

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 26, 2024

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker of the House  
US House of Representatives  
H-232, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Democratic Leader  
US House of Representatives  
H-204, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jason Smith  
Chairman  
House Committee on Ways and Means  
1139 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Richard Neal  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Way and Means  
1129 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Jeffries, Chair Smith, and Ranking Member Neal,

As members of the Kansas delegation, we write to emphasize the critical need to address the housing affordability crisis in our state and across the country. In 2021, it was estimated there was a shortage of 55,383 affordable rental homes available to extremely low-income renters in Kansas<sup>1</sup>. The stories we've heard from numerous constituents highlight the profound impact of this shortage on their lives.

From its creation in 1986 through 2021, the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit has supported the development or preservation of 38,391 homes in Kansas and has served 82,673 low-income Kansas households<sup>2</sup>. Strengthening the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit is critical for spurring construction of additional affordable housing and lowering housing costs for the people we represent.

To that end, we strongly support the bipartisan Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act, which seeks to improve the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit. This legislation supports the financing of new homes by increasing the amount of housing credits available to states by 50 percent for the next two years and would make permanent the 12.5 percent increase implemented by the 2018 Consolidated Appropriations Act. Additionally, the bill increases the per capita dollar value of the tax credit and reforms the tenant eligibility requirements to better serve students, survivors of domestic violence, and veterans.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state/kansas>

<sup>2</sup> <https://rentalhousingaction.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/ACTION-STATE-2022-Kansas-1.pdf>

In Kansas alone, it is estimated this legislation would result in 6,200 rental homes and generate over a billion dollars in wages and business income over the next ten years<sup>3</sup>. Increasing the housing supply will foster economic development and strengthen communities.

We therefore ask you to bring the long-prioritized, bipartisan Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act of 2023 to the House floor as swiftly as possible. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter, and we stand ready to answer any questions and work with you to deliver this legislation to the President as quickly as possible.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to be "S. Davids", with a stylized, looped initial.

Representative Sharice L. Davids  
Member of Congress

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to be "J. LaTurner", with a stylized, looped initial.

Representative Jake LaTurner  
Member of Congress

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<sup>3</sup> <https://www.novoco.com/notes-from-novogradac/lihtc-pab-provisions-newly-reintroduced-ahcia-could-result-nearly-2-million-additional-affordable>