



Senator Cory Booker  
717 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

April 19, 2021

Congressman A. Donald McEachin  
314 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Booker and Congressman McEachin,

The undersigned organizations, all of which are stakeholders in lead poisoning prevention, green and healthy housing, clean water, and environmental justice, strongly support the Environmental Justice Legacy Pollution Cleanup Act of 2021. We are grateful for your leadership, vision and commitment to address these issues that have undermined the health and opportunities of generations of Americans.

The toxic legacy of lead poisoning has devastated our older, lower income communities – especially Black and Brown communities – for far too long. More than half a million children in America are poisoned by lead and most of them are children of color living in under-resourced communities. Decades of disinvestment have left families trapped in unsafe and unhealthy homes that literally poison their children and rob them of their opportunities. Yet, with the adoption of the EJ Legacy Pollution Act, we will be able to make transformational and tangible investments in addressing the social determinants of health and racial equity.

This Act addresses the impact of lead exposure by investing \$45 billion to address lead paint hazards in 3,750,000 older, low-income homes of greatest need and will create approximately 46,000 community-driven jobs. Additionally, the Act will provide \$45 billion in critical capital for lead service line replacement to ensure that every American will have access to safe drinking water. Further there will be \$1 billion for to create healthy homes in Native American housing, addressing hazards such as carbon monoxide, mold, radon, and fall and injury hazards.

At this unprecedented time in America, the health of our housing stock could not have greater importance or provide a greater opportunity to tangibly address the social determinants of health and racial equity. We have asked families to shelter in place, to use housing as a shield for health. The pandemic has laid bare the stark racial disparities that persist in our country. Our public policy has long disregarded the health of housing in Black and Brown and low-income communities, leaving families with little opportunity to build and sustain intergenerational wealth, and to protect children and seniors from wholly preventable illnesses and injuries. What has been heightened by COVID-19 is the risk of sheltering our youngest and oldest populations in unhealthy housing, thus exposing them to greater harm from unsafe conditions such as poor indoor air quality, mold, mildew and moisture, structural defects and toxins such as lead.

We strongly believe that investments at scale to improve the quality of occupied housing and water systems in low-income communities across the nation has the potential to significantly improve racial and economic equity and health outcomes while also providing workforce development opportunities in impacted communities.

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, thank you.



Ruth Ann Norton  
President and CEO  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative



**Organization Endorsements**  
**Environmental Justice Legacy Pollution Cleanup Act of 2021**  
**April 19, 2021**

**National Organizations**

American Public Health Association  
Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America  
Community Solutions  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Earthjustice  
First Focus Campaign for Children  
Friends of the Earth  
Green & Healthy Homes Initiative  
Healthy Babies Bright Futures  
Inclusive Prosperity Capital  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation  
NAACP  
National Center for Healthy Housing  
National Housing Trust  
National Resources Defense Council  
National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition  
PolicyLINK  
Rebuilding Together  
Trust for America's Health  
WE ACT For Environmental Justice

**State and Local Organizations and Individuals**

Abrams Environmental Law Clinic, University of Chicago Law School  
ACTION-Housing, Inc.  
Advocates for Children of New Jersey  
Alaska Community Action on Toxics  
Alliance for a Green Economy  
Alliance for Affordable Energy  
Anthony Santiago, National League of Cities  
Arbor Hill Environmental Justice  
AtelierTek Architects  
Ayika Solutions  
Ben Jealous, Former President, NAACP  
Black Lives Matter South Bend  
Black Millennials 4 Flint  
BLDG Memphis  
Brooke Lierman, Maryland House of Delegates  
Christine Keim, Hephatha Lutheran Church  
Chunrong Jia, University of Memphis  
City of Central Falls (RI)  
City of Memphis (TN)  
City of Toledo, Department of Neighborhoods (OH)

Coalition on Lead Emergency (COLE)  
Community Concepts, Inc.  
Community Foundation of Greater Buffalo  
Community Preservation Corporation  
CT Coalition for Economic and Environmental Justice  
Dominican Center for Women  
Elevate  
Emily Benfer, Wake Forest School of Law  
Green Door Initiative  
Green Spaces Chattanooga  
Harambee House Inc./Citizens for Environmental Justice  
Health Justice Project, Loyola University School of Law  
HousingLOUISIANA  
Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey  
Howardville Community Betterment (MO)  
Jesus Peoples Against Pollution  
Kids Forward  
Kinetic Communities Consulting  
Learning Disabilities Association of WNY  
Living Classrooms Foundation  
Memphis Tilth  
Metropolitan Group  
Neighborhood Housing Services of Staten Island  
Pace Energy and Climate Center  
Partnership Effort for the Advancement of Children's Health  
Pennsylvania Utility Law Project  
PODER  
Public Citizens for Children and Youth  
Rev. James L Caldwell  
Revitalize Community Development Corporation  
Rhode Island State Nurses Association  
Richmond Senior Services (NY)  
Shriver Center on Poverty Law  
S.O.U.R.C.E Studio  
South Bronx Unite  
Southface Institute  
Sunshine Construction, LLC  
Tallahassee Food Network  
Tamara Toles O'Laughlin, National Climate Strategist  
The Imani Group  
Virginia Ann Rauh, Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University  
West Atlanta Watershed Alliance  
West End Revitalization Association