

The original documents are located in Box 12, folder “Housing” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 12, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR ROBERT T. HARTMANN

FROM: JOHN R. STILES *JRS*

SUBJECT: HOUSING

Attached is the memorandum submitted on request to William Seidman suggesting ways to improve the depressed housing industry.

The suggestions are a combination of my own and of the National Association of Home Builders and coincidentally parallel those urged by George Meaney.

The President appears to have authority to turn these valves on without further action by the Congress.

THINGS WHICH CAN BE DONE ADMINISTRATIVELY FOR HOUSING

- (1) SET 1975 HOUSING STARTS GOAL OF 2,250,000 TOTAL NEW UNITS
- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------|
| PRIVATELY FINANCED----- | 1,350,000 |
| GNMA PURCHASES----- | 200,000 |
| HUD-SUBSIDIZED----- | 200,000 |

TOTAL CONVENTIONAL CONSTRUCTION-----	1,750,000
MOBILE HOMES-----	500,000

TOTAL NEW HOUSING UNITS-----2,250,000

- (2) APPOINT EXPERIENCED NEW FHA COMMISSIONER AND GIVE HIM CONTROL OF FIELD OFFICES
- (3) LOWER "DISCOUNT" ON GNMA CONVENTIONAL PROGRAM
- (4) SET INTO IMMEDIATE EFFECT THE NEW MEDIAN INCOME LIMITS
- LOWER SUBSIDY COST PER UNIT---MORE ATTRACTIVE TO BUILDERS AND LENDERS; WILL STILL GET 30% LOW INCOME
- (5) REDO THE SECTION 8 REGULATIONS TO MAKE IT WORKABLE
- BOTH BASIC REGULATIONS AND STATE AGENCY VERSION
- SET THE FAIR MARKET RENTS REALISTICALLY