

Sample Letter for the Governor to be put on your letterhead, personalized, dated and signed

December \_\_, 2011

The Honorable Martin O'Malley  
Governor of Maryland  
100 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1925

Dear Governor O'Malley:

I am writing to urge you to include the Maryland Affordable Housing Coalition's (MAHC) Jobs Housing Initiative in your jobs package and maintain level funding for all Department of Housing and Community Development Programs (DHCD) rental housing programs in the FY 2013 budget. DHCD projects a shortfall of 130,000 units of affordable rental housing by 2015, and demand for such housing is increasing during these challenging economic times. As a \_\_\_\_\_ [*Developer, Non-Profit, Financial Institution*] dedicated to the production and preservation of affordable rental housing, we can attest that there are many worthy projects ready to proceed, but are in need of critical gap financing in order to move forward.

The \$25 million Jobs Housing Initiative would be administered by DHCD in conjunction with existing programs to provide essential gap financing to support the construction and renovation of "shovel-ready" affordable housing projects and create as many as 5,000 high quality private sector jobs. The proposal would allow \$170 million in unused multifamily bond authority to be used and not lost to the State; it will leverage an additional \$390 million of private investment; and, it will create State and local revenues.

It is also essential to level fund DHCD's existing rental housing programs. These programs, including Rental Housing Production, Partnership Rental Housing and the Maryland Rehabilitation Programs, are extremely important programs for generating jobs and for leveraging other investment in the State. It is important to note that the funding for these programs will not require new appropriations, but simply involves re-appropriating the existing revolving funds of the Department.

I thank you for the priority you have given in the past to creating jobs and affordable housing in Maryland, and ask that you continue your commitment by creating a new Jobs Housing Initiative and by providing level funding for DHCD's other rental housing programs.

Sincerely,

[Insert Your Name]  
[Insert Your Title]

cc: Eloise Foster, Secretary, Budget and Management  
Raymond Skinner, Secretary, DHCD