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| DAVID Y. IGEGOVERNOR |  HAWAII CIVIL RIGHTS COMMISSION |  |

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**April Marks 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act**

HONOLULU – Governor David Y. Ige proclaimed April 2018 as Fair Housing Awareness Month in Hawaii, marking the 50th anniversary of the enactment of Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, commonly referred to as the “Fair Housing Act”.

Governor Ige presented representatives of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, state and county housing agencies and fair housing advocates with a proclamation urging all citizens, agencies and institutions in the state to abide by the letter and the spirit of the Fair Housing Act to end housing discrimination.

The Fair Housing Act of 1968 and Chapter 515, Hawaii Revised Statutes, are the principal instruments for combating discrimination in the sale, rental, and financing of housing in the State of Hawaii.

Hawaii’s fair housing law actually preceded Federal Civil Rights by one year. Act 193 Relating to the Prevention of Discrimination in Real Property Transactions was passed and took effect upon approval by Governor John Burns in June, 1967. According to the report of the House Judiciary Committee, the bill reflected many of the provisions of the Model Anti-Discrimination Act of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws.

“Fair housing reflects the values of equal opportunity and fairness that help define us as the Aloha State,” said William Hoshijo, Executive Director of the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission. “Public awareness of fair housing rights is a critical component of eliminating housing discrimination in Hawaii, and our office is committed to continue working with other agencies to increase awareness of fair housing protections and toward the enforcement of prohibiting discriminatory practices.”

The federal Fair Housing Act and Chapter 515, Hawaii Revised Statutes, prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry/national origin, sex, disability, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, marital status, age, and human immunodeficiency virus infection.

For more information, contact the Hawaii Civil Rights Commission

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