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Ordinance # 90-06

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NUMBER 85-1 OF THE ORDINANCES OF LIBERTY COUNTY, FLORIDA; KNOWN AS THE FAIR HOUSING CODE OF LIBERTY COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING ARTICLE 1, SECTION 2.0 THEREOF PROVIDING FOR A DECLARATION OF POLICY BY ADDING THAT IT IS THE COUNTY'S POLICY TO ALSO PROHIBIT DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING BY FAMILIAL STATUS; AMENDING ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.0 THEREOF CONTAINING DEFINITIONS BY ADDING A NEW SUBSECTION TO INCLUDE A DEFINITION OF FAMILIAL STATUS; AMENDING ARTICLE III, THEREOF PERTAINING TO UNLAWFUL HOUSING PRACTICES SO AS TO MAKE UNLAWFUL AND A DISCRIMINATION HOUSING PRACTICE (1) THE SALE OR RENTAL OF HOUSING BECAUSE OF FAMILIAL STATUS, (2) THE FINANCING OF HOUSING BECAUSE OF FAMILIAL STATUS, AND (3) BROKERAGE SERVICES FOR HOUSING BECAUSE OF FAMILIAL STATUS; AMENDING ARTICLE IV, SECTION 3.3 (C) THEREOF PERTAINING TO THE GENERAL STATEMENT OF FACTS CONTAINED IN AN INFORMAL COMPLAINT TO INCLUDE FAMILIAL STATUS IN THE BASIS OF DISCRIMINATION; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF LIBERTY COUNTY, FLORIDA:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Section 2 of Ordinance number 85-1 of Liberty County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. DECLARATION OF POLICY.

It is the policy of Liberty County, Florida, in keeping with the laws of the United States of America and the spirit of the Constitution of the State of Florida, to promote through fair, orderly and lawful procedure the opportunity for each person so desiring to obtain housing of such person's choice in this County, without regard to race, color, ancestry, national origin, handicap, religion, sex, marital status, familial status or age, and, to that end, to prohibit discrimination in housing by any person."

SECTION 2. Article II, Section 2.0 of Ordinance number 85-1 of Liberty County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"SECTION 2. DEFINITIONS.

() Familial Status - means one or more individuals (who have not attained the age of 18 years) being domiciled with
(1) A parent or another person having legal custody of such individual or individuals; or

(2) The designee of such parent or other person having such custody, with the written permission of such parent or other person.

The protections afforded against discrimination on the basis of familial status shall apply to any person who is pregnant or is in the process of securing legal custody of any individual who has not attained the age of 18 years."

SECTION 3. Article III, of Ordinance number 85-1 of Liberty County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Article III. UNLAWFUL HOUSING PRACTICES

Section I. Sale or Rental and advertising in connection therewith.

Except as provided in Section 5 hereof, it shall be unlawful and a discriminatory housing practice for an owner, or any other person in a real estate transaction, or for a real estate broker, as defined in this ordinance, because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, handicap, religion, sex, martial status, familial status, or age."

That Section 3, thereof pertaining to financing is hereby amended to read as follows:

"3.0 - Financing

It shall be unlawful and a discriminatory housing practice for any lending institution, as defined herein, to deny a

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loan or other financial assistance to a person applying therefor for the purpose of purchasing, constructing, improving, repairing, or maintaining housing, or to discriminate against such person in the fixing of the amount, interest rate, duration, or other terms or conditions of such loan or other financial assistance, because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, handicap, religion, sex, marital status, familial status, or age of such person or of any other associated with such person in connection with such loan or other financial assistance or for purposes of such loan or other assistance, or of the present or prospective, owners, lessees, tenants or occupants of the housing in relation to which such loan or other financial assistance is to be made or given; provided, that nothing contained in this section shall impair the scope or effectiveness of the exceptions contained in Section 5 of this Article."

That Section 4.0 thereof pertaining to brokerage services is hereby amended to read as follows:

"4.0 - Brokerage Services.

It shall be unlawful and a discriminatory housing practice to deny any person access to or membership or participation in any multiple listing service, real estate brokers, organization or other service, organization, or facility related to the business of selling, or renting housing, or to discriminate against such person in the terms or conditions of such access, membership or participation because of race, color, ancestry, national origin, handicap, religion, sex, marital status, familial status or age."

SECTION 4. Article IV, Section 3.3. (c) of said Ordinance 85-1 of Liberty County, Florida is hereby amended to read as follows:

"3.0 - Receiving Complaints

(3.3) An informal complaint must be in writing, verified or affirmed, on a form to be supplied by the administrator and shall contain the following:

c. General statement of facts of the offense including the basis of the discrimination (race, color, ancestry, national origin, handicap, religion, sex, marital status, familial status, or age)."

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its passage and approval as provided by law.

Passed by the Board of Liberty County Commissioners, at a meeting in open session, on the 11th day of September, 1990.



John T. Sanborn
Chairman, County Commission

[Signature]