

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

Fair Housing Activities

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES

(Dollars in Thousands)

| | Enacted/ Requested | Carry over | Adjustments | Total Resources | Obligations | Net Outlays |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------------|-------------|-----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 2024 Appropriation | 86,355 | 42,372 | - | 128,727 | 66,008 | 71,097 |
| 2025 Appropriation | 86,355 | 62,123 | - | 148,478 | 85,073 | 90,028 |
| 2026 President's Budget | 26,000 | 63,405 | - | 89,405 | 85,505 | 96,078 |
| Change from 2025 | (60,355) | 1,282 | - | (59,073) | 432 | 6,050 |

PROGRAM PURPOSE

HUD's Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity (FHEO) works to eliminate housing discrimination and increase public understanding of Federal fair housing policies and laws. FHEO administers the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP) that supports State and local enforcement agencies who collectively process about 75 percent of the Nation's fair housing complaints under the Fair Housing Act.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

The 2026 President's Budget requests \$26 million for Fair Housing activities, which is \$60.4 million below the 2025 Enacted level. The funding supports the Fair Housing Assistance Program (FHAP), which provides State and local civil rights enforcement agencies with grants, training, and other assistance.

JUSTIFICATION

The Budget of \$26 million will enable State and local FHAP agencies to cover costs associated with increased salaries and expenses and competitive employee recruitment and retention. The level proposed for FHAP also funds Capacity Building, which will support the admission of 2 to 4 new agencies into FHAP pending review and certification.

FHAP agencies investigate approximately three-quarters of the complaints filed under the Fair Housing Act. Currently, there are 74 FHAP agencies in the program, including 34 States (including the District of Columbia) and 40 localities. FHAP agencies investigate fair housing complaints to ensure compliance with fair housing laws and, where necessary, litigate complaints to address violations. FHAP agencies plan and conduct investigations, interview parties and witnesses, gather and analyze evidence, facilitate resolution, render determinations, and ensure compliance with settlement agreements. FHAP agencies also conduct education on fair housing and fair lending at events throughout their jurisdictions. During the 2023 case processing year (July 1, 2023 – June 30, 2024), FHAP agencies processed over 6,200 fair housing complaints and obtained monetary relief totaling \$7.5 million, in addition to public interest relief such as adoption or revision of nondiscrimination policies, education and outreach efforts, and fair housing training.

Performance Indicators

FHEO measures success by monitoring: 1) FHAP agency financial management techniques; 2) FHAP agency ability to meet the nine performance standards and program requirements at 24 CFR §§ 115.206 and 115.307; and 3) number of cases processed by FHAP agencies each year and number of cases FHAP agencies resolved through recommendation of a legal charge of discrimination or a conciliation. FHEO monitors agency performance and conformity with regulatory requirements at least once every 24 months, and in connection with recertification every five years.

SUMMARY OF RESOURCES BY PROGRAM

(Dollars in Thousands)

| Budget Activity | 2024 Budget Authority | 2023 Carryover Into 2024 | 2024 Total Resources | 2024 Obligations | 2025 Appropriation | 2024 Carryover Into 2025 | 2025 Total Resources | 2026 President's Budget |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Fair Housing Activities | 86,355 | 42,372 | 128,727 | 66,008 | 86,355 | 62,123 | 148,478 | 26,000 |

APPROPRIATIONS LANGUAGE

The 2026 President's Budget includes the appropriations language listed below.

For contracts, grants, and other assistance, not otherwise provided for, as authorized by title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq), \$26,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2027: Provided, That none of the funds made available under this heading may be used to lobby the executive or legislative branches of the Federal Government in connection with a specific contract, grant, or loan.

Note.—This account is operating under the Full-Year Continuing Appropriations and Extensions Act, 2025 (Division A of Public Law 119–4).