

DATE

The Honorable NAME  
Senator/Representative  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator/Representative NAME:

We are writing to urge you to support \$300 million in funding for the Section 811 Supportive Housing for Persons with Disabilities Program in the FY 2012 HUD budget.

The Section 811 Program is a critical HUD program that assists very low-income people with the most serious and long-term disabilities to live independently in the community by providing integrated affordable rental housing linked with voluntary services and supports.

DESCRIBE HERE THE ROLE OF YOUR AGENCY – WHO YOU SERVE AND THE GREAT NEED YOUR CLIENTS  
HAVE FOR SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Numerous studies have demonstrated that people with disabilities prefer to live in housing of their own in the community and that permanent and affordable housing linked with community-based supports is more cost effective than unnecessary and expensive institutional care. This is one reason why the Frank Melville Supportive Housing Investment Act of 2010 passed with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the U.S. House of Representatives and the U.S. Senate.

The Melville Act reforms the Section 811 Program by making it more efficient and cost-effective and authorizes Congress to appropriate \$300 million for the Section 811 program in FY2012, FY 2013 and FY2014. We urge you to support the appropriation of these funds.

Sincerely,