



March 19, 2020

The Honorable Mike Crapo
Chairman
United States Senate Committee on Banking,
Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Maxine Waters
Chairwoman
Committee on Financial Services
United States House of Representatives
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Sherrod Brown
Ranking Member
United States Senate Committee on Banking,
Housing, and Urban Affairs
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick McHenry
Ranking Member
Committee on Financial Services
United States House of Representatives
2129 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Crapo, Ranking Member Brown, Chairwoman Waters and Ranking Member McHenry:

As the novel coronavirus is expanding its impact in the U.S., I write to report that the Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLBanks) are functioning well and stand ready to continue to support their member financial institutions across the country. They are actively fulfilling their mission of providing dependable liquidity and funding during this uncertain time.

All 11 FHLBanks are fully operational. All 11 FHLBanks are operating largely remotely for the safety of their employees and to continue to meet the liquidity and funding needs of their members. Each FHLBank has a contingency plan to operate completely remotely, if necessary. The Office of Finance is operating remotely as well and continues to successfully access the debt markets for us at this turbulent time. The FHLBanks are meeting their mission by making advances and providing liquidity despite the volatility of the current financial market.

Each of the FHLBanks is proactively communicating with their 6,700 aggregate member financial institutions to ensure smooth and effective continued operations. As the situation regarding the novel coronavirus continues to develop, the FHLBanks remain dedicated to meeting their members' funding needs so they may in turn continue to support the housing finance, small business lending and community development needs of their communities.

For almost ninety years, FHLBanks have been a reliable source of funding for their member financial institutions and their communities. As you know, the FHLBanks successfully increased lending by 45% during the early stages of the 2008 financial crisis when liquidity in the financial system was most needed. The FHLBanks stand ready and able to provide liquidity to their members again in today's challenging financial markets.

Sincerely,

John von Seggern
President and CEO
Council of Federal Home Loan Banks