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MEMORANDUM

To: House Committee on Appropriations

From: Tom Stevens, Chair

Date: March 31, 2021

Subject: H.315 - Mortgage Relief

The General, Housing and Military Affairs Committee heard from Representative Jessup and Maura Collins on the request for \$5,000,000 in Coronavirus Relief Funds to be used as mortgage relief in the same manner as they did in 2020.

We approve of this request, predicated on the availability of the CRF. While we are excited about the prospects of the use of the ARPA funds for this purpose, it's clear that those funds may not be available until summer. VHFA's successful program, which ended in December, can be restarted in several weeks, and it is clear that there is a need to reach out to these Vermonters in need as soon as possible.

Rep. Tom Stevens Washington-Chittenden Chair, General, Housing and Military Affairs