

# N A A H L

**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING LENDERS**

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## **SMALL BUSINESS LENDING FUND WILL CREATE JOBS, BOOST ECONOMY**

**Washington, June 17, 2010** – The Small Business Lending Fund Act of 2010 (SBLF), approved today by the U.S. House of Representatives, will allow community banks and nonprofit lenders to address some of the pent-up Main Street demand for loans, support economic recovery, and create new jobs nationwide, according to the National Association of Affordable Housing Lenders (NAAHL).

“I especially want to thank House Financial Services Committee Chairman Barney Frank (D-Mass.) for his leadership in moving this bill through the House,” said NAAHL President and CEO Judy Kennedy. “The Chairman and Massachusetts lenders have been tireless champions for bringing jobs to Main Street and this legislation will do that.”

The bill, which now goes to the U.S. Senate for consideration, would provide \$30 billion for a small business lending fund to invest low cost capital for up to 10 years in qualifying banks and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs). CDFI loan funds are eligible for \$300 million from the new fund.

“The nation’s leading mission-driven nonprofit lenders are poised to increase small business lending to Main Street and underserved communities, but their access to new capital and liquidity has been hampered by the financial crisis,” Kennedy said. “This new fund would allow them to boost their lending where it is most needed.”

NAAHL’s mission is to increase responsible, private capital lending and investing in low and moderate income persons and areas. NAAHL’s CDFI lenders finance affordable rental housing and the small businesses that drive the economies of our local communities. They have successful track records of leveraging scarce public funds with private capital to expand affordable housing and revitalize underserved communities.

The new SBLF capital could have immediate benefits for local economies. The National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) has estimated that the one-year impacts of building 100 rental apartments in a typical metropolitan area include: 1) \$7.9 million in local income; 2) \$827,000 in taxes and other revenue for local governments; 3) 122 local jobs.

“We encourage the Senate to pass this bill soon so more small businesses can access the credit to get Main Street back on its feet.”

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*NAAHL represents America’s leaders in moving private capital to those in need, 100 organizations committed to increasing lending and investing private capital in LMI communities. This “who’s who” of private sector lenders and investors includes major banks, blue-chip, non-profit lender CDFIs, and others in the vanguard of affordable housing.*



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