

A resolution urging Tennessee Congressional leaders to improve the equity and effectiveness in the Community Development Block Grant Award Allocation formula to restore the needed funds to better support the City of Memphis

WHEREAS, established in 1974, the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program is one of the longest continuously run programs at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), which provides communities with annual grants on a formula basis to local government and States to address unique community development needs; and

WHEREAS, these funds can be utilized for a wide range of activities including economic development, housing rehabilitation, water and sewer projects and projects that improve the health and safety of the awarded community; and

WHEREAS, overtime HUD funding has decreased by 80 percent since its peak of \$15 billion in 1979 to currently being \$3 billion and has remained there since 1995 with five to ten communities become CDBG grantees each year which strains the existing budget; and

WHEREAS, due to detrimental budget cuts, new grantees, inflation, and inequitable formulas based on outdated variables, the City of Memphis receives limited amount of funds that are unable to effectively address its community development and affordable housing challenges; and

WHEREAS, the City of Memphis CDBG award allocation has decreased 37 percent from approximately \$13.1 million to \$6.1 million; and

WHEREAS, by correcting the allocation process to adopt a single and updated formula that most accurately targets awards to need, the Community Development Block Grant will better address the overall needs of the awarded communities; and

WHEREAS, the Memphis City Council urges the Congress to adopt a new and updated formula to better target funds to high-need communities and low-income people and to increase funding to the Community Development Block Grant.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Memphis City Council urges Tennessee Congressional leaders to improve the equity and effectiveness in the Community Development Block Grant Award Allocation to restore the needed funds to support the City of Memphis.

Sponsor:
Chase Carlisle

Patrice Robinson
Chairman