



May 20, 2021

The Honorable Mark A. Calabria
Director
Federal Housing Finance Agency
400 7th Street, S.W.
Washington, DC 20219

Re: Radon Policies

Dear Director Calabria:

On behalf of the American Lung Association, I want to express our strong support for the recent initiative by the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) to strengthen the multifamily radon policies applied by the Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSEs) Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac by requiring full compliance with the appropriate American National Standards Institute - American Association of Radon Scientists and Technologists (ANSI-AARST) consensus standards for radon measurement and mitigation.

The American Lung Association has worked for over thirty years at the national, state, and community level to protect people in their homes, schools and workplaces from radon gas and its decay products. Since 2015, the Lung Association has served as convenor of the National Radon Action Plan Leadership Council, a collaboration among national organizations representing government, nonprofit and industry working together to eliminate avoidable radon-induced lung cancer. Protecting residents of multifamily housing from the risk of developing radon-induced lung cancer is one of our top priorities.

We appreciate FHFA's careful review over the past several months of the ANSI-AARST radon standards and of the impacts of requiring them in the GSEs' multifamily programs. We look forward to seeing in short order the GSEs' proposed plans for effective implementation of these standards in their areas of purview, and indeed hope that they demonstrate the kind of leadership that will make adoption of and adherence to such standards and practices the standard of care that sets the bar for everyone responsible for ensuring the health and safety of occupants and workers in all multifamily housing.

We are aware that, as always, there are stakeholder groups that are resistant to change and concerned about the demands of adhering to new standards and practices. But the American Lung Association is confident that FHFA, the GSEs, and the radon services industry have the tools and

resources needed to successfully address these issues, and we urge you to move forward on implementation with the sense of urgency that this important public health initiative deserves.

Every year that passes *without* addressing the problem of radon in multifamily housing is another year that occupants and workers in such buildings continue to experience risks from radon exposure from which they *could be protected*—but *currently are not*. The FHFA's actions to apply the best available solution is a necessary and critical step in expanding radon risk protections for residents of multifamily properties. The American Lung Association stands ready to offer our assistance in support of this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Harold Wimmer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Harold" and last name "Wimmer" clearly legible.

Harold P. Wimmer
National President and CEO