

Timeline of Congressional and Agency Action on Sober Homes

May 2014:	Letter from Reps. Frankel, Deutch, and Hastings to Deputy Assistant Attorney General Greg Friel (DOJ)
Aug 2014:	Call between Rep. Frankel and Deputy Assistant Attorney General Greg Friel (DOJ)
Sept 2014:	Roundtable in Boca Raton with South Florida Mayors and City Attorneys hosted by Reps. Frankel and Deutch
April 2015:	Letter from Reps. Frankel, Deutch, Stewart, Rohrabacher, and Chabot to Attorney General Lynch and HUD Secretary Julian Castro
July 2015:	Responses from DOJ and HUD
July 2015:	Rep. Frankel meeting with White House Director of Intergovernmental Affairs Jerry Abramson
Sept 2015:	Letter from Florida League of Cities to HUD and DOJ
Oct 2015:	Call from White House Intergovernmental Affairs Director Jerry Abramson to DOJ and HUD
Dec 2015:	Rep. Frankel meeting with HUD Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez
Jan 2016:	Letter from Disability Groups to Rep. Frankel supporting efforts to reduce overconcentration of sober homes
April 2016:	Rep. Frankel meeting with HUD Secretary Castro
May 2016:	Roundtable in South Florida with HUD Assistant Secretary Gustavo Velasquez and local stakeholders
June 2016:	Call between Rep. Frankel and DOJ Assistant Attorney General Vanita Gupta
June 2016:	Letter from Senators Warren, Hatch, and Rubio to GAO
June 2016:	Letter from House Judiciary Committee Chairman Goodlatte to DOJ
July 2016:	Letter from Rep. Frankel and 16 House Members to GAO
July 2016:	Letter from Florida Delegation to DOJ and HUD
July 2016:	Rep. Frankel meeting with ADA author Chai Feldblum
Aug 2016:	GAO confirmation that it will conduct investigation requested by Rep. Frankel and Senator Warren

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 6070

To amend the Fair Housing Act to better protect persons with disabilities and communities.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 20, 2016

Mr. ISSA (for himself, Mr. ROHRBACHER, Mr. CALVERT, and Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To amend the Fair Housing Act to better protect persons with disabilities and communities.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Safe Recovery and
5 Community Empowerment Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. ZONING AND LICENSING OF RESIDENTIAL RECOV-**
7 **ERY FACILITIES.**

8 The Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.) is
9 amended by inserting after section 807 (42 U.S.C. 3607)
10 the following:

1 “SEC. 807A. Nothing in this title, or other Federal
2 law, relating to protections for persons with disabilities,
3 prohibits any local, State, or Federal government body
4 from—

5 “(1) limiting by law, regulation, or ordinance
6 the number of residential recovery facilities within a
7 particular area zoned for residential housing, pro-
8 vided that the limitation—

9 “(A) is necessary to preserve the residen-
10 tial character of the zoned area;

11 “(B) allows for a reasonable number of
12 residential recovery facilities to be located with-
13 in the zoned area; and

14 “(C) does not place an overall cap on the
15 number of residential recovery facilities located
16 within a municipality or State; and

17 “(2) requiring that a residential recovery facil-
18 ity and its owner or operator—

19 “(A) obtain an operating license or use
20 permit; or

21 “(B) satisfies a set of consumer protection
22 standards.”.

1 **SEC. 3. RESIDENTIAL RECOVERY FACILITY RESIDENTS'**
2 **BILL OF RIGHTS.**

3 Residential recovery facilities receiving direct or indi-
4 rect payments or reimbursements or other remunerations
5 from Medicare, Medicaid, or any other Federal healthcare
6 program, or via private insurance purchased on a Federal
7 exchange or subsidized by the Federal Government, for ei-
8 ther housing, recovery services, or testing or monitoring
9 for drugs or alcohol, shall ensure the following:

10 (1) Each residential recovery facility resident
11 residing in the home or receiving addiction treat-
12 ment services be provided a safe living environment
13 completely free from illicit drugs, alcohol, firearms,
14 harassment, abuse, or harm.

15 (2) Residential recovery facility residents live in
16 a licensed, or registered residence that has com-
17 mitted to following standards approved by States
18 and localities, if such standards are in place.

19 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

20 Section 802 of the Fair Housing Act (42 U.S.C.
21 3602) is amended by adding to the end the following:

22 “(p) ‘Current, illegal use of a controlled substance’
23 means the discrete, occasional, frequent, or ongoing illegal
24 use of a controlled substance at the present time or in
25 the reasonably recent past.

1 “(q) ‘Residential recovery facility’ means a residence
2 that provides housing to individuals in recovery from drug
3 or alcohol addiction with the promise of providing a clean
4 and sober environment in return for direct or indirect pay-
5 ment to an owner, operator, or compensated staff person,
6 including payment to a third party, a portion of which is
7 then provided to the residential recovery facility owner or
8 operator for their services.”

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