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Comment Submitted by Anonymous

Posted by the **Department of Housing and Urban Development** on Jun 16, 2025

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Comment

The federal government has access to everyone's tax records and everyone's Medicare/SSI/SSDI status. Streamline the self-efficiency determination by looking at tax records with the area's average cost of living. There's no reason to add more paperwork to individuals and agencies when you already have accurate annual data in other federal departments. Attempting to reach out and receive paperwork from busy families takes a significant amount of time and energy that's not easily captured by how many hours giving the survey a month. Agency staff may have to call 6 times to get a response just to give that 10 minute survey. In the event you're wanting verification to include all fresh documents like the current year's Medicare award letter for verification: it can be incredibly difficult for people who need the most assistance. Even with an online portal to streamline the process I need you to envision how much effort and professional assistance it takes an elderly person with mild cognitive impairment to get through the multifactor authentication system to access that award letter. Now picture that same individual having no access to the internet so they have to call Medicare or find somewhere with computer access. I cannot overstate how much time and resources goes into just helping people gather eligibility documentation. This leads to gaps in crucial services which makes people slip through the social safety net cracks and lands them on the streets, in long term care facilities, or in the ICU.

Comment ID

HUD-2006-0368-0010



Tracking Number

mby-4244-08f2

	Comment Details
Received Date	
Jun 15, 2025	



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