Purpose of this Listserv Message
This message shares information about the deadline to submit comments in opposition to the proposed changes to the Equal Access Rule as well as the availability of a template document to aid in drafting comments.

Target Audience
All Ohio BoSCoC members.

Background Information
In July, HUD proposed changes to the existing 2016 version of the Equal Access Rule which "requires equal access to HUD programs without regard to a person’s actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or marital status." The proposed changes would allow single-sex shelters to disregard a person’s gender identity when determining whether to provide assistance, and empower the shelter to make a determination of a person’s gender based on a “good faith belief.”

COHHIO has submitted comments in opposition to the proposed rule change and encourages other providers to do the same.

You can additional information about the proposed rule changes here and here, as well as additional templates and guidance about using templates (including COHHIO’s).

Submitting Comments on Proposed Rule Change
If your agency is able to submit comments in opposition to the proposed rule change, you can find details about how to do so here.

If helpful, you can find a sample document with comments here.

Comments are due to HUD by September 22, 2020.

Questions regarding this listserv message can be directed to Erica Mulryan, COHHIO, at ericamulryan@cohhio.org.