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Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

March 20, 2020

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The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
H-232, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
H-204, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-230, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
S-220, U.S. Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McConnell, Leader McCarthy, and Leader Schumer:

Thank you for your urgent work passing stimulus legislation to protect Americans during this public health and economic crisis. As you work on additional legislation to address this crisis, I write to ask you to include these important provisions to ensure Americans stay housed and have access to shelter, keeping our constituents healthy and preventing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- **Moratorium on evictions and foreclosures:** Congress must enact a moratorium on evictions and foreclosures on federally owned, subsidized or insured properties. At a time when staying indoors is critical to our fight against the pandemic, we must keep Americans stably housed.
- **Increased funding for Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG):** ESG funds are distributed to states and local communities for emergency shelter, wraparound services, homelessness prevention and rapid rehousing. Increased ESG funds would provide emergency rental assistance to help safeguard those who are at-risk of falling short on a rental payment as a result of job loss, having to care for a family member or health costs from COVID-19. It will also help communities identify and supply adequate shelter for unsheltered Americans to safely socially distance and self-quarantine.

Now, more than ever, housing is health care. It is critical that we protect our constituents who are at-risk of homelessness as more Americans lose access to childcare, experience loss of income and face emergency medical costs. As a doctor, I know how important it is that Americans are stabilized in their homes and that we protect homeless individuals and those most vulnerable in our communities in order to halt the spread of this dangerous pandemic.

Sincerely,

Ami Bera, M.D.  
Member of Congress