



October 16, 2007

The Honorable Christopher J. Dodd  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard C. Shelby  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
534 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Dodd and Ranking Member Shelby:

As you prepare to mark up the "Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007" (TRIPRA), the Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA)<sup>1</sup> believes the seven-year extension in the Chairman's Mark signals to the real estate finance industry and the nation as a whole that terrorism risk insurance will remain available and affordable over an extended period of time. This certainty bolsters the capital market's confidence in the commercial and residential real estate finance industries and fosters market stability.

In addition, recently uncovered domestic and international terrorist plots indicate that the distinction between foreign and domestic source terrorism has blurred to the point where such distinctions are meaningless. Accordingly, we strongly support the clarifying language contained in TRIPRA that eliminates this distinction and allows domestic source terrorism to be included in TRIPRA.

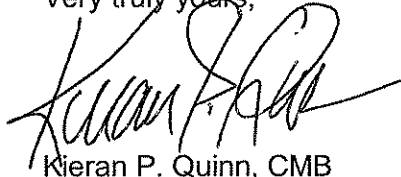
MBA remains concerned about nuclear, biological, chemical and radiological (NBCR) risks. We stand ready to participate in an effort that would bring together the federal government, policy holders, the insurance industry, and insurance regulators to perform a comprehensive evaluation of the challenges facing the development of the NBCR insurance market and provide recommendations for overcoming these challenges.

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<sup>1</sup> The Mortgage Bankers Association (MBA) is the national association representing the real estate finance industry, an industry that employs more than 500,000 people in virtually every community in the country. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., the association works to ensure the continued strength of the nation's residential and commercial real estate markets; to expand homeownership and extend access to affordable housing to all Americans. MBA promotes fair and ethical lending practices and fosters professional excellence among real estate finance employees through a wide range of educational programs and a variety of publications. Its membership of over 3,000 companies includes all elements of real estate finance: mortgage companies, mortgage brokers, commercial banks, thrifts, Wall Street conduits, life insurance companies and others in the mortgage lending field. For additional information, visit MBA's Web site: [www.mortgagebankers.org](http://www.mortgagebankers.org).

Once again, MBA commends you for working together to extend TRIEA. A long-term extension helps provide the clarity and certainty of the federal government's response to a terrorist attack will serve as an important deterrent to future attacks. MBA salutes you for this effort and offers its full support of TRIPRA.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kieran P. Quinn". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Kieran P. Quinn, CMB  
Chairman