

TIMELINE OF AFFH'S IMPLEMENTATION



1968

The [Fair Housing Act](#) is passed on April 11, just seven days after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Congress passes the law in homage to Dr. King who championed the Fair Housing Act. The law, co-sponsored by Senators Ed Brooke and Walter Mondale, bans discrimination in housing and includes a provision aimed at ensuring that HUD uses its programs to end discrimination and segregation and expand access to opportunity for all. This is known as the "Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFFH)" provision.

1970

George Romney, HUD Secretary under President Nixon, [seeks to enforce](#) the AFFH provision aggressively by requiring jurisdictions to administer all their programs in a non-discriminatory fashion. He requires jurisdictions to address segregation and threatens to withhold funding from those that refuse to comply. Nixon admonishes Romney to stop enforcing the AFFH provision and Romney ultimately resigns.

1995

HUD adopts a [rule](#) requiring its grantees (or "program participants") to conduct Analyses of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice (AIIs). The rule does not include specific requirements for the format, content or timing of AIIs, and HUD does not review them on a routine basis.

2010

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) issues a [report](#) finding that HUD's AI regulation is not effective for enforcing the AFFH provision of the Fair Housing Act and that HUD has exercised poor oversight with respect to jurisdictions' compliance with the mandate. The GAO recommends major changes to ensure HUD improves its oversight.

2015

HUD adopts a [new rule](#) to implement the Fair Housing Act's AFFH mandate. This new rule addresses all the recommendations issued by the GAO. Under this 2015 rule, program participants are required to conduct an Assessment of Fair Housing (AFH) for their jurisdiction on a regular schedule, following a specific format, utilizing data provided by HUD and supplemented by local data and knowledge, incorporating community input, and identifying key fair housing goals, with metrics and milestones for measuring progress. The rule covers cities, counties and states that receive Community Development Block Grant funds and also public housing authorities. These program participants must incorporate goals from their AFHs into the plans they submit to HUD detailing how they intend to spend their HUD funding, and they must report annually on the progress they have made toward achieving those goals.

2018

On January 5, HUD [effectively suspends](#) implementation of the 2015 AFFH rule.

2020

On January 14, HUD [proposes](#) a new AFFH rule. Comments are due March 16, 2020.