

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the United State Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) was created in 1965, as Congress recognized that “the general welfare and security of the Nation and the health and living standards of our people require, as a matter of national purpose, sound development of the Nation's communities and metropolitan areas in which the vast majority of its people live and work” (Pub. L. 89–174); and

WHEREAS, in recognition of Congress’s findings, for decades, HUD’s mission statement began: “HUD’s mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes *for all*”; and

WHEREAS, the second Trump administration has since removed this concept from HUD’s mission statement as part of their continued efforts to undermine not only current policies, but also the legislative authority of the First Branch itself; and

WHEREAS, in breaking with that long-standing mission, HUD recently proposed a rule change in an attempt to prevent “mixed-status families” – families where some members are eligible, but other members are not, most often unauthorized immigrants or even lawful residents, like students or others with temporary status – from receiving any assistance, including public housing and vouchers, regardless of how many members of the family are eligible; and

WHEREAS, under the current, long-standing rule, mixed-status families are not denied assistance; rather, the assistance is prorated based on the number of eligible members of the household or family; and

WHEREAS, to make matters worse, the rule even imposes draconian new requirements on those who are *eligible*, from mandating a birth certificate regardless of age or other forms of identification to using the “SAVE” database controlled by the Department of Homeland Security – raising serious privacy, accuracy, and safety concerns; and

WHEREAS, this cruel and short-sighted proposed rule change will force families to choose between staying together and keeping a roof over their head, while simultaneously and dramatically increasing the administrative burden for those in need of this critical assistance as well as the capacity of HUD to review and approve application, particularly given the 26% cut to HUD staff in Trump’s 2026 budget – not to mention the further 13% cut to HUD’s total budget included in Trump’s 2027 proposal; and

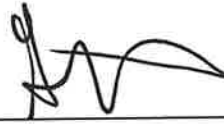
WHEREAS, HUD’s own regulatory analysis of the proposed rule indicates that they expect participation in these programs to drop from approximately 79,300 residents to a mere 24,100 – when mixed-status families comprise a “sliver” of all recipients of HUD assistance; and

WHEREAS, at a time when every level of government is searching for ways to effectively and sustainably decrease the cost of developing and providing housing at an affordable cost, forcing the federal department tasked with ensuring that outcome to change its focus to revamping intake and review systems and decimating their capacity is certainly not the way to do so; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the members of the City Council of the City of Chicago, do hereby call upon the Committee on Housing and Real Estate to convene a subject matter hearing to examine the impact of HUD’s proposed mixed-status family rule change on vulnerable Chicago

residents, including the risks of family separation and their ability to access affordable housing;
and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we call upon representatives from the Chicago Housing Authority, the Department of Housing, and relevant community organizations with knowledge of the foregoing circumstances appear before the Committee to provide testimony regarding such matters.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gilbert Villegas', written over a horizontal line.

GILBERT VILLEGAS
Alderman, 36th Ward

HUD Resolution

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