

# STATE OF NEW YORK

5428

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

February 16, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. CYMBROWITZ -- read once and referred to the  
Committee on Housing

AN ACT to amend the public housing law, in relation to establishing an  
obligation to affirmatively further fair housing

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. The public housing law is amended by adding a new article  
2 14 to read as follows:

### ARTICLE XIV

#### OBLIGATION TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

#### Section 600. Obligation to affirmatively further fair housing.

6 § 600. Obligation to affirmatively further fair housing. 1. For the  
7 purposes of this section, the term "covered housing agency" shall mean  
8 any state department, agency or office administering housing and commu-  
9 nity development laws or housing and community development programs  
10 including but not limited to New York state homes and community renewal,  
11 the division of housing and community renewal, the New York state hous-  
12 ing finance agency, the affordable housing corporation, the housing  
13 trust fund corporation, the municipal bond bank agency, the state of New  
14 York mortgage agency, any subsidiary of the foregoing agencies, any  
15 public housing agency, and any localities receiving funds from any state  
16 department, agency or office to administer programs or activities  
17 related to housing and community development.

18 2. The commissioner and all covered housing agencies shall administer  
19 all such programs and activities related to housing and community devel-  
20 opment in a manner that affirmatively furthers fair housing and shall  
21 cooperate with the commissioner to further such purpose.

22 3. The commissioner and all covered housing agencies shall take mean-  
23 ingful actions to:

24 (a) identify and overcome patterns of residential segregation and  
25 housing discrimination;

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 (b) eradicate racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty;

2 (c) reduce disparities in access to opportunity;

3 (d) eliminate disproportionate housing needs;

4 (e) provide the public reasonable and regular opportunities to comment  
5 on fair housing issues and participate in the development and advance-  
6 ment of affirmative fair housing policy; and

7 (f) encourage and maintain compliance with section two hundred nine-  
8 ty-six of the executive law.

9 4. The commissioner and all covered housing agencies shall take no  
10 action that is materially inconsistent with the obligation of this  
11 section.

12 5. The commissioner shall on or before October thirtieth of each year  
13 produce a draft report that shall be made available to the public. The  
14 report shall include any significant initiatives, policies, or programs  
15 undertaken in furtherance of fair housing and any recommendations for  
16 improving the state of fair housing in New York. The draft report shall  
17 be open to a minimum of thirty days of public comment. The commissioner  
18 shall, on or before December first of each year, submit the final  
19 version of said report to the governor, the speaker of the assembly, and  
20 the temporary president of the senate. The commissioner shall submit  
21 along with the final report, all comments received pursuant to the  
22 public comment period.

23 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.