

SPONSOR: Rep. K. Johnson on behalf of all Representatives & Sen. Townsend on behalf of all Senators

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 151st GENERAL ASSEMBLY

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 19

RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF APRIL 2021, AS THE ANNUAL "NATIONAL FAIR HOUSING MONTH" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1	WHEREAS, April 2021 marks the 53rd Anniversary of the enactment of the landmark Civil Rights Act of 1968,
2	which included among its provisions the federal Fair Housing law, and the 52 <sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Delaware's Fair Housing
3	Act; and
4	WHEREAS, it was the purpose of the Fair Housing Act to eliminate, as to housing offered to the public for sale or
5	rent, discrimination based upon race, color, religion or national origin; and
6	WHEREAS, today protections against discrimination in housing are provided in the Delaware Fair Housing Act,
7	Title 6, Chapter 46 of the Delaware Code; and
8	WHEREAS, the Delaware Fair Housing Act has been amended from time to time since its enactment, and now
9	additionally prohibits discrimination based on creed, sex, marital status, familial status, source of income, age, sexual
10	orientation or disability; and
11	WHEREAS, legislation to amend the Delaware Fair Housing Act to prevent discrimination based on use of
12	government rental assistance is pending; and
13	WHEREAS, discrimination in the sale or rent of housing is just one example of barriers some households face
14	when trying to maintain stable housing in Delaware; and
15	WHEREAS, according to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, Delaware has the 15th highest rental
16	housing costs in the country; and
17	WHEREAS, approximately 76 percent of Delaware households are cost burdened with incomes below 30% of
18	Area Median Income spend more than 50 percent of their monthly income on housing expenses; and
19	WHEREAS, the National Low Income Housing Coalition estimates that in 2020 Delaware had a deficit of 15,560
20	affordable and available units for Delaware households with incomes at or below 50 percent Area Median Income; and
21	WHEREAS, more than 1,000 people sleep in homeless shelters and on the streets each night in Delaware; and
22	WHEREAS, as we recognize the annual National Fair Housing Month, there exists a continued need to address
23	affordable housing, homelessness, and fair and equitable housing practices in the State of Delaware.

## 24 NOW THEREFORE:

- 25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 151<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the State of Delaware, the
- 26 Senate concurring therein, that the State of Delaware recognizes April 2021, as National Fair Housing Month in the State of
- 27 Delaware.

## **SYNOPSIS**

This House Concurrent Resolution recognizes the month of April 2021, as "National Fair Housing Month" in the State of Delaware.