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HUD

Study Reinforces Rental Assistance Demo: HUD's Rental Assistance Demonstration (RAD) program is outdistancing early forecasts, leveraging \$9 in capital for every \$1 of public housing funding according to a new assessment of the program by government contractor Econometrica. Congress authorized RAD in 2012, allowing private investors to convert public housing into Section 8 subsidized housing. HUD developed the strategy after its own investigation into the state of public housing revealed a \$26 billion backlog in repairs and maintenance for its 1.2 million public housing unit portfolio. The backlog grows by \$3.4 billion annually. HUD loses an average 10,000 units per year to deterioration. HUD has awarded conversion authority for 185,000 units, the current congressional cap. So far, 423 public housing authorities have submitted 1,078 applications for RAD conversion, representing 14% of all PHAs and 18% of all public housing developments. Completed conversions are nearing 40,000 units. By October 2015, PHAs involved in the program successfully generated \$2.5 billion in new investment to preserve and improve their public housing stock. **Info:** See the report at www.cdpublications.com/docs/8984

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