Draft below is of a pending article for publication on 6.27.2025 on MHProNews for AI fact check purposes.

MHCC Recommends Deleting Chassis Requirement for Upper Levels on Multi-Story HUD Code Manufactured Homes-Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform Weighs In; MHI-June Topics; FEA

It is pre-dawn on 6.27.2025 as this report is being prepared and at this time there is no visible items on the Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI) website about the recent Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee (MHCC) meeting that is the topic of the Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform (MHARR) press release provided in Part I below. But in fairness to MHI, it may be more nuanced than that, which is why the facts-evidence-analysis (FEA) in Parts II and III are significant. For newcomers to the industry that may be reading this as well as for longer term readers of MHProNews, it is useful to state that the MHCC was established as part of the legislated requirements enacted by the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000 (a.k.a.: MHIA, MHIA 2000, 2000 Reform Act, 2000 Reform Law).

Per the HUD website at this link here is the following regarding the MHCC.

The MHCC was established by the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act (the Act) of 2000, which amended the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, and required the establishment of the MHCC to: (1) Provide periodic recommendations to the Secretary to adopt, revise, and interpret the manufactured housing construction and safety standards; and (2) to provide periodic recommendations to the Secretary to adopt, revise, and interpret the procedural and enforcement manufactured housing regulations (3) be organized and carry out its business in a manner that guarantees a fair opportunity for the expression and consideration of various positions and for public participation; and (4) be deemed to be an advisory committee not composed of Federal employees.

At the Secretary's discretion, MHCC Members serve for a term of three years not to exceed two consecutive terms. A rotation of seven members will be maintained on a yearly basis within reason; however, the Secretary retains the option to remove and appoint members.

The MHCC is comprised of seven members in each of the following represented categories:

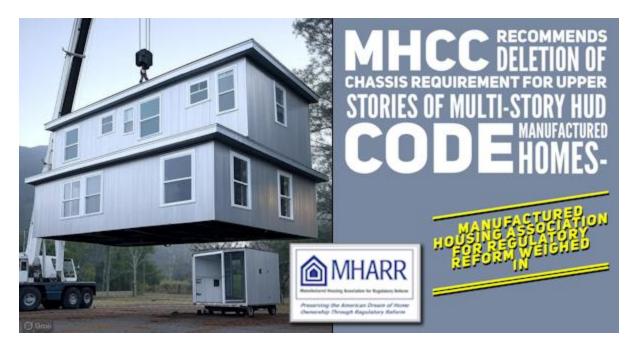
Producers - Producers or retailers of manufactured housing

- Users Persons representing consumer interests, such as consumer organizations, recognized consumer leaders, and owners who are residents of manufactured homes
- General Interest and Public Officials General interest and public official members; three of the seven representatives must be Public Officials

More from HUD about the MHCC in Part III.

Part I (Washington, D.C.) Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform (MHARR) press release.





JUNE 25, 2025

TO: MHARR MANUFACTURERS
MHARR STATE AFFILIATES
MHARR TECHNICAL REVIEW GROUP (TRG)

FROM: MHARR

RE: MHCC RECOMMENDS DELETION OF CHASSIS REQUIREMENT

FOR UPPER STORIES OF MULTI-STORY MANUFACTURED HOMES

The statutory Manufactured Housing Consensus Committee (MHCC), at a conference call meeting on June 24, 2025, recommended the adoption, with slight modifications and additions, of a HUD-proposed amendment that would eliminate the regulatory "permanent chassis" requirement for the upper stories of multi-story HUD-Code manufactured homes. The requirement for a "permanent chassis" affixed to the ground floor, or lowest level of a multi-story manufactured home – being, at present, a <u>statutory</u> requirement contained in the language of the National Manufactured Housing Construction and Safety Standards Act of 1974, as amended -- would remain under the HUD proposal considered by the MHCC,

As is normal practice in regulatory activity since the enactment of the Manufactured Housing Improvement Act of 2000 (2000 Reform Law), the MHCC-recommended proposal

will now go back to HUD for further administrative action, including possible publication of a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPR) in the future.

As MHARR made clear during introductory remarks, the Association, since its inception in 1985, has historically supported regulatory modifications that provide homebuyers with greater freedom of choice, more living options, and greater flexibility, while simultaneously reducing burdens on regulated industry members including, especially, smaller businesses that are disproportionately impacted by excessive regulatory burdens.

