

HOUSING HEALTH HAZARD GRANT APPROPRIATIONS

TALKING POINTS

- Today, you have less time than ever before to escape your home or high-rise apartment building in the event of a fire.
- Flashover can occur in mere minutes, causing the fire to spread rapidly throughout the home or building.
- Fire sprinklers can help to contain the fire where it begins, or even extinguish it entirely.
- In buildings with sprinkler systems the death rate per fire can be reduced by at least 87% and the property damage decreased by up to 68%.
- The risk of death to firefighters is nearly eliminated in a fully sprinklered structure and the injury rate is lowered by 67%.

Federally-Funded Housing

- In 1992, Congress passed the Federal Fire Safety Act, which required newly constructed multi-family housing units to have fire sprinklers.
- HUD estimates that there are approximately 570,000 multifamily public housing units still in the inventory that were constructed prior to the
- sprinkler requirement.
- Of those units, HUD notes that more than 180,000 still may be without fire sprinkler systems.

ASK

- Provide \$150 million for Housing Health Hazard Grants program to enhance fire and life safety in Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) properties.

