

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

MINDY DOMB
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3rd Hampshire District
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CHAIR
Chair, Joint Committee on
Mental Health, Substance Use
& Recovery

The Honorable Scott Turner
Secretary of Housing and Urban Development
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 7th Street S.W.
Washington, DC 20410

May 5, 2026

RE: Opposition to Docket No. FR-6518-P-01

Dear Secretary Turner,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the proposed rule in Docket FR-6518-P-01, “Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Revisions.” This proposed rule would remove equal access protections for transgender and non-binary people seeking housing assistance and place them in significant danger and distress.

In 2012 and 2016, HUD took actions to ensure its core housing programs are open to all families and individuals [“without regard to actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status”](#). The 2016 rule, “Equal Access in Accordance with an Individual’s Gender Identity in Community Planning and Development Programs” clarified that single sex services and programs must operate in accordance with gender identity, rather than sex assigned at birth. The proposed rule in question, “Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Revisions,” rolls back these protections and mandates that HUD funded programs operate based on sex assigned at birth, remove all references to gender and gender identity from HUD regulations, and allow for providers to require evidence to establish a person’s sex.

The justification for this proposed rule relies on a false premise; it assumes that transgender and nonbinary people present a threat to safety and privacy, specifically for cis-women. This assertion is unequivocally false. In reality, trans and nonbinary people, especially trans women, are [four times more likely](#) to be victims of violent crime than cisgender people. Additionally, [47% of trans and nonbinary people have been sexually assaulted](#), with transgender people experiencing [“dramatically higher prevalence of intimate partner violence compared with cisgender individuals, regardless of sex assigned at birth”](#)

Privacy concerns about gender-diverse individuals utilizing HUD services is ironic, given that the rollback of these protections allows for providers to ask for “evidence” of the sex of an individual seeking services, without regard to the individual’s privacy or wishes.

This rule, and the Executive Order: [Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government](#), create a false dichotomy of women’s safety versus trans-people’s safety. In reality, women’s safety and trans-people’s safety are inherently intertwined, and both are threatened by the culture of heteronormativity and gender that this administration aims to promote.

This rule would place trans and non-binary people at unnecessary risk, and allows for inhumane, discriminatory and hypocritical practices to be carried out using federal funding in public programs. I urge this docket, FR-6518-P-01, be withdrawn in its entirety.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mindy Domb". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the beginning.

MINDY DOMB

State Representative

3rd Hampshire District