MHARR cautioned, however, against the adoption of any standards or requirement based upon or driven by the <u>proprietary</u> designs or unique <u>proprietary</u> interests of any one manufacturer or group of manufacturers, an action that would be inherently prejudicial to other – and particularly smaller, independent – manufacturers. As MHARR previously asserted with respect to so-called "Cross-Mod" homes, federal manufactured home construction and safety standards should not incorporate or be tailored to align with designs that are proprietary and not generically available to or accessible to <u>all</u> HUD Code manufacturers.

MHARR further asked if a study of the cost-benefit impacts of the proposed rule – specifically including free market competition impacts, in the event that the proposal does track with existing proprietary designs -- has been performed by HUD (or submitted to HUD by the actual proponent of the multi-story proposal) in full compliance with section 42 U.S.C. 5403(e)(4) of the 2000 Reform Law, which requires both the MHCC and HUD to consider the cost-benefit impacts of any proposed rule, regulation or interpretation. HUD responded that it had not done (or presumably received) such a cost-benefit analysis of the proposed rule, thus exposing a major rulemaking deficiency in relation to the multi-story proposal. MHARR, therefore, will closely monitor all further rulemaking proceedings related to this proposal to determine if this deficiency is remedied by HUD during the regulatory process, especially with respect to the unique regulatory burdens shouldered by smaller industry businesses and lower and moderate-income consumers.

Accordingly, while the proposal considered by the MHCC may ultimately prove to be beneficial for the industry and consumers, it still does not address – and will not remedy – the principal bottlenecks, i.e., discriminatory zoning exclusion and the lack of available, competitive-rate consumer financing within the mainstream manufactured home consumer financing market, that have suppressed the production of mainstream HUD Code manufactured homes (which should be in the hundreds of thousands of homes annually) for decades.

Rather than tinkering "around the edges" of the manufactured housing market and mainstream manufactured housing availability, then, HUD, under the Trump Administration, should go straight to the root of the industry's production and availability stagnation since 2000, and use the authority it already has under the 2000 Reform Law (i.e., enhanced federal preemption under 42 U.S.C. 5403(d)), to federally preempt discriminatory and exclusionary zoning edicts grounded in the refusal of such authorities to accept manufactured homes built to federal standards and the unique HUD federal building code (rather than state and/or local codes). It should also expressly support – and join – efforts to advance the availability of Duty to Serve (DTS) support, by Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, for consumer financing loans within the mainstream manufactured housing market.

Overcoming these two crucial bottlenecks will spur production and the availability of mainstream manufactured homes (into levels in the hundreds of thousands of homes per year) as a key remedy for the nation's affordable housing crisis – a principal objective of housing policy under both President Trump and HUD Secretary Turner.

MHARR, as always, will carefully and closely monitor this proposal and will continue to seek effective HUD involvement in relation to the two <u>key bottlenecks</u> which negatively impact both the industry and American consumers of affordable housing.

cc: Other Interested HUD Code Manufactured Housing Industry Members

Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform (MHARR) 1331 Pennsylvania Ave N.W., Suite 512

Washington D.C. 20004 Phone: 202/783-4087

Fax: 202/783-4075

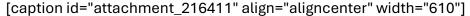
Email: MHARRDG@AOL.COM

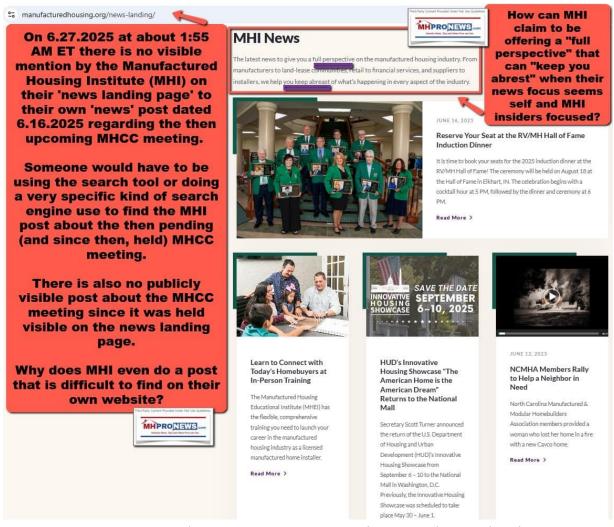
Website: www.manufacturedhousingassociation.org

The Manufactured Housing Association for Regulatory Reform (MHARR) press releases are available for re-publication in full (i.e., without alteration or substantive modification) without further permission and with proper attribution and/or link back to MHARR.

