



**National Coalition of 100 Black Women
Stone Mountain-Lithonia Chapter, Inc.**

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***21st Century Advocacy
for Our Global Community***

September 4, 2008

Nehemiah Corporation of America
424 N 7th Street, Suite 250
Sacramento, CA 95811

Re: FHA Seller-Financed Downpayment Reform and Risk-Based Pricing Authorization Act of 2008 (H.R. 6694)

To the Nehemiah Corporation of America:

We, the Stone Mountain-Lithonia Chapter of the National Coalition of 100 Black Women Inc. (NCBWSML), support your efforts to ensure H.R. 6694 is made law. This new legislation will reform and save down payment assistance for hundreds of thousands of homebuyers each year.

Legislation that bans down payment assistance on October 1, 2008 will have a negative impact on our already struggling housing market and devastate local economies. Down payment assistance provides an opportunity for borrowers who can afford a mortgage payment but don't have the down payment to get the process started.

We understand the need to eliminate those companies that misuse down payment programs as quid pro quo, inflating the loan amount and therefore the market value of the home. However, we believe that instead of eliminating all down payment assistance programs, the better course of action is to enact legislation regulating entities that provide such assistance.

Helping people become homeowners adds to the tax base, improves communities, allows children to attend better schools and helps people gain wealth through the equity in their home.

Sincerely,

Lynita M. Mitchell-Blackwell, Esq.
President

2008-09 Officers

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