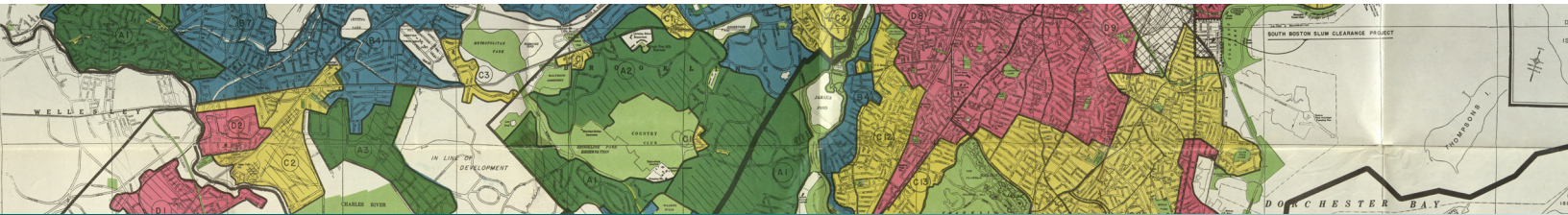


# AN ACT TO AFFIRMATIVELY FURTHER FAIR HOUSING

H.1441 / S.861

Sponsors: Representatives Dave Rogers and Jon Santiago & Senator Joseph Boncore



## WHY IS ENSURING FAIR HOUSING CRITICAL?

Affirmatively furthering fair housing means taking a proactive approach to creating diverse, inclusive communities with access to good jobs, schools, health care, transportation, and housing. By ensuring access and opportunity through more equitable planning from the very start, cities and towns can reshape the policies that have created and perpetuated segregation for decades. We can create protections for the future and begin to right the wrongs of the past, rooting out both intentional and unintentional discrimination in our housing policies and land use decisions.

## WHAT WILL THIS BILL DO?

This legislation creates a state-level duty to affirmatively further fair housing to make sure that the state, cities, towns, local housing authorities, and other public entities do not discriminate in their programs. It also creates a commission to establish how communities can meet this duty. This bill would make fair housing duties and recommendations explicit for every city and town while thoughtfully engaging the community in the planning process.



**Questions?** Contact CHAPA's  
Director of Public Policy, Eric Shupin at  
eshupin@chapa.org or 617-682-9712

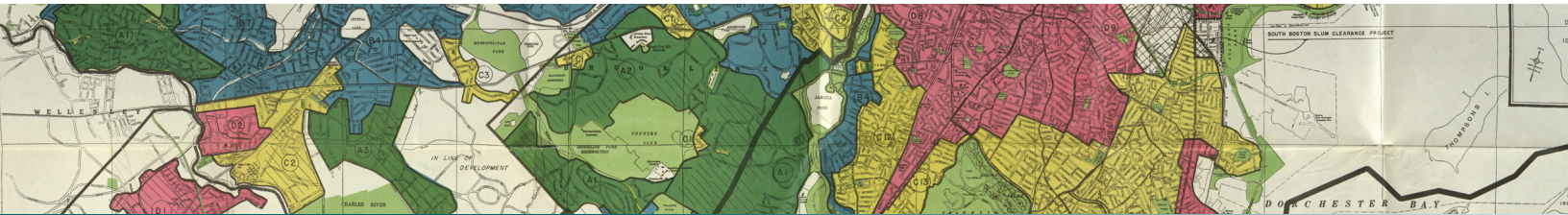
*Image courtesy of Mapping Inequality*

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# AN ACT PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATORY EFFECTS IN HOUSING & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

S.860

*Sponsors: Senator Joseph Boncore*



## WHY IS ENSURING FAIR HOUSING CRITICAL?

Despite not being overtly discriminatory, housing policies can have unintended consequences that are very difficult to prove in court. When only white families are getting approved for mortgages based on seemingly objective lending standards, or insurance rates are higher for certain groups based on “risk factors,” for example, inequities and segregation persist in our communities. By rooting out the intended impacts of policies of the past and preventing unintentionally discriminatory policies for the future, we can ensure housing for all really means housing for all.

## WHAT WILL THIS BILL DO?

This legislation strengthens protections against discrimination for renters, creating a state fair housing disparate impact standard. This will allow people to challenge a housing policy or program that has a discriminatory impact on them because of their race, sex, gender identity, disability, family status, or other protected class – even if the policy or program appears on its face to apply to everyone equally. This will protect against policies and practices that, intentionally or unintentionally, keep people from homes they can afford simply because of who they are.



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*Image courtesy of Mapping Inequality*

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