Part II - What MHI has Publicly Said on MHCC, June as National Home Ownership Month, and on the Celebration of the 49th Year of the Official Start of the Production of HUD Code Manufactured Homes on 6.14.1976

1) Regarding the MHCC meeting, on the date and time shown there is nothing visible on the MHI news landing page. By contrast, as was demonstrated by the MHARR release posted in Part I above and which is linked here, MHARR advised industry members of what occurred on the date in question. Note that the MHARR news item is visible on their home page at this time.





MHProNews Note: depending on your browser or device, many images in this report and others on MHProNews can be clicked to expand. Click the image and follow the prompts. For example, in some browsers/devices you click the image and select 'open in a new

window.' After clicking that selection you click the image in the open window to expand the image to a larger size. To return to this page, use your back key, escape or follow the prompts. [/caption]

2) Contrast MHI's MHARR's home page and its remarks about what the MHARR website offers to MHI misleading (or arguably false claim) on their news-landing page of presenting (bold added for emphasis by MHProNews).

The **latest news** to give you a **full perspective** on the manufactured housing industry. From manufacturers to land-lease communities, retail to financial services, and suppliers to installers, **we help you keep abreast of what's happening in every aspect of the industry**.

MHProNews notes that this simple contrast between what MHI claims and is shown on their website's 'news' vs. what MHARR claims and as is shown on their website arguably speaks volumes about both trade groups.

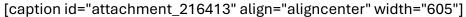
[caption id="attachment_216412" align="aligncenter" width="620"]

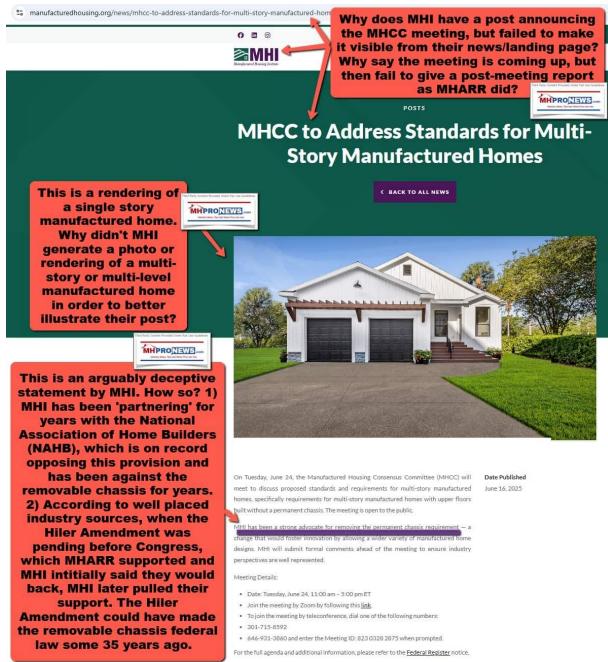


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While MHI is fluffing their favored members and themselves via their 'news,' or are pitching ways to separate money from their readers, if possible, MHARR presents solid industry information that is not visible on the MHI website on the same date at about the same time. Note to newcomers and a reminder to others, MHI has claimed for years they represent "all segments" of the industry, production and post-production. MHARR clearly states they are a producer's trade group. So, when MHARR addresses a post-production topic, they are going 'over and above' what they need to do, based on their production-regulatory focus.

3) MHI's website has this on the MHCC meeting, in advance of the actual meeting, but which was not visible from their own news landing page. Meaning, someone has to do a specific search for MHCC meeting to even find this post.



