

**NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF HUD TENANTS**  
**353 Columbus Ave Boston, MA 02116 t: (617) 267.9564 f: (617)  
267.4769**

Senator John Kerry  
304 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

BY FAX

September 10, 2002

Dear Senator Kerry,

The National Alliance of HUD Tenants (NAHT) would like to invite you to a rally in Boston the first weekend in October to celebrate International Tenants' Day and support local and national efforts to save affordable housing. Tenants affiliated with NAHT and corresponding national and international housing organizations are organizing actions in 25 cities across America and Europe to commemorate the day, which has been declared by the International Union of Tenants, in conjunction with the United Nations' World Habitat Day on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Since the UN Habitat Conference II in 1996, where the United States pledged to build more affordable housing, the United States has instead lost over 250,000 units of governmentally subsidized housing for low-income families. Firstly, we thank you for your leadership in response to this crisis by filing the National Housing Trust Fund bill and co-sponsoring the Preservation Matching Grant. The Boston and national actions will rally support for these measures and urge restoration of regulatory legislation such as the HUD Preservation Program, which was repealed in 1996, to keep privately-owned, HUD-subsidized housing affordable.

Boston's rally will be held in John Eliot Square in Roxbury, near the at-risk RAP UP II-B development, where the non-profit owner intends to "prepay" the HUD-subsidized mortgage in November and sell the property to for-profit condominium developers. At October's rally we intend to support these low-income families fighting gentrification and displacement, and rally support for national and local legislative solutions. We have also invited Senator Kennedy, Congressmen Capuano and Frank, and Mayor Menino to participate in this event

We plan to hold the rally between October 4<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, but would like to schedule the event in accordance with your availability; we will contact your office shortly with regard to the upcoming date. Enclosed, please find some pertinent information regarding the RAP UP II-B development and International Tenants' Day.

Sincerely,

Michael Kane, Executive Director  
National Alliance of HUD Tenants

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