

March 9, 2026

Chairman Tim Scott
Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Development Committee
104 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Elizabeth Warren
Senate Banking, Housing and Urban Development Committee
311 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Warren:

On behalf of the National Alliance to End Homelessness (the Alliance), I am writing today to endorse the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act (ROAD). We thank Chairman Scott and Ranking Member Warren for this serious bipartisan effort to make housing more affordable, thereby making it easier for communities to reduce and prevent homelessness.

The Alliance is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organization whose mission is to prevent and end homelessness in America. According to data published by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, in 2024 more than 771,000 people experienced homelessness on a single day in January and approximately 17,500 people became homeless for the first time each week. Evidence repeatedly shows that access to both services and safe housing that is affordable to people at the lowest incomes is the foundation for reducing – and ultimately ending – homelessness. The provisions included in ROAD will help streamline federal programs resulting in increased availability of and access to affordable housing. This will allow communities to both reduce the number of people becoming homeless and help those who are experiencing homelessness find stable and affordable homes.

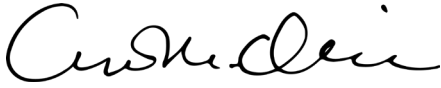
We are disappointed that ROAD no longer contains important provisions that would have strengthened and protected the Continuum of Care Program – the nation’s backbone homelessness assistance program. However, we continue to support the package as it still contains important provisions that will ensure federal programs can be maximized at the local level, strengthening community-wide efforts to reduce homelessness:

- The **“Incentivizing Local Solutions to Homelessness”** provision would allow states and localities that receive Emergency Solutions Grant funding to request a waiver of the statutory 60 percent spending cap on emergency shelter beds and street outreach, allowing for greater flexibility and honoring local decision making to best address unsheltered homelessness.
- The **“Rural Housing Service Reform Act”** would help preserve and maintain access to affordable housing for 400,000 low-income people and families living in rural areas, reduce administrative barriers, and encourage public-private partnerships to increase investment in the country’s rural housing supply.
- The inclusion of provisions from the **“Choice in Affordable Housing Act”** will allow for the streamlining of inspections for the HCV program by reducing inspection delays and permitting new landlords to request pre-inspections. Both of these provisions will make it faster and easier for HCV recipients to access housing.

- The “**Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act**” would help more homeless veterans access VA housing opportunities by permanently excluding veterans’ disability compensation from annual income calculations under the HUD-VASH program.

Thank you again for your leadership. The Alliance looks forward to working together to advance this legislation. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Vice President of Programs and Policy, Marcy Thompson at mthompson@naeh.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Marie Oliva".

Ann Marie Oliva
Chief Executive Officer