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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6075

September 24, 2025

The Honorable Scott Bessent Secretary U.S. Department of the Treasury 1500 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20220

## Dear Secretary Bessent:

I write to request information regarding the Administration's plans for reprivatization and other proposed changes at Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac (collectively, "the Enterprises"). Despite the enormous implications for the housing market and taxpayer interest, this reported effort raises questions about which agency will lead the reprivatization process, what the goals of reported reprivatization are, and how the American people's interests will be protected. Given the state of the nation's housing crisis, it is prudent to have these discussions outside of the shadows and involve Congress, as the body that is ultimately responsible for implementing necessary changes to the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008, the Safety and Soundness Act of 1992, and other laws that govern the oversight and regulation of the Enterprises.

Discussion of reprivatization began shortly after President Trump posted on Truth Social that he was "giving very serious consideration to bringing Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac public." The post also stated his intentions to consult the Treasury Secretary, Commerce Secretary, Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) Director, and others to "[make] a decision in the near future." Few details of the Administration's plans have been made public. The American public deserves full transparency into this effort: according to a recent poll, 83% of all surveyed voters, including 75% of Republicans, are concerned that privatizing the Enterprises will raise mortgage interest rates.

In an effort to gain clarity about the reprivatization process, we sent multiple inquiries to FHFA regarding its role as conservator of the Enterprises.<sup>5</sup> I have been led to the conclusion, however, that FHFA Director Pulte may have no information, insight, or answers on the topic, in part due

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Post on Truth Social by President Donald J. Trump, May 21, 2025, https://truthsocial.com/@realDonaldTrump/posts/114548257487682819.

 $<sup>^{2}</sup>$  Id.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> CNBC Television, "Watch CNBC's full interview with U.S. Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick," September 11, 2025, <a href="https://youtu.be/GROtu7dzQ84?si=2ghcdYuAQnlfWS3d&t=1328">https://youtu.be/GROtu7dzQ84?si=2ghcdYuAQnlfWS3d&t=1328</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Groundwork Collaborative, "There's No Place Like Home: How Trump Is Making Housing Unaffordable," July 21, 2025, https://www.filesforprogress.org/datasets/2025/6/dfp\_gwc\_housing\_trump\_tabs.pdf.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> See attachments.

to his focus on ousting members of the Federal Reserve Board of Governors and certain Democratic leaders.<sup>6</sup>

The Treasury Department will play a critical role in any reprivatization efforts as the arbiter of the Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements (PSPAs), which safeguards taxpayers' financial interests in the Enterprises.<sup>7</sup> It is our understanding that this month, the Department of the Treasury began hosting roundtable meetings with cross-industry stakeholders regarding housing finance and the role of the Enterprises.<sup>8</sup> It is imperative that an impact assessment of reprivatization be conducted before any plan is established on reprivatization. In addition to economic analyses, any assessment should include robust public input, assessing the role of the Enterprises in today's market, and carefully accounting for any implications of reprivatization of the Enterprises on the mortgage market and broader economy. Your roundtables are at least indicative that someone in this Administration is beginning to engage in these questions. These considerations are particularly significant following the post-2008 housing and financial crisis, when the American people bailed out the Enterprises and the federal government set them on the path of stability by explicitly backing the bulk of U.S. homeowners' mortgages.<sup>9</sup>

In an effort to better understand the extent of Treasury's role in reprivatization efforts, and in the interest of providing the public with much needed transparency, I request that you provide responses to the following requests no later than October 8, 2025. Given the FHFA's failure to engage and your apparent authority over this matter, I have also attached previous letters sent to Director Pulte for your awareness.

- 1. Please provide details regarding all stakeholder roundtables the Treasury has held or is scheduled to hold regarding the Enterprises and housing finance, including dates, topics for discussion, and participants.
- 2. How do you expect stakeholder roundtables to inform any decisions made with regard to the Enterprises? Do you plan to make stakeholder input public, or to allow for public comment on any questions posed during such roundtables?
- 3. What proposals, advice, or other information, if any, has the Treasury discussed regarding the status or reprivatization of the Enterprises? Please provide dates and names of attendees of any meetings, including stakeholders, as well as copies of any and all

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Politico, "Meet the Trump housing official leading probes into the president's foes," Danny Nguyen, August 21, 2025, <a href="https://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/21/bill-pulte-trump-housing-mortgage-00518558">https://www.politico.com/news/2025/08/21/bill-pulte-trump-housing-mortgage-00518558</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> FHFA, "Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements," October 17, 2022, <a href="https://www.fhfa.gov/conservatorship/senior-preferred-stock-purchase-agreements">https://www.fhfa.gov/conservatorship/senior-preferred-stock-purchase-agreements</a>; *See also* Treasury, "Treasury Department and Federal Housing Finance Agency Amend Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements for Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac," January 2, 2025, <a href="https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2767">https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy2767</a>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> National Association of Realtors, "NAR Staff Discuss GSE Reform With Treasury and FHFA," September 11, 2025, <a href="https://www.nar.realtor/washington-report/nar-staff-discuss-gse-reform-with-treasury-and-fhfa">https://www.nar.realtor/washington-report/nar-staff-discuss-gse-reform-with-treasury-and-fhfa</a>; see also Mortgage Bankers Association, "Advocacy Update: Broeksmit on Competition at the GSEs; MBA Shares Views on GSEs at Treasury, FHFA Meetings; Miran Fed Board Confirmation," September 12, 2025, <a href="https://newslink.mba.org/mba-newslinks/2025/september/mba-newslink-tuesday-sept-16-2025/advocacy-update-sept-15/">https://newslink.mba.org/mba-newslinks/2025/september/mba-newslink-tuesday-sept-16-2025/advocacy-update-sept-15/</a>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Congressional Research Service, "Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac in Conservatorship: Frequently Asked Questions," Darryl E. Getter, July 22, 2020, <a href="https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R44525">https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R44525</a>.

written communications between your agency, FHFA, and other member agencies of the Federal Housing Finance Oversight Board regarding the Enterprises since January 20, 2025.

- 4. What proposals, advice, or other information, if any, has the Treasury discussed with the White House regarding the status or reprivatization of the Enterprises? Please provide copies of any and all written communications between your agencies and the White House regarding the Enterprises since January 20, 2025.
- 5. What independent analyses, if any, has your agency conducted to assess the potential effects of removing the Enterprises' explicit federal guarantees on: mortgage rates, the multifamily housing market, housing costs, investor confidence, and market liquidity? Please provide copies of any agency analyses and communications. If no analyses exist, please explain.
- 6. What independent analyses, if any, has your agency conducted to assess the potential effects of reprivatizing or altering the status of the Enterprises on the Federal Housing Administration, Ginnie Mae, and the broader housing finance ecosystem? Please provide copies of any agency analyses and communications. If no analyses exist, please explain.
- 7. What independent analyses, if any, has your agency conducted regarding the sale of Treasury's senior preferred stocks, or otherwise making changes to the Treasury's Senior Preferred Stock Purchase Agreements, including how proceeds may be used and any effects on the return on taxpayers investment through the liquidation preference? Please provide copies of any analyses.
- 8. How does the Treasury plan to ensure that mortgage and multifamily lending costs do not rise if the Enterprises are reprivatized or released from conservatorship?
- 9. Do you agree that the federal government should assess all potential effects on consumers and the economy before reprivatizing or otherwise altering the status of the Enterprises and taxpayer interests?

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Warren

Ranking Member Committee on Banking,

Housing, and Urban Affairs