

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

February 8, 2022

The Honorable Janet Yellen
Secretary
U.S. Department of the Treasury
1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20220

Dear Secretary Yellen,

We write with regard to the Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA2) funds provided by the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. As New Hampshire residents continue to rely on emergency rental assistance to remain safely housed, we urge the U.S. Department of the Treasury (the Department) to swiftly release the State of New Hampshire's remaining ERA2 allocation amount of approximately \$69.2 million.

Overall, New Hampshire was allocated \$152 million through the ERA2 program, including approximately \$115.4 million for which the State was directly eligible¹. Of that amount, the State has received a disbursement of approximately \$46.2 million according to the most recently available monthly compliance report from the Department².

Today, we were notified that the State of New Hampshire has nearly expended its first tranche of ERA2 funds and it is critical that remaining ERA2 assistance is made available to New Hampshire immediately to continue supporting households in our state. As you know, ERA1 and ERA2 eligibility requirements differ and there are many households that are only eligible for assistance under the ERA2 program. Without the swift release of the second tranche of ERA2 funds, it is possible that the State's ERA2 program will cease to operate and many households relying on this support will face housing insecurity.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the affordable housing crisis in New Hampshire, negatively impacting housing security and homelessness for too many of our constituents. We have heard from advocates and New Hampshire residents that federal rental assistance has been critical in keeping many Granite Staters securely housed throughout the pandemic and we urge the Department to make New Hampshire's remaining ERA2 funds available immediately to continue this lifeline.

Currently, thousands of New Hampshire households are awaiting rental assistance as their ERA applications are being processed by the State and its partners. It is vital that funding remains available to support each of these households and the expiration of ERA2, even for one day, would be devastating.

We were pleased to have been able to secure critical rental assistance through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021 and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and we stand ready to support the

¹ https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/ERA2_Allocations_Eligible_Entities_572021.pdf

² <https://home.treasury.gov/system/files/136/November-ERA-Data.xlsx>

Department and the State of New Hampshire in any way we can to ensure federal rental assistance continues to be available to households in need.

Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Sincerely,



Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senator



Margaret Wood Hassan
United States Senator



Ann McLane Kuster
Member of Congress



Chris Pappas
Member of Congress