

Senator O'Brien offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 148.

A resolution to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act.

Whereas, The Fair Housing Act protects people from discrimination when they are renting, buying, or securing financing for any housing by providing that a person may not be discriminated against because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, disability, or presence of children; and

Whereas, Congress passed the Fair Housing Act in April 1968 and it was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1968; and

Whereas, The Fair Housing Act was signed into law at an important cultural turning point in America after decades of civil unrest, racial zoning, and court sanctioned deed discrimination based on race, national origin, and religion; and

Whereas, The Fair Housing Act was an important step in prohibiting such discrimination; and

Whereas, The Fair Housing Act states, "It is the policy of the United States to provide, within constitutional limitations, for fair housing throughout the United States."; and

Whereas, In 1975, the National Association of Realtors® adopted an agreement with the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development to:

- Promote fair housing;
- Educate members regarding their rights and obligations under the Fair Housing Act;
- Develop and recommend fair housing procedures for members;
- Participate in community based fair housing activities; and

Whereas, In 1988, the National Association of Realtors® supported expanding the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discrimination based on familial status, handicap, or disability; and

Whereas, Fair and affordable housing is vital to the success of our growing state; and

Whereas, Michigan Realtors embraces its role at the forefront of advancing fair housing, leading efforts to address community fair housing issues, and continuing to provide education and information to our members and their clients to combat discrimination; and

Whereas, The health, education, and economic opportunities of Michigan families are directly impacted by where they live; and

Whereas, Discriminatory housing practices create racial, social, and economic divides in our communities that inhibit the growth of our citizens; and

Whereas, Diversity creates stronger communities and provides Michigan citizens the best opportunity to achieve the American dream, and fair housing plays an integral role in fostering such communities; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Legislature of the state of Michigan commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature supports and encourages fair housing policies throughout the state; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature recognizes the Michigan Realtors® as a partner in combating housing discrimination.