

July 14, 2020

The Honorable Ben Carson
Secretary
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20410

Re: Fair Housing Act Disparate Impact Rule

Dear Secretary Carson:

On behalf of Wells Fargo, I write with a straightforward but important request: that HUD defer issuance of its final disparate impact rule to allow for additional voices to be heard on an issue that too many in our country still face—housing discrimination in America.

We appreciate HUD's efforts to draft the proposed rule, and we support a disparate impact framework that facilitates the expansion of housing opportunities to underserved communities and provides a clear legal framework to address discrimination. To achieve that goal, HUD should acknowledge that Americans' attention to racial discrimination is more pronounced and expansive than when the comment period was open last year. People across the country have considered more closely that centuries of discrimination, segregation, and economic disenfranchisement have lasting impacts today, including discriminatory effects in housing.

Wells Fargo commits itself to working with HUD, other lenders, and the civil rights community to participate in this discussion and ensure that the disparate impact framework remains a vital tool towards fighting unjust discrimination.

Sincerely,



Michael DeVito
EVP – Head of Home Lending