

# United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 7, 2024

The Honorable Chris Van Hollen, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Financial Services & General Government  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Room S-128, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bill Hagerty, Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Financial Services & General Government  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Room S-128, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Van Hollen and Ranking Member Hagerty:

We write to request that no less than \$325 million be provided for the Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI Fund) in the fiscal year (FY) 2025 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations measure. The CDFI Fund generates economic opportunity in distressed areas by expanding access to credit, capital, and financial services through the investment in and assistance to a nationwide network of Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs).

This year marks the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of passage of the Riegle Community Development and Regulatory Improvement Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-325), which established the CDFI Fund. Since then, it has awarded more than \$7.4 billion to CDFIs, community development organizations, and financial institutions through its funding programs, allocated \$76 billion in tax credits through the New Markets Tax Credit Program, and more than \$2.5 billion in bonds has been guaranteed through the CDFI Bond Guarantee Program.

Through its unique public-private partnership model, the CDFI Fund's award recipients successfully leverage billions in private sector investment to create jobs, build affordable housing and essential community facilities, as well as invest in neighborhood revitalization initiatives. For example, since 2010 CDFI Program Financial Assistance award recipients have originated more than \$170 billion in loans and investments—all in communities lacking access to traditional lending or banking institutions or experiencing pervasive disinvestment. These resources have financed nearly 585,000 businesses, as well as the development of more than 425,000 affordable housing units.

In addition to their extensive history of investment in rural and urban communities across all 50 states—as well as the District of Columbia, Guam, and Puerto Rico—CDFIs in recent years have more than proven their value as economic first responders and catalysts for private sector collaboration. The modest increase in requested CDFI Fund appropriations—roughly \$1 million over FY 2024 spending—alongside an increased role from the private sector, ensures CDFIs can build on their record of investment in underserved communities. The amount requested also ensures that the CDFI Fund will continue to support innovations that advance the technology capabilities of CDFIs, increase liquidity and access to capital markets, and foster efficiencies in the community development field.

It is for these reasons we strongly urge the continued investment in the work of the CDFI Fund by providing it with an FY 2025 appropriation of at least \$325 million.

Sincerely,



Mark R. Warner  
United States Senator



Amy Klobuchar  
United States Senator



Jeanne Shaheen  
United States Senator



Thomas R. Carper  
United States Senator



Mazie K. Hirono  
United States Senator



Jack Reed  
United States Senator



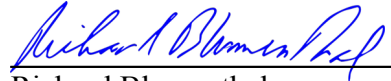
Tammy Duckworth  
United States Senator



Cory A. Booker  
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse  
United States Senator



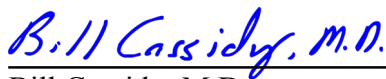
Richard Blumenthal  
United States Senator



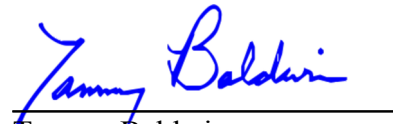
Catherine Cortez Masto  
United States Senator



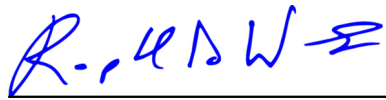
Tina Smith  
United States Senator



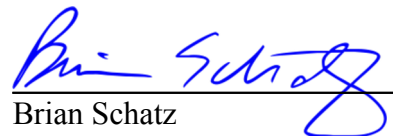
Bill Cassidy, M.D.  
United States Senator



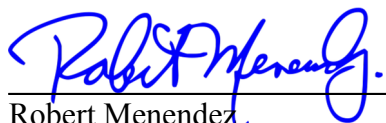
Tammy Baldwin  
United States Senator



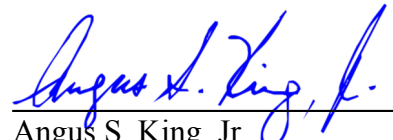
Raphael Warnock  
United States Senator



Brian Schatz  
United States Senator



Robert Menendez  
United States Senator



Angus S. King, Jr.  
United States Senator



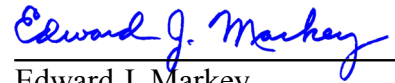
Joe Manchin III  
United States Senator



Michael F. Bennet  
United States Senator



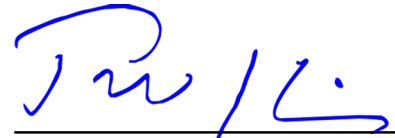
Christopher S. Murphy  
United States Senator



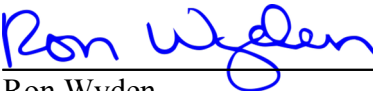
Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator




Tim Kaine  
United States Senator



Ron Wyden  
United States Senator



Maria Cantwell  
United States Senator



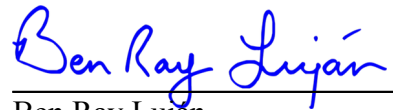
Gary C. Peters  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



Sherrod Brown  
United States Senator



Christopher A. Coons  
United States Senator



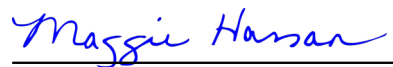
Jon Ossoff  
United States Senator



Peter Welch  
United States Senator



John Hickenlooper  
United States Senator



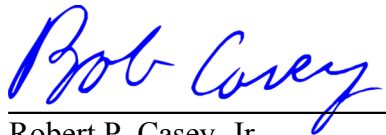
Margaret Wood Hassan  
United States Senator



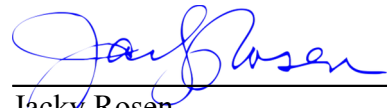
Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



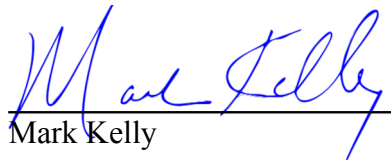
Jeffrey A. Merkley  
United States Senator



Robert P. Casey, Jr.  
United States Senator



Jacky Rosen  
United States Senator



Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



Debbie Stabenow  
United States Senator



Bernard Sanders  
United States Senator



Jon Tester  
United States Senator



Steve Daines  
United States Senator



Mike Rounds  
United States Senator



Mike Crapo  
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator