

BILL NO. _____

ORDINANCE NO. 53

**AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING "FAIR HOUSING" FOR THE CITY OF
ARCADIA, MISSOURI. DEFINES DISCRIMINATORY HOUSING PRACTICES
AND CREATES A FAIR HOUSING COMMITTEE.**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF
ARCADIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1 - Declaration of Policy

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Arcadia hereby declares it to be the public policy of the City to eliminate discrimination and safeguard the right of any person to sell, purchase, lease, rent or obtain real property without regard to race, sex, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, religious affiliation, disability and without regard to whether a family has children. This ordinance shall be deemed an exercise of the police powers of the City of Arcadia, Missouri, for the protection of the public welfare, prosperity, health and peace of the people of the City of Arcadia, Missouri.

SECTION 2 - Definitions

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meaning given herein unless the context otherwise indicates.

- a. Person shall include any individual, firm, partnership or corporation.
- b. Aggrieved person shall include any person who is attempting to provide housing for himself and/or his family in the City of Arcadia, Missouri.
- c. Discriminate shall mean distinctions in treatment because of race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation, national origin, disability or family status of any person.

SECTION 3 - Discriminatory Practices

It shall be a discriminatory practice and a violation of this ordinance for any person to:

- a. Refuse to sell or rent after the making of a bona fide offer, or to refuse to negotiate for the sale or rent of, or otherwise make unavailable or deny, a dwelling to any person because of race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation, or national origin of any person.

- b. Discriminate against any person in the terms, conditions, or privileges of sale or rental of a dwelling, or in the provision of services or facilities in connection therewith, because of race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation, or national origin.
- c. Make, print or publish, or cause to be made, printed or published, any notice, statement or advertisement, with respect to the sale or rental of a dwelling that indicates any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
- d. Represent to any person because of race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation or national origin that any dwelling is not available for inspection, sale or rental when such dwelling is in fact so available.
- e. For profit, to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood or a person or persons of a particular race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation or national origin.
- f. Bars discrimination in the sale or rental of housing on the basis of a disability and requires the design and construction of new multi-family dwelling with four (4) or more units to meet certain adaptability and accessibility requirements.
- g. Bars discrimination in the sale or rental of housing because a family has children, but exempts certain types of buildings that house older persons, e.g. Section 202 housing.

SECTION 4 - Discrimination in the Financing of a House

It shall be unlawful for any bank, building and loan association, insurance company or other corporation, association, firm or enterprise whose business consists in whole or in part in the making of commercial real estate loans, to deny a loan to a person applying therefore for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, repairing or maintaining a dwelling, or to discriminate against him in the fixing of the amount or conditions of such loan, because of the race, sex, color, religion, religious affiliation, disability, familial status, or national origin of such person or of any person associated with him in connection with such financing.

SECTION 5 - Administration

- a. There is hereby created a Fair Housing Committee whose membership shall consist of three (3) members who shall be appointed by the Mayor of the City with the approval of the Board of Aldermen.

- b. Every complaint of a violation of this ordinance shall be referred to the Fair Housing Committee. The Fair Housing Committee shall forthwith notify the person against whom the complaint is made. The identity of the aggrieved person shall be made known to the person against whom the complaint is made at that time. If the Fair Housing Committee, after investigation, finds there is no merit to the complaint, the same shall be dismissed. If the Fair Housing Committee finds that there is merit in the complaint, in their opinion, then and in that event, the Fair Housing Committee will endeavor to eliminate the alleged discriminatory practice by conference and conciliation.
- c. If the Fair Housing Committee is unable to eliminate the alleged discriminatory practice by a conference and conciliation, then and in that event, the Fair Housing Committee shall forward said complaint to the City Attorney for handling. The final determination of whether or not to prosecute on said complaint shall be left to the City Attorney.

SECTION 6 - Enforcement

- a. Any person convicted of a violation of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not more than two dollars (\$200.00) or by confinement in the County Jail for not more than thirty (30) days, or by both such fine and imprisonment.
- b. The City Attorney, instead of filing a complaint in Municipal Court, may, as an alternative remedy, seek to have the alleged discriminatory practices abated by an action for an injunction to be maintained in the appropriate Circuit Court of the State of Missouri.

SECTION 7 - Severability

If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of these standards shall be declared invalid for any reason whatsoever, such decision shall not affect the remaining portions of this ordinance which shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 8 - Savings Clause

This ordinance shall not affect violations of any other ordinance, code or regulation of the City of Arcadia existing prior to the effective date hereof. Any such violations shall be governed and shall continue to be punishable to the full extent of the law under the provisions of those ordinances, codes or regulations in effect at the time the violation was committed.

Read the third time and passed, approved and adopted by the Board of Aldermen of the
City of Arcadia, Missouri, this 10th day of May 1999.



Ray Carr
MAYOR

ATTEST:

Mary Johnson
CITY CLERK