August 4, 2021

## Dear Senator:

The <u>81</u> undersigned consumer, civil rights, community, housing, and other public interest groups write to express our enthusiastic support for the nomination of Julia Gordon as Assistant Secretary for Housing and Federal Housing Commissioner for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Julia Gordon is particularly well-suited to serve as the next FHA commissioner. She brings a crucial blend of policy insights, coalition-building expertise, and experience engaging with a broad range of stakeholders that will make her an effective leader. Ms. Gordon is a leading policy voice on many important housing issues under FHA's purview, including mortgage policy, affordable housing, blight prevention, non-performing loan sales, and single-family rentals.

Ms. Gordon is known in the mortgage, affordable housing, and community development sectors for her commitment and dedication to supporting sustainable homeownership, strengthening neighborhood housing markets and promoting neighborhood stability. She has the experience, insight, and perspective needed to effectively oversee FHA's broad housing portfolio. For many families of color and first-time homebuyers, obtaining a FHA mortgage is their door to homeownership. Ms. Gordon's commitment to racial and economic justice will make sure that more people of color and first time homebuyers are able to access homeownership. Her wealth of housing expertise and government experience will enable her to successfully lead FHA in a way that will benefit all FHA homeowners and the housing market as a whole.

Under Ms. Gordon's leadership, more families will be able to access affordable homeownership and sustainable loss mitigation options that will allow struggling borrowers to maintain long term homeownership, which will stabilize neighborhoods and make a positive difference in the lives of families across the country. We believe that Ms. Gordon's extensive knowledge of the housing market, government experience, and ability to work with stakeholders from a variety of interests makes her particularly well-suited to lead FHA. We strongly urge you to support her prompt confirmation.

Sincerely,

Americans for Financial Reform AAA-Residential Resources, Inc. Acts Housing Affordable Homeownership Foundation Inc. Affordable Housing Centers of Pennsylvania Arizona Housing Coalition Autistic Self Advocacy Network California Reinvestment Coalition Center for Community Progress Center for Fair Housing Center for NYC Neighborhoods Inc. Center for Responsible Lending **CNY** Fair Housing Coastal Enterprises, Inc. COHHIO **Connecticut Fair Housing Center Consumer** Action Consumer Credit and Budget Counseling, Inc. d/b/a National Foundation for Debt Management **Consumer Federation of America** Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety Credit Advisors Foundation DABS llc Debthelper.com **Empire Justice Center** Equal Rights Center Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California Fair Housing Center of Central Indiana Fair Housing Center of Northern Alabama Fair Housing Center of West Michigan Fair Housing Rights Center in Southeastern Pennsylvania High Plains Fair Housing Center HomeFree-USA Homeownership Council of America Homes on the Hill, CDC Housing Equality Law Project (HELP) Housing Opportunities Made Equal, Inc. Buffalo Housing Opportunities Project for Excellence, Inc. Housing Options Provided for the Elderly Integrated Community Solutions, Inc. Intermountain Fair Housing Council Jacksonville Area Legal Aid, Inc. Kentucky Resources Council, Inc. Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law

Long Island Housing Services, Inc. Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center Maryland Consumer Rights Coalition Massachusetts Communities Action Network Massachusetts Fair Housing Center Miami Valley Fair Housing Center, Inc. Mississippi Center for Justice Mni Sota Fund Morningstar Urban Development Inc National Association of Consumer Advocates National CAPACD- National Coalition for Asian Pacific American Community Development National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) National Council of Asian Pacific Americans (NCAPA) National Fair Housing Alliance National Foundation for Credit Counseling National Housing Resource Center National Urban League NCALL Research, Inc. Neighborhood Housing Services of Baltimore Neighborhood Restore HDFC New Jersey Citizen Action NFCC National Foundation for Credit Counseling North Texas Fair Housing Center Northwest Side Housing Center Philadelphia Unemployment Project **Prosperity Now Public Justice Center Reinvestment Partners Rural Community Assistance Corporation** Safeguard Credit Counseling South Suburban Housing Center St. Petersburg Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. dba Neighborhood Home Solutions The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights UnidosUS Ventura County Community Development Corporation Westchester Residential Opportunities, Inc. Woodstock Institute Youngstown Neighborhood Development Corporation