

March 12, 2021

The Honorable Gina M. Raimondo
Secretary
U.S.

additional costs, both single- and multifamily housing becomes less affordable. Other projects will no longer be economically viable, which undercuts the availability of new housing supply and further jeopardizes affordability.

The potential for housing and construction to grow and lead the economy is limited as long as lumber remains expensive and scarce, and the ramifications for job growth are significant. Building 1,000 average single-family homes creates 2,900 full-time jobs and generates \$110.96 million in taxes and fees for all levels of government to support police, firefighters and schools. Similarly, building 1,000 average rental apartments generates 1,250 jobs and \$55.91 million in taxes and revenue for local, state and federal government. Moreover, \$10 million in remodeling expenditures creates 75 jobs and nearly \$3 million in taxes.

Housing and construction can do their parts to create jobs, boost the economy to its pre-pandemic strength, and provide safe and affordable housing for all Americans, but in order to do so the federal government needs to address skyrocketing lumber prices and chronic shortages. We urge you to undertake a thorough examination of the lumber supply chain and seek remedies that will increase production. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

**American Gas Association
American Public Gas Association
American Supply Association
Associated Builders and Contractors
Associated General Contractors of America
CCIM Institute
Council for Affordable and Rural Housing
Enterprise Community Partners
Habitat for Humanity International
Hearth, Patio & Barbecue Association
Housing Advisory Group
Housing Partnership Network
Independent Electrical Contractors
Institute of Real Estate Management
International Council of Shopping Centers
Leading Builders of America
Manufactured Housing Institute
Mortgage Bankers Association
National Affordable Housing Management
Association**

**National Apartment Association
National Association of Affordable Housing
Lenders
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of Housing Cooperatives
National Association of REALTORS®
National Electrical Contractors Association
National Housing Conference
National Housing & Rehabilitation Association
National Housing Trust
National Low Income Housing Coalition
National Lumber & Building Material Dealers
Association
National Multifamily Housing Council
National Roofing Contractors Association
North American Home Furnishings Association
Stewards of Affordable Housing for the Future
The Real Estate Roundtable
Up for Growth Action**