STATE OF NEW JERSEY

GOVERNOR PHIL MURPHY

Acting Governor Oliver Signs Resolution Commemorating 50th Anniversary of the Federal Fair Housing Act

12/26/2018

TRENTON – Acting Governor Sheila Oliver today signed Senate Joint Resolution No. 84, commemorating the 50th anniversary of the signing of the federal Fair Housing Act. The Act, which made it illegal to discriminate based on race, sex, religion, familial status, disability status, or national origin, was a critical step toward ending discriminatory housing practices in the United States.

"I am honored to sign this resolution and recognize the 50th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act," said Acting Governor Oliver, who also serves as Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs. "But, while 50 years have passed since the Act first became law, we cannot ignore the ongoing challenges that many face as they seek safe and adequate housing. As we strive to create a stronger and fairer New Jersey, our State must remain committed to eliminating discriminatory policies that negatively impact the health, wellness and economic prosperity of our residents."

The resolution was sponsored by Senator Jeff Van Drew and Assemblymembers Annette Chaparro, Benjie Wimberly and Mila Jasey.

"New Jersey can now officially recognize the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act," **said Assemblywoman Chaparro**. "It is important that we recognize how much work has been done over the last 50 years to ensure the right to fair housing for our residents. As the vice-chair of the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee, it is one of my main priorities to uphold and continue to fight for fair and equal housing throughout our state."

"Segregation is a significant issue when it comes to housing in New Jersey," **said Assemblyman Wimberly.** "A zip code should not be a defining characteristic for anyone – whether it be in terms of education, health, or overall quality of life. In recognizing the 50th anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, we recognize all that has been done in the past 50 years to rid of discrimination in housing policies, and the signing of this law shows our commitment to uphold these standards in New Jersey."

"50 years ago, the Fair Housing Act was enacted and outlawed discriminatory practices such as a lack of access to safe and adequate housing," **said Assemblywoman Jasey.** "Unfortunately, this problem continues to persist in some of our communities. By recognizing the 50th anniversary of this act, we are sending a message in our state that we will continue to fight for all of our residents to have access to quality, safe housing."

Acting Governor Oliver signed the resolution at the New Jersey Citizen Action office in Newark.

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