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Notes From Inside The Beltway

Public Housing

Advocates Gird For 'Public Charge' Changes: Housing advocates mount a campaign to challenge the Department of Homeland Security's proposed rule change that would strip welfare eligibility from a range of immigrants, including public and assisted housing subsidies (See HAL Sept. 28, 2018, Issue No. 37). The DHS finally published the 183-page proposal after circulating it in draft form to gauge public sentiment. The National Housing Law Project has prepared a fact sheet describing the changes. The document spells out what a public charge is, how a public charge determination is made, who would be affected by the rule, how the use of housing benefits would be evaluated when dealing with mixed-status families having some members who are U.S. citizens, and the effects on other housing and homeless assistance programs. The proposed "Inadmissibility on Public Charge Grounds" rule would add public housing, Section 8 housing vouchers, and project-based rental assistance to the public charge regulations. Noncitizens seeking admission and applying for lawful permanent resident status or seeking an extension of or changes to their immigrant status are subject to review to determine if they might become a public ward. Comments on the proposal are due Dec. 10. Info: See the Federal *Register* proposal at <u>www.cdpublications.com/docs/9555</u> and the NHLP Fact Sheet at www.cdpublications.com/docs/9556

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