

Sample Letter to Member of Congress

Date _____

The Honorable _____
United States House of Representatives/United States Senate
Washington, DC 20515 (for the House) 20510 (for the Senate)

Dear Representative/Dear Senator,

I am writing to you to bring attention to the need for affordable housing. I've been made aware of this need through my involvement with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a nonprofit, nondenominational Christian housing ministry that seeks to eliminate poverty housing and homelessness from around the world, and to make decent shelter a matter of conscience and action. Habitat invites all people to build simple, decent, affordable housing with those who lack adequate shelter. Since its founding in 1976, Habitat for Humanity has built more than 200,000 houses, providing shelter for more than 1 million people, in nearly 100 countries around the world. A new Habitat house is completed somewhere in the world every 24 minutes.

[If you would like, you can personalize this letter with your own thoughts about or experiences with substandard housing in a paragraph here. Personalized letters communicate your passion and commitment to the issue.]

Habitat for Humanity is needed because worldwide, millions of people face a housing crisis. Housing problems have far-reaching consequences. The high cost of living leaves low-income families little money for other basic necessities like food, clothing or health care. Substandard housing can endanger the health and safety of its occupants, erode their hope and self-worth, and impair their children's ability to succeed in school.

The need for affordable housing is an issue that is important to me. When you make decisions that will impact the lives of people and future generations, I encourage you to keep in mind the need for affordable housing in both this country and around the world.

In partnership,

[Your name]