COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY - RANKING MEMBER SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ON RULES AND ADMINISTRATION

## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504 http://feinstein.senate.gov

June 17, 2019

Residents Golden Years Senior Apartments 11330 Otsego Street North Holywood, CA 91601

Dear Residents:

Thank you for writing to share your support for federal housing assistance programs for seniors. I appreciate learning the views of the residents of Golden Years Senior Apartments, and I welcome the opportunity to respond.

I share your support for federal programs that help elderly Americans access housing and supportive services. Investment in low-income affordable housing for the elderly is cost-effective and helps ensure seniors can live in supportive, decent, and affordable housing. The Section 202 Housing for the Elderly program has provided nearly 400,000 homes for low-income seniors. In addition, the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program helps the elderly afford safe housing in the private market.

I was pleased to join my Senate colleagues in approving the *Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2019* (Public Law 116-6), which was signed into law on February 15, 2019. This law provides \$678 million for the Section 202 Housing for the Elderly program, which is the same funding allocation as Fiscal Year (FY) 2018. This law also provides over \$22 billion for the Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, which is an increase of \$583 million above FY 2018 funding levels.

In addition, on April 9, 2019, I sent a letter, along with 33 of my Senate colleagues, to Chairwoman Susan Collins (R-ME) and Ranking Member Jack Reed (D-RI) of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Transportation, Housing, and Urban Development, and Related Agencies, expressing support for funding programs that provide affordable housing for seniors and persons with disabilities. Specifically, the letter requested full funding for contract renewals and robust

funding for capital advance and project-based rental assistance awards for the Section 202 Housing for the Elderly program.

I recognize that housing programs have been chronically underfunded for years relative to the ongoing need for housing assistance. As a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, which has jurisdiction over federal funding, I will keep your support for federal housing assistance programs in mind as my Senate colleagues and I determine future funding levels.

Once again, thank you for writing. If I can be of further assistance to you or your office, please do not hesitate to have your staff contact my Housing Legislative Assistant, Brent Palmer, in my Washington, D.C. office at (202) 224-3841.

Sincerely,

Dianne Feinstein

**United States Senator** 

DF:bp