

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR LINDSEY P. HORVATH

April 9, 2024

Proclaiming April as Fair Housing Month in Los Angeles County

Each year during the month of April, the nation celebrates the rights granted under the Civil Rights Act of 1968, Title VIII (Act), which guarantees the right to equal housing opportunities for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, gender, families with children, persons with disabilities, and national origin. It also includes requirements that reasonable accommodations be made for persons with disabilities.

The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), utilizing funding from the County of Los Angeles, supports and promotes fair housing through ongoing activities for the residents of the unincorporated areas of Los Angeles County, as well as cities that participate in the County's Community Development Block Grant Program. Activities include informational, educational, counseling, and investigative services programs.

These fair housing services, provided by the Housing Rights Center (HRC) in Los Angeles County, address a wide variety of landlord-tenant issues: evictions, illegal entries, harassment, refusals to rent, pets, lockouts, substandard conditions, and repairs. These issues are resolved through mediation, referrals to other agencies, and litigation.

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For example, in the past fiscal year, HRC provided assistance to approximately 3,218 households, conducted 1,042 outreach activities to increase public awareness, and held 264 trainings, workshops, community meetings, walk-in clinics, and other events.

On April 8, 2024, the HRC held its 25th Annual Housing Rights Summit: The Power of Civil Rights Advocacy, which commemorated National Fair Housing Month and the ideals embodied by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and fellow civil-rights leaders. The Summit is a forum for dialogue, education, and action, designed to address civil rights and social justice issues affecting communities throughout Southern California and featured educational panels, expert speakers, and a community resource fair that brought together nonprofit agencies, legal aid groups, and government officials.

I, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors commemorate and proclaim April 2024 as Fair Housing Month in the County of Los Angeles to recognize the value and importance of the rights guaranteed under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 and its amendments and commit to the furtherance of the Act's goals and ideals throughout the year.

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