Dear NAHMA Member,

On March 1, 2016, HUD issued the final rule entitled "Streamlining Administrative Regulations for Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, Multifamily Housing, and Community Planning and Development Programs." Please find this rule attached and linked below.

HUD initially began this regulation streamlining rule process in January of 2015. HUD has stated that the goal of this proposed regulation streamlining is to reduce the administrative burden on state and local governments, public housing authorities (PHAs) and private owners of HUD-assisted multifamily properties. In addition, the rule seeks to relax regulations on state and local governments administering tenant-based rental assistance programs through HUD's HOME Investment Partnerships Program and Housing Opportunities for Person with AIDS (HOPWA) Program. The rule is intended to streamline requirements and provide greater flexibility for agencies responsible for administering HUD's rental assistance programs in an effort to eliminate the unnecessary requirements and improve overall efficiency within the programs.

In NAHMA's <u>comments</u> to HUD after the initial proposal was issued in 2015, we applauded HUD for seeking to move toward a more risk-based approach to income verification for households with fixed incomes and for its efforts to streamline rules and reduce regulatory burdens. Still we questioned the Department on the proposal for PHAs and multifamily housing owners to define annual income as either actual past income or projected income. While intrigued by this proposal, NAHMA found that it may be difficult to implement and that greater clarification was necessary so that owners who were using past actual income would not be in noncompliance by using the projected income.

NAHMA will compare the final rule with our previous comments to see if the Department has address our requests. A forthcoming NAHMAnalysis will provide further detail and background on the final rule as well.

To view the final rule, please <u>click here</u>

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