



**NEW YORK CITY
HOUSING
AUTHORITY**

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PRESS RELEASE

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HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE ADOPTS PUBLIC HOUSING FUNDING FORMULA FAVORABLE TO NEW YORK CITY

BI-PARTISAN EFFORT OF NY STATE DELEGATION IS INSTRUMENTAL

NEW YORK, June 21, 2005 – Today Congress took a major step forward in preserving proper operating subsidies for low- and moderate-income families living in public housing. Tino Hernandez, Chairman, New York City Housing Authority (NYCHA), expressed strong support for the House Appropriations Committee and Subcommittee on Transportation, Treasury and Housing and Urban Development for their decisions directing HUD to implement a recently negotiated formula for distributing operating subsidies to public housing authorities across the nation. Chairman Hernandez specifically expressed appreciation to Subcommittee Chairman Joseph Knollenberg (R., MI-9) and Subcommittee Vice Chairman John E. Sweeney (R., NY-20) who led the fight.

The bill's language directed HUD to distribute an operating subsidy based on a formula developed by negotiation among HUD and housing authorities. HUD had recently published a Proposed Rule that, if it becomes law, could cost NYCHA \$120 million in operating funds. The original negotiated agreement is supported by both national and New York State housing and local government associations.

Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg was an early advocate for action to preserve funding for public housing in New York. "The Mayor's urging Congressional appropriators and HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson in early May showed his concerns and understanding of the importance of maintaining adequate funding levels for public housing in New York City," Hernandez emphasized.

Chairman Hernandez praised the unprecedented bi-partisan support of the entire New York City and State Congressional delegation and in particular the leadership demonstrated by New York City Representative Nydia Velazquez (D., NY-12) and upstate Representative John McHugh (R., NY-23) in stating their commitment to affordable housing for low- and moderate-income families.

For seven decades NYCHA has successfully sheltered the elderly, the disabled, and low-income families who otherwise cannot afford housing in the private market.