



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

Recommendation Number: 20140728-004b: Source of Income as a protected class

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has a long history of promoting fair treatment and equal opportunity for all individuals in employment, housing, and public accommodations; and

WHEREAS, City Council directed the City Manager to process an ordinance adding “Source of Income” to City Code Chapter 5-1, Housing Discrimination, and present that ordinance to the Human Rights Commission and other stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, stakeholders participated in two public meetings on this issue, and the Human Rights Commission took public comment at its regular meeting on May 28, 2014; and

WHEREAS, high occupancy rates citywide create substantial challenges to voucher holders in securing affordable housing; and

WHEREAS, numerous states and other local jurisdictions have a long and successful history of protecting voucher holders from housing discrimination;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Austin Human Rights Commission recommends the Austin City Council to amend the City Code to add "Source of Income" as a protected class to Chapter 5-1, Housing Discrimination.

Date of Approval: July 28, 2014

Record of the vote: 5-0, Commissioner Brenner abstain, Commissioner Cortez absent

Attest: _____

