

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 209

Rep. Dievendorf offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to declare April 2024 as Fair Housing Month in
2 the state of Michigan.

3 Whereas, Fair and equitable access to housing is a fundamental
4 human right and essential for the well-being of all individuals and
5 communities; and

6 Whereas, Systemic discrimination in housing on the basis of
7 race, ethnicity, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual
8 orientation, disability, familial status, source of income, and
9 criminal records in the tenant screening process perpetuates
10 barriers to housing access, economic stability, and public safety,
11 contributing to the cycle of poverty, homelessness, and recidivism;
12 and

1 Whereas, A population of two to three million individuals in
2 Michigan with criminal convictions highlights the urgent need to
3 address housing barriers faced by this marginalized group and
4 others, recognizing the importance of successful reintegration into
5 society and reducing the risk of recidivism; and

6 Whereas, The principles of rehabilitation, second chances, and
7 recognizing the potential for growth and change are foundational to
8 creating a more just and inclusive society; and

9 Whereas, Collaborative efforts from housing providers,
10 policymakers, community organizations, and support networks are
11 crucial in implementing policies and initiatives that promote fair
12 access to safe and affordable housing for all individuals,
13 including those with criminal records; and

14 Whereas, Supportive housing programs, the adoption of "fair
15 chance" policies, and robust reentry services are essential
16 components in addressing housing barriers and promoting successful
17 reintegration into society for individuals with criminal records;

18 Whereas, All Michiganders deserve a safe place to live,
19 regardless of prior convictions; now, therefore, be it

20 Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of
21 this legislative body declare April 2024 as Fair Housing Month in
22 the state of Michigan.