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May 31, 2012

Mr. Michael Kane Executive Director Mass Alliance of HUD Tenants 42Seaverns Avenue Boston, MA 02130

Dear Michael,

I am pleased to give my support to the proposal to put a question on the state legislative district ballots this November urging a correction of the deeply-flawed spending priorities of the federal government. I have been working as hard as I can in Congress to achieve the goals that this proposal embodies, and I believe that having endorsements of this approach from the voters in various Massachusetts legislative districts will strengthen us.

Reducing military spending and raising taxes on the wealthiest in this country to a level that will have no negative impact either on them or the economy are essential if we are to be able to reduce our deficit in a socially responsible way. Continuing to fund a full set of weapons originally designed to defeat the Soviet Union in a nuclear war; subsidizing the budgets of our European allies by unnecessary American defense installations in Europe; continuing the war in Afghanistan long after it has lost its purpose; and spending billions of dollars in Iraq when that country faces no external enemy – these are all examples of ways in which we can reduce military expenditures without in any way jeopardizing either our security or that of nations which legitimately need our help.

I am, for the above reasons, very pleased to support this referendum approach.

BARNEY FRANK