



OUR HOMES, OUR VOICES

NATIONAL HOUSING WEEK OF ACTION

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#OURHOMESOURVOICES CALL-IN DAY

SAMPLE SCRIPT

1. First identify yourself as a constituent and ask to speak to the legislator or staffer who deals with housing. Thank them for speaking with you and tell the staffer where you are from. If your job permits it, mention what you do and how it relates to affordable housing.
 - a. Example: “Hi. Thanks so much for talking with me today. My name is Vicki Brown and I am from Little Rock, Arkansas. I work for an affordable housing coalition in the state, and our mission is to ensure that everyone in the state has access to safe, decent and affordable housing.”
2. Then state: “A safe, decent, accessible, and affordable home is the building block to all other areas of life, but there is a shortage of affordable rental housing in **your district** (the legislator’s district) and in every community around the country.” (For housing data, see <https://nlihc.org/housing-needs-by-state>). “This shortage slows economic growth, drives up healthcare costs, and traps families and communities in poverty.”
3. “The shortage of affordable homes is the direct result of underfunded federal housing programs. Additional federal resources are needed to fully address the need and restore funding to previous levels.”
4. “Please reject (or ask the legislator to reject) any proposed cuts to housing benefits and harmful shutdowns, and instead work with your colleagues (have the legislator work with their colleagues) to lift the spending caps and increase investment in HUD and USDA Rural Development programs to ensure everyone has a safe, accessible, and affordable home.”
5. “Do you support (does the legislator support) lifting the spending caps and full funding for HUD and USDA housing programs?”
6. “Thank you for your time and your service. Would you like me to send any follow up information?”

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