

Dear Chairman Suffredin: I live at 1415 North Dearborn Pkwy. Chicago 60610. I am a emeritus professor of law, and have followed the passage of the just housing amendment and the problems that it is designed to address. I urge you to reject the proposed rules by the Cook County Commission on Human Rghts. My reasons are as follows. One- the proposed rules create an exemption for Public housing authorities, which is not consistent with the original legislation and will create different rules for private and public housing. This will complicate life for property owners as well as potential tenants, and lessen the amount of housing available for people who are coming out of prison. These individuals need housing desperately in order to reintegrate into the community. Two –the draft rules allows blanket bans on people with certain conviction types . This is bad policy because applicants for housing should be assessed individually, not only on their past record but on their ability to pay rent, and to be a responsible community member. Three –the draft rules would allow housing providers to consider convictions within the last five years before application. Reducing this time to three years would ensure that the rules conform to existing practices of Chicago Housing Authority and the Authority of Cook County. Moreover using a five year time frame is inconsistent with other State time periods, eg, occupational licenses. This would additionally limit administrative burdens on housing providers. I just urge you to reject the proposed rules and adopt ones which are consistent with the just housing amendment. Thank you for your consideration, Professor Sy Moskowitz.