

HERB KOHL  
WISCONSIN

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
330 HART SENATE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510  
(202) 224-5653  
T.T.Y. (202) 224-4464  
<http://kohl.senate.gov/>

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-4903

COMMITTEES:  
APPROPRIATIONS  
JUDICIARY  
SPECIAL COMMITTEE  
ON AGING

July 5, 2007

Mr. Bruce Keyes  
Brownfield Study Group  
Foley & Lardner LLP  
777 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-5300

Dear Mr. Keyes:

Thank you for taking the time to contact me. I value the correspondence I get from people back in Wisconsin, and I would like to take this opportunity to address your concerns regarding the recent funding levels for the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Recently, President Bush unveiled his budget proposal for Fiscal Year 2008. The President's budget calls for HUD to endure a \$622 million cut in funding. Several vital programs would see drastic cuts in the President's budget if it were implemented, such as Section 202, the Supportive Housing for the Elderly program, Section 811, the Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities program, and Section 8, the Housing Choice Voucher program. Section 202 would see a \$190 million or 25% cut in funding and Section 811 would see a \$118 million or 50% cut in funding. Section 8, which subsidizes rental housing for low-income families, would receive only a \$9 million increase from anticipated Fiscal Year 2007. The increase does not cover the cost of inflation, leaving the Section 8 program under-funded and making it more difficult for low-income families to find affordable housing.

The Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides eligible metropolitan areas with grants for revitalizing neighborhood, expanding affordable housing and economic opportunity, and improving community facilities and services. The President's proposed budget would cut \$736 million to the CDBG program. Wisconsin could expect \$19.8 million less in CDBG funding as a result of this cut. Additionally, the President proposed to eliminate all funding for the HOPE IV program. The HOPE IV program renovates and rehabilitates dilapidated public housing.

I understand that access to safe and affordable housing is essential to strengthening our communities. Recently, I sent a letter, along with 25 of my colleagues, to Chairwoman Patty Murray (D-WA) and Ranking Member Christopher Bond (R-MO) of the Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies of the Appropriations Committee, expressing my objection to the proposed cuts of the Section 202 and 811 programs.

MILWAUKEE OFFICE:  
310 WEST WISCONSIN AVENUE  
SUITE 950  
MILWAUKEE, WI 53203  
(414) 297-4451  
T.T.Y. (414) 297-4485

MADISON OFFICE:  
14 WEST MIFFLIN STREET  
SUITE 207  
MADISON, WI 53703  
(608) 264-5338

EAU CLAIRE OFFICE:  
402 GRAHAM AVENUE  
SUITE 206  
EAU CLAIRE, WI 54701  
(715) 832-8424

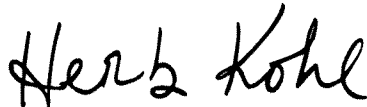
APPLETON OFFICE:  
4321 WEST COLLEGE AVENUE  
SUITE 235  
APPLETON, WI 54914  
(920) 738-1640

LACROSSE OFFICE:  
425 STATE STREET  
SUITE 202  
LACROSSE, WI 54601  
(608) 796-0045

Please be assured that as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, I will work to ensure that the vital HUD programs receive adequate funding.

..... Again, thank you for contacting me. Please feel free to contact me in the future on this or .....  
any other issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Herb Kohl". The letters are cursive and fluid, with the first letter of each word being capitalized and larger than the others.

Herb Kohl  
United States Senator

HK: sc