

OFFERED BY COUNCILORS RUTHZEE LOUIJEUNE, KENZIE BOK, COLETTA, FERNANDES ANDERSON, FLAHERTY, LARA, MEJIA, MURPHY, WORRELL, FLYNN AND ARROYO



## CITY OF BOSTON IN CITY COUNCIL

### RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH

**WHEREAS,** The City of Boston shall commemorate the 55th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, a landmark civil rights law that made discrimination in housing unlawful. Its passage came only after a long and arduous journey fought for by advocates around the country. When Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968, President Lyndon Johnson urged for the bill's speedy Congressional approval and it was signed into law on April 11, 1968; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Fair Housing Act), as amended, 42 U.S. Code 3601 et seq., prohibits discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of residential dwellings, and in other residential real estate related transactions, based on race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, and disability; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Today, federal, state, and municipal laws prohibit discrimination in the sale and rental of housing by property owners and managers, landlords, mortgage lenders, and real estate agents, including the Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act, Community Reinvestment Act, and Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, MA anti-discrimination law M.G.L. c. 151B, and City of Boston ordinance C.B.C 10-3.1; *and*

**WHEREAS,** It is the policy of the City of Boston to see that each individual, regardless of their race, color, religious creed, marital status, military status, handicap, children, national origin, sex gender identity or expression, age, ancestry, sexual preference or source of income shall have equal access to housing and to encourage and bring about mutual understanding and respect among all individuals in the City by the elimination of prejudice, intolerance, bigotry and discrimination in the area of housing; *and*

**WHEREAS,** We celebrate April as Fair Housing Month in part because of the anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act in April of 1968, but also to recommit ourselves to creating housing equal opportunities in every community across the country by eradicating discrimination; *and*

**WHEREAS,** Discrimination in the rental and real estate industry is real and ongoing, and the City of Boston has a duty to engage its residents and businesses to be a part of an equitable and inclusive solution for its dismantling; ***NOW, THEREFORE BE IT***

**RESOLVED:** That the Boston City Council declare April Fair Housing Month and commit to educating, advocating, and advancing fair housing to all City of Boston residents.