



**The City of**  
**OKLAHOMA CITY**  
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

August 3, 2018

The Honorable Frank Lucas  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Lucas:

I am writing to request your support for H.R. 2319, the Consumer Financial Choice and Capital Markets Protection Act. This bipartisan legislation was favorably reported by the House Financial Services Committee on January 18, 2018. It would restore the ability of money market funds to serve our state and local governments as a safe investment option for the management of short-term cash, and as a source of low-cost capital for public infrastructure investment.

As the Assistant Finance Director for the City of Oklahoma, I serve as the Vice Chair of the Government Finance Officers Association's (GFOA's) Committee on Governmental Debt and Fiscal Policy, on which I work to promote sound financial practices for local, state, and provincial governments. Both in Oklahoma City and nationally, money market funds help states, local governments, and other governmental entities maintain access to low-cost capital, which is vital to infrastructure investment and which contributes to a healthy and vibrant economy.

Unfortunately, that access was severely restricted by an unnecessary and ill-advised Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) rule which went into effect in October 2016 that prohibits public and private sector institutions that invest short term cash from investing in prime and tax-exempt money market funds that have a stable net asset value (NAV). That has limited the investment options of state and municipal governments, and wiped out billions of dollars of low-cost liquidity used to finance public infrastructure, affordable housing, economic development and other important priorities.

Short-term borrowing costs have risen as a direct result of this rule, and it has reduced the ability of municipalities to obtain market returns on the short-term management of taxpayer money. These extra costs and lower returns are putting unnecessary pressure on state and municipal finances.

H.R. 2319 will fix the negative consequences of the SEC rule and restore a safe and cost-effective capital markets tools that promotes private sector investment in our communities. I respectfully request that you support this legislation and work for its enactment as soon as possible.

Thank you for your consideration. Please let me know if I can provide you with any additional information.



The City of  
**OKLAHOMA CITY**  
FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kenton Tsoodle".

Kenton Tsoodle  
Assistant Finance Director  
City of Oklahoma City

Vice Chair  
Committee on Governmental Debt and Fiscal Policy  
Government Finance Officers Association