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## Notes From Inside The Beltway

### Congress

**Legislative Challenge To Fair Housing Rule:** Bills introduced in the House and Senate take aim at HUD's new Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing rule. The rule, a rewrite of the 1968 Fair Housing Act, was unveiled in 2015 and its peripheral regulations were made final at the end of 2016. The legislation -- HR 482, introduced by Rep. Paul Gosar (R-AZ), and S 103, a companion bill submitted by Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) -- is dubbed Local Zoning Decisions Protection Act: A bill to nullify certain regulations and notices of the Department of Housing & Urban Development, and for other purposes. The bills' main purpose is to eliminate the AFFH rule and the Assessment Tools linked to it. The bills would also bar federal money from being used to operate the HUD database holding information on community racial disparities and disparities in access to low-income housing. The bills would require the HUD secretary to consult with state, local, and public housing authority officials to develop recommendations to further the purposes of the Fair Housing Act by means other than regulations. HUD would be required to submit a draft report based on the talks. The recommendations outlined in the report would be only those reached by consensus. HUD developed AFFH to challenge the accuracy of community spending of federal housing subsidies on low-income housing. Those communities found in fault would lose their federal subsidies or relinquish local zoning privileges to allow desegregation of their white neighborhoods by racial and ethnic quotas. The bills are likely to pass the House and Senate, and President Donald Trump likely will sign the final bill. **Info:** See HR 482 at [www.cdpublications.com/docs/9066](http://www.cdpublications.com/docs/9066)