



INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS ASSOCIATION
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SAMPLE COMMENTS ON REGULATIONS

May 3, 2006

HUD Desk Officer
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20503
FAX: 202-395-6947

RE: OMB Approval Number 2577-0232

To Whom it May Concern:

As the voice of agencies operating broad arrays of correctional and transitional services for offenders and ex-offenders throughout the nation, the International Community Corrections Association strongly urges HUD's reconsideration of the long-standing policy of discrimination against ex-offenders in accessing public housing.

Evidence shows that intentional family reintegration is one of the strongest positive supports for sobriety and ending recidivism. Ex-offenders are often paroled to their family's home as a known support for stability. When the family resides in public housing, HUD regulations stand as a barrier to success for the ex-offender.

650,000 prisoners are released every year now in the United States. These people need stable homes and steady employment if we are to keep ourselves safe from their returning to lives of crime. Affordable housing must be available to all law-abiding citizens. Those who have served their sentences, undergone treatment and rehabilitation, and are subjected to significant community supervision should be given the chance to prove their worthiness as residents of public housing.

Thank you for your attention to the practical advice of experienced community corrections professionals in this matter.

Sincerely,

Terry Marshall
President

Jane Browning
Executive Director