

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION 20140812-03a

Date: August 19, 2014

Subject: Source of Income addition to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code

Motioned By: Commissioner Karen Langley Seconded By: Commissioner Eldridge Nelson

Recommendation: See the recommendation below from the Community Development Commission (CDC) concerning the inclusion of Source of Income to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code regarding discrimination in housing.

Additional language and modifications prohibiting discrimination in housing

A. General Recommendations Regarding Discrimination Based on Source of Income

- 1. The ordinance must prohibit discrimination not only because of the person's source of income but also prohibit discrimination because of the requirements of the program providing the source of income.
- 2. The ordinance must clarify that a person may not use a financial or minimum income standard for any person participating in any tenant-based rental assistance program that requires the person to have a monthly income of more than two- and one-half times the person's share of the total monthly rent payable to the owner of the dwelling unit. [See Tex. Gov't. Code § 2306.269(b)(2) (West 2008).]

B. Recommended Language to be Added

Please see the underlined text below for recommended text to be added to the staff-recommended changes to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code.

- 1. Part 2. City Code Section § 5-1-13 (Definitions)
 - a. SOURCE OF INCOME means lawful and verifiable income including but not limited to, housing vouchers and other subsidies provided by government or non-governmental entities, including any of the requirements of such housing voucher programs, child support, or spousal maintenance, but does not include future gifts.
- 2. Part 3. § 5-1-51(A)
 - a. A person may not refuse to sell or rent a dwelling to a person who has made a bona fide offer; refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of a dwelling; or otherwise make unavailable or deny to a dwelling to a person based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, familial status, disability, marital status, student status, creed, national origin, or source of income, including requirements of any source of income including minimum income policies.

Unanimously approved the addition of Source of Income to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code regarding discrimination in housing with the recommendations shown above, by the Community Development Commission on a vote of 9-0, with Chair Rivera and Commissioners Decierdo, Langley, Mueller, Nelson, Noyola, Perez, Reyes, and Taylor voting in favor.



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Commissioners

Gilbert Rivera Chair

> Karen Paup Vice Chair

Margarita Decierdo Commissioner

Mitchell Harrison Commissioner

Karen Langley Commissioner

Liz Mueller Commissioner

Eldridge Nelson

Angelica Noyola

Commissioner

Roberto Perez
Commissioner

Ed Reyes Commissioner

Cassondra Taylor
Commissioner

Community Development Commission

P.O. Box 1088, Austin, TX 78767

www.cityofaustin.org/housing

Date:

August 19, 2014

To:

Mayor and Council Members

From:

Gilberto Rivera, Chair

Subject:

Source of Income addition to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide Mayor and Council Members with a summary of action taken by the Community Development Commission (CDC) concerning the inclusion of Source of Income to Chapter 5-1 of the City Code regarding discrimination in housing. The item was discussed at the Tuesday, August 12th CDC Meeting.

The CDC voted unanimously to approve the Source of Income addition, with the following recommendations:

A. General Recommendations Regarding Discrimination Based on Source of Income

- The ordinance must prohibit discrimination not only because of the person's source of income but also prohibit discrimination because of the requirements of the program providing the source of income.
- 2. The ordinance must clarify that a person may not use a financial or minimum income standard for any person participating in any tenant-based rental assistance program that requires the person to have a monthly income of more than two- and one-half times the person's share of the total monthly rent payable to the owner of the dwelling unit. [See Tex. Gov't. Code § 2306.269(b)(2) (West 2008).]

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2. Part 3. § 5-1-51(A)

a. A person may not refuse to sell or rent a dwelling to a person who has made a bona fide offer; refuse to negotiate for the sale or rental of a dwelling; or otherwise make unavailable or deny to a dwelling to a person based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, familial status, disability, marital status, student status, creed, national origin, or source of income, including requirements of any source of income including minimum income policies.

cc: Bert Lumbreras, Assistant City Manager
Betsy Spencer, Director, Neighborhood Housing and Community Development