



November 14, 2022

The Honorable Marcia Fudge  
Secretary of the Department of Housing and Urban Development  
451 7th St. SW  
Washington, D.C., 20410-0500

Dear Madam Secretary:

We are state legislators from around the nation dedicated to promoting a clean energy future to address the urgent issue of climate change. We appreciate your leadership in advancing HUD's climate goals and commitments. We write in support of the Public Health Law Center (PHLC) and other organization's petition for rulemaking to decarbonize and otherwise prepare HUD-assisted housing for climate change.

Together, residential and commercial buildings account for about 40% of U.S. energy use. Fossil fuels burned by appliances are a significant contributor to this energy use. Residential appliances paid for by HUD are responsible for approximately 13.6 million metric tons of carbon emissions annually.

Burning gas for cooking or heating is not just a threat to the climate, but also to human health. Gas-fueled appliances are a significant contributor to indoor air pollution. In fact, children in a home with a gas stove have a 24–42% increased risk of having asthma. A Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory study found that cooking with gas exposes approximately 12 million Californians to pollutant levels that would exceed outdoor ambient air standards. Research suggests similar impacts nationwide.

What's more, this pollution tends to be concentrated in the homes of residents who are already facing disproportionate health and climate impacts. For instance, public housing residents are more likely to use gas stoves for supplemental heating, more likely to be in smaller living spaces which concentrates pollution levels, and more likely to live in areas with higher outdoor pollution levels.

The PHLC petition asks that HUD take commonsense steps to phase out gas-fired appliances in HUD-assisted housing, use HUD grant programs to support beneficial electrification, and require planning to prepare for and mitigate against climate-related health risks, among other proposals. We support the petition and urge HUD to grant it. We can think of few areas better to focus our decarbonization efforts than to benefit the residents of public housing.

Sincerely,

Minnesota Representative James Long  
(MN-061B)

Alaska Senator Elvi Gray-Jackson  
(AK-0001)

Arizona Representative Andrea Dalessandro  
(AZ-2)

Colorado Representative Jennifer Bacon (CO-7)	Illinois Senator David Koehler (IL-46)
Colorado Representative Tracey Bernett (CO-12)	Indiana Representative Chris Campbell (IN-26)
Colorado Representative Andrew Boesenecker (CO-53)	Iowa Senator Eric Giddens (IA-30)
Colorado Representative Meg Froelich (CO-3)	Kentucky Representative Mary Marzian (KY-34)
Colorado Representative Cathy Kipp (CO-52)	Kentucky Representative Attica Scott (KY-41)
Colorado Representative Emily Sirota (CO-9)	Maine Representative Poppy Arford (ME-49)
Connecticut Representative Lucy Dathan (CT-142)	Maine Representative Lydia Crafts (ME-90)
Connecticut Representative Kevin Ryan (CT-139)	Maine Representative Laurie Osher (ME-123)
Connecticut Representative Quentin Williams (CT-100)	Maryland Delegate Lorig Charkoudian (MD-20)
Georgia Representative Marvin Lim (GA-99)	Maryland Delegate Jessica Feldmark (MD-12)
Hawaii Representative Nicole Lowen (HI-6)	Maryland Delegate David Fraser-Hidalgo (MD-15)
Hawaii Representative Lisa Marten (HI-51)	Maryland Delegate Julie Palakovich Carr (MD-17)
Hawaii Representative Amy Perruso (HI-46)	Maryland Delegate Joseline Pena-Melnyk (MD-21)
Hawaii Senator Stanley Chang (HI-9)	Maryland Delegate Vaughn Stewart (MD-19)
Hawaii Senator Chris Lee (HI-25)	Maryland Delegate Jheanelle Wilkins (MD-20)
Hawaii Senator Karl Rhoads (HI-13)	Maryland Senator Jill Carter (MD-41)
Illinois Representative Ann Williams (IL-11)	Maryland Senator Brian Feldman (MD-15)
Illinois Senator Cristina Castro (IL-22)	Maryland Senator Benjamin Kramer (MD-19)
Illinois Senator Laura Fine (IL-9)	Massachusetts Representative Michelle Ciccolo (MA-74)

Massachusetts Representative Lindsay Sabadosa (MA-57)	New York Senator Liz Krueger (NY-28)
Massachusetts Senator Michael Moore (MA-38)	North Carolina Representative Mary Harrison (NC-61)
Minnesota Representative Mike Freiberg (MN-045B)	North Carolina Senator Sarah Crawford (NC-18)
Minnesota Representative Alice Hausman (MN-066A)	North Dakota Senator Tim Mathern (ND-11)
Minnesota Representative Tina Liebling (MN-026A)	Ohio Representative Mary Lightbody (OH-19)
Minnesota Senator Chris Eaton (MN-40)	Oregon Senator James Manning (OR-7)
Minnesota Senator Jerry Newton (MN-37)	Pennsylvania Representative Mary Daley (PA-148)
Minnesota Senator Sandra Pappas (MN-65)	Pennsylvania Representative Elizabeth Fiedler (PA-184)
Nevada Assembly Member Howard Watts (NV-15)	Pennsylvania Representative Nancy Guent (PA-152)
New Hampshire Representative Susan Almy (NH-45)	Pennsylvania Representative Sara Innamorato (PA-21)
New Hampshire Representative Sherry Dutzy (NH-75)	Pennsylvania Representative Rick Krajewski (PA-188)
New Hampshire Representative Kat McGhee (NH-72)	Pennsylvania Representative Napoleon Nelson (PA-154)
New Hampshire Representative Rebecca McWilliams (NH-184F)	Pennsylvania Representative Danielle Otten (PA-155)
New Hampshire Representative Lee Oxenham (NH-154)	Pennsylvania Representative Benjamin Sanchez (PA-153)
New Hampshire Representative Ellen Read (NH-123)	Pennsylvania Representative Gregory Vitali (PA-166)
New Hampshire Senator David Watters (NH-4)	Pennsylvania Senator Carolyn Comitta (PA-19)
New Jersey Senator Bob Smith (NJ-17)	Pennsylvania Senator Katie Muth (PA-44)
New Mexico Representative Andrea Romero (NM-46)	Rhode Island Representative Terri-Denise Cortvriend (RI-72)
New Mexico Senator Antoinette Lopez (NM-16)	Rhode Island Representative Rebecca Kislak (RI-4)

Rhode Island Senator Alana DiMario  
(RI-36)

Rhode Island Senator Dawn Euer  
(RI-13)

Rhode Island Senator Meghan Kallman  
(RI-15)

Utah Representative Gay Lynn Bennion  
(UT-46)

Utah Senator Jani Iwamoto  
(UT-4)

Vermont Representative Sarah Hanzas  
(VT-58)

Vermont Representative Barbara Rachelson  
(VT-30)

Vermont Senator Kesha Hinsdale  
(VT-5)

Virginia Delegate Elizabeth Guzman  
(VA-31)

Virginia Delegate Patrick Hope  
(VA-47)

Virginia Delegate Kaye Kory  
(VA-38)

Virginia Senator Ghazala Hashmi  
(VA-10)

Washington Representative Mia Gregerson  
(WA-33)

Washington Representative Sharon Shewmake  
(WA-42)

Washington Senator Mona Das  
(WA-47)

Washington Senator Derek Stanford  
(WA-1)

Wisconsin Representative Greta Neubauer  
(WI-66)

Washington Representative Sharon Shewmake  
(WA-42)