Dear Sir or Madam:

As the largest home mortgage lenders in the United States, you have a shared responsibility to help our country mitigate and avert the financial crisis that the COVID-19 pandemic may trigger. We urge you to halt all foreclosure proceedings until the public health emergency has passed.

Actions that private and public entities take to contain the spread of the virus will have a disproportionately adverse effect on working class families, low-income households, communities of color, and immigrants. Public health authorities are actively urging people to stay home and practice social-distancing resulting in the cancellation of many major cultural and entertainment events. School districts and universities are closing and businesses are sending their workers home.

As a result of these major changes, a wave of lay-offs is already underway which will in turn cause the most vulnerable among us to miss mortgage payments, face evictions or foreclosures, and force many into financial turmoil. Underemployed workers may lose health insurance and hourly workers will likely face significant challenges to cover their basic living expenses. A foreclosure crisis may send families to the streets and would be a dangerous and perverse outcome of an already challenging crisis.
We urge your institutions to halt any foreclosure proceedings and any other actions that may adversely affect your customers during the COVID-19 public health emergency. We must pull together during this global pandemic and our nation’s largest financial institutions are an integral part of that necessary response.

Sincerely,

Jesús G. “Chuy” García
Member of Congress

Pramila Jayapal
Member of Congress

Mark Pocan
Member of Congress

ADDITIONAL SIGNATORES

Ilhan Omar
Rashida Tlaib
Ayanna Pressley
Jerrold Nadler
Henry C. “Hank” Johnson, Jr.
Bonnie Watson Coleman
Raúl M. Grijalva
Carolyn B. Maloney
Eleanor Holmes Norton
Jamie Raskin
Nydia M. Velázquez
Tulsi Gabbard
Rosa L. DeLauro
Adriano Espaillat
Wm. Lacy Clay
Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez
Jan Schakowsky
Mark Takano
Earl Blumenauer
Tony Cárdenas
Jimmy Gomez
Peter A. DeFazio
Deb Haaland
Matt Cartwright
Joe Neguse
Bill Foster
Adam B. Schiff
Tulsi Gabbard
Joe Courtney

C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger
Eddie Bernice Johnson
Alan Lowenthal
Frederica S. Wilson
Jahana Hayes
David N. Cicilline
David Price
James P. McGovern
Cedric L. Richmond
Scott H. Peters
Jerry McNerney
Debbie Mucarsel-Powell
Madeleine Dean
Danny K. Davis
Andy Levin
Diana DeGette
Peter Welch
Jared Huffman
Grace Meng
Al Green
Daniel T. Kildee
Bobby L. Rush
Marc Veasey
Steve Cohen
Dwight Evans
Yvette Clarke
Ted W. Lieu
Chellie Pingree
Bill Pascrell, Jr.

Jimmy Gomez
Albio Sires
Kathy Castor
John Lewis
Alma S. Adams, Ph.D.
Jimmy Panetta
Joseph P. Kennedy, III
Joaquin Castro
Ami Bera, M.D.
John B. Larson
Eliot L. Engel
Emanuel Cleaver, II
Nita M. Lowey
Brenda L. Lawrence
Linda T. Sánchez
André Carson
Debbie Dingell