

Late Backup

#48

Diocese of Austin

Office of the Bishop

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April 15, 2014

Dear Mayor, Mayor Pro-tem and members of the Council:

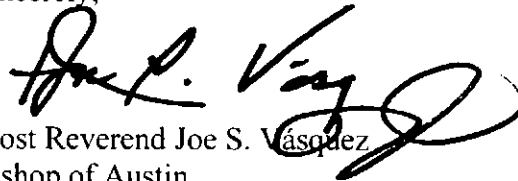
I am writing in support of your efforts to craft a resolution adding “source of income” as a protected class to prevent persons using Housing Choice Vouchers from facing discrimination in housing.

In the Catholic tradition our first and most important social teaching is that the life and dignity of every person must be acknowledged and respected. This principle goes on to state that human beings, by virtue of their dignity have the right to all that is necessary to live in a dignified manner; which includes the right to decent housing.

There is a great need to increase decent affordable housing for eligible families and individuals. Our cities are enriched by a wide diversity of people living here, including diversity of income. By adding “source of income” as a protected class in housing, we can ensure that families or individuals with lower incomes have access to available housing because they will not face discrimination.

Thank you for this effort to make affordable housing more available to those who need it. I support and applaud you for this.

Sincerely,



Most Reverend Joe S. Vasquez
Bishop of Austin

JSV:mj