missouri
  - Henry Cisneros – Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
  - Mel Martinez – Former U.S. Senator; Former Secretary, U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development
  - George J. Mitchell – Former U.S. Senate Majority Leader

- Composed of 21 members drawn from diverse political and professional backgrounds

A healthy, stable housing market is essential for a strong economy and a competitive America.

The nation’s housing finance system should promote the uninterrupted availability of affordable housing credit and investment capital while protecting American taxpayers.

The United States should reaffirm a commitment to providing a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family.

The primary focus of federal housing policy should be to help those most in need.

Federal policy should strike an appropriate balance between homeownership and rental subsidies.
Principal Areas of Recommendations

- The Continuing Value of Homeownership
- Reforming Our Nation’s Housing Finance System
- Affordable Rental Housing
- The Importance of Rural Housing
- Aging in Place: A New Frontier in Housing
Aim of BPC Report - A Call to Action

• Provide guidance on how best to respond to challenges, such as -
  • Homeownership remaining out of reach for far too many families;
  • Limited access to credit impeding the nation’s economic growth;
  • Rising rental housing costs as demand continues to increase;
  • Desire to age in place in one’s own home through senior years.

• Serve as a catalyst for bipartisan action

• Visit www.bipartisanpolicy.org/housing to download the report
Aging in Place:
A New Frontier in Housing
Aging in Place: A New Frontier in Housing

U.S. Population Aged 65 and Older

Aging in Place: Recommendations

• Identify and remove barriers to allow for better coordination of housing and health care

• Support initiatives to retrofit homes and apartments for energy conservation and aging in place

• Place greater emphasis on integration of aging-in-place priorities into existing federal programs

• Provide reverse mortgage counseling that assures consumers fully understand the financial mechanics of these loans and promote development of alternative, low-cost home equity access products

• Convene a White House conference on aging in place