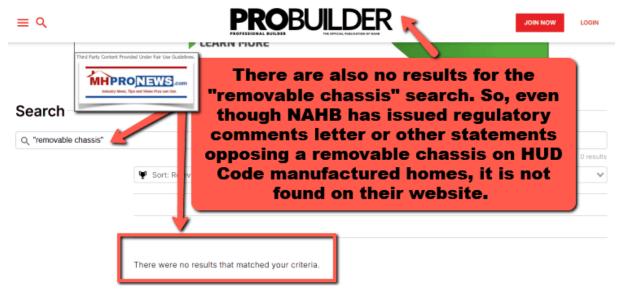


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This is an arguably deceptive statement by MHI. How so? 1) MHI has been 'partnering' with the National Association of Home Builders (NAHB) on multiple topics over a period of years. The NAHB is on record opposing the removable chassis provision and NAHB has been against the removable chassis for years. 2) Additionally, according to well-placed industry sources, when the Hiler Amendment was pending before Congress, which MHARR supported and MHI initially said they would back, MHI later pulled their support prior to a key vote. The Hiler Amendment could have made the removable chassis federal law some 35 years ago. More on the Hiler Amendment is found here.

[caption id="attachment_215979" align="aligncenter" width="607"]



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4) This writer for *MHProNews* has been in multiple level manufactured homes several times and in differing states, even though they are not common. Properly done legislatively, the idea of a removable chassis is a good one. But there are risks to the pending legislation, as *MHProNews* has repeatedly reported. Which begs the question, why has MHI advocated for legislation which MHARR deems has significant deficiencies?

[caption id="attachment_216174" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



https://manufacturedhousingassociationregulatoryreform.org/mharr-addressesdeficiencies-and-concerns-and-submits-proposals-to-congress-to-correct-pendinghousing-supply-frameworks-act/[/caption] [caption id="attachment_216045" align="aligncenter" width="600"]



https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/mharr-addresses-deficiencies-concerns-by-submitting-proposals-to-congress-to-correct-pending-housing-supply-frameworks-act-on-manufactured-housing-industry-measures-what-about-mhi-mhville-fea/[/caption]

Part III - Additional Information with More Facts-Evidence-Analysis and MHProNews Commentary

In no particular order of importance.

1) As a disclosure, *MHProNews* has no formal ties to Bing's artificial intelligence (AI) powered Copilot, other than as a user of the online AI platform. MHProNews has been using Bing's AI system for over two years, but has also tested and used other AI systems including, but not limited to, Google's Gemini and xAI's Grok. Copilot has confirmed that *MHProNews* has no way to bribe, cajole, or others generate a desired response from Copilot, or other AI systems, other than through straightforward discussion, questions, logic and evidence. Meaning, the manner MHProNews has been utilizing AI like Copilot is that it can be a useful third-party response that fact-checks not only on the topic but also the evolution of an article like this one. That is one way to look at hybrid journalism, where human and AI strengths can be blended together for an article with maximum accuracy, fidelity to known facts, and transparency. Hybrid journalism doesn't eliminate human reporting, as some media using AI have been doing, rather hybrid journalism strengthens human and expert reporting.

That said, the following inquiry was put to Copilot by MHProNews.

Did the Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI or manufacturedhousing.org) publicly and robustly promote June as National Homeownership Month, as a post-production industry trade group should do if they are doing their job properly?

Did MHI publicly and robustly promote the 49th anniversary of the start of production of HUD Code manufactured housing on June 15, 1976?

Based on available evidence, the **Manufactured Housing Institute (MHI)** did *not* publicly or robustly promote either:

- 1. June as National Homeownership Month, or
- 2. The 49th anniversary of the start of HUD Code manufactured housing on June 15, 1976.

By contrast, the **U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)** and other trade groups like the **National Association of Home Builders (NAHB)** and **National Association of Realtors (NAR)** actively promoted National Homeownership Month with press releases, toolkits, and public-facing campaigns.

A detailed MHProNews fact-check confirmed that as of early June 2025, MHI had no visible or specific mention of either event on its website or in its public communications. This absence is notable given MHI's role as the self-described national trade organization for the manufactured housing industry.

This pattern—failing to leverage key public awareness opportunities—raises legitimate concerns about whether MHI is fulfilling its post-production advocacy responsibilities. It also reinforces critiques that MHI's public posture often diverges from its actual performance, especially when compared to its predecessor, the MHMA, which historically supported site development and public engagement far more actively.

Let me know if you'd like a visual timeline or side-by-side comparison of MHI's public engagement versus other housing trade groups.

MHProNews notes that for whatever reason the links Copilot provided above have not for some time been cutting and pasting into the software-editing system of this platform, unlike the bulk of the text as shown. So, the two references provided by Copilot above are manually posted below. Following that are the screen captures the verify the accuracy of this discussion with Copilot.

