

The Honorable Jon Tester
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Dennis Ross
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

RE: Support for S. 2381/HR 4558, the Flood Insurance Market Parity and Modernization Act

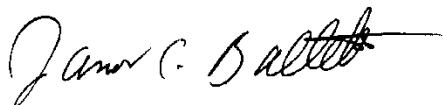
Dear Senator Tester, Senator Heller and Representative Ross:

The American Bankers Association and its insurance subsidiary, the American Bankers Insurance Association (ABIA) have long supported both legislative and regulatory efforts to ensure that private flood insurance policies are more readily available as an alternative to the NFIP. We strongly support your efforts to pass legislation making this possible.

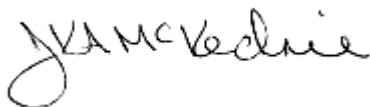
Providing consumers with alternatives to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) and driving down flood insurance prices through greater competition is one way to ensure greater protection for consumers against flood damages in the mortgage markets; it is also a significant contribution to the goal of returning the NFIP to more robust fiscal health.

The recent amendments to the Biggert-Waters Act, passed earlier this year, have been very constructive; however, more work needs to be done to unlock the power of markets to provide affordable flood insurance choices. We look forward to working with you to build support for this important legislation.

Sincerely,



James C. Ballentine
Executive Vice President
Congressional Relations and Political Affairs



J. Kevin A. McKechnie
Senior Vice President and Director
Office of Insurance Advocacy