- 1) https://www.hud.gov/national-homeownership-month-2025
- 2) https://www.nahb.org/blog/2025/06/homeonwership-month-2025

MHProNews annotated the screen capture above to highlight certain points raised by Copilot, but the text/response by Copilot was generated as is shown below.

[caption id="attachment_216416" align="aligncenter" width="605"]

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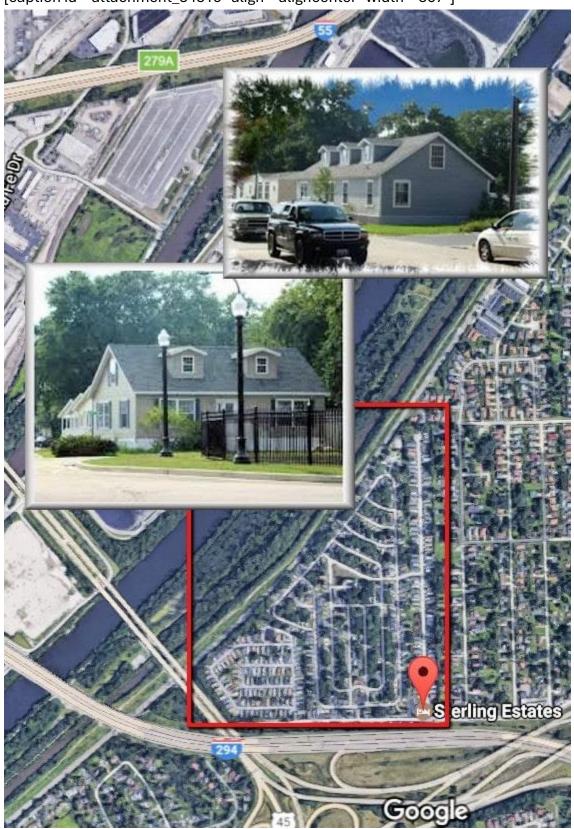
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2) The photo below is of a modular section being craned into place, which is what can occur when a second-story of a HUD Code manufactured home is being lifted or craned into position.



3) The collage below is of Sterling Estates in Justice, IL a suburb of Chicago. Two of the homes shown were among the Cape Code style upper level that could significantly add to the square footage of a HUD Code manufactured home. But for the purpose discussed by the MHCC, it could be a full second story with one HUD Code multi (or single) section placed on top of another HUD Code first floor unit. *MHProNews* has been in such a full two-story HUD Code manufactured home in a Houston, TX suburb.

[caption id="attachment_54819" align="aligncenter" width="567"]



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manufactured housing is often thought of as 'rural,' the sprawling 800 home site manufactured home land-lease community of Sterling Estates, in metro Chicago, is an example of how manufactured homes are found in cities and urban areas too. Perhaps the only place that modern manufactured housing could not be easily used in a city environment is in the densest high-rise parts of a city. That said, designs for multi-story factory built (then, pre-HUD Code mobile homes) housing using concrete and steel framing were once part of the 'reach of the sky' mindsight of factory-builders back in the late mobile home and early HUD Code manufactured housing era.[/caption][caption id="attachment_80268" align="aligncenter" width="598"]



One of several highrise designs during the mobile home era, others were post HUD Code.

https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/high-rise-manufactured-home-stackable-towers-compete-with-modular-prefabs-density-at-lower-cost/ [/caption]

Which begs the question. Why isn't MHI promoting some of those facts and relevant history? Why did MHI show a rendering of a single story manufactured home in a largely hidden post (not visible from their news page, as shown in Part II above) instead of showing - at a minimum - a rendering of a two-story HUD Code manufactured home, or perhaps a two-story HUD Code duplex unit? Aren't they failing to fuel in the imagination, as the some involved in the former Mobile Home Manufacturers Association (MHMA) once used to do? See the historic report linked below, which Copilot obliquely referenced.



[caption id="attachment_216400" align="aligncenter" width="530"]

https://www.manufacturedhomepronews.com/historic-revealing-production-retailers-dealers-data-mobile-home-parks-and-finance-facts-from-mobile-home-history-when-mobile-homes-were-30-vs-10-of-all-single-family-housing-units-fea/[/caption]

Copilot

4)

5)