



AN ACT TO ESTABLISH AN OFFICE OF FAIR HOUSING AND A FAIR HOUSING TRUST FUND

S. 866 / S. 1377

Sponsors: Senator Lydia Edwards & Representative Chyna Tyler

Massachusetts should be a place where all residents can afford a safe and affordable home in a community of their choice. Where a person lives controls access to many opportunities and quality of life factors. Housing is the single best investment we can make for our future. Through equitable housing investment, we can rectify the current inequities that particularly impact Black and Latino residents and promote equitable development for all residents.

Fair housing laws in Massachusetts can help combat discrimination, segregation, and disparities in housing access, fostering a more inclusive and equitable communities. Adequate enforcement of these laws is critical to promote justice, equity, and inclusivity in housing, to foster diverse and vibrant communities for all residents of the Commonwealth.

This legislation seeks to establish a state office focused on promoting fair housing practices, assessing the progress on this front, and managing a trust fund dedicated to supporting these goals.

The Fair Housing Bill will:

- Establish an Office of Fair Housing under the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities and establish the Fair Housing Trust Fund.
- Task the Office with coordination efforts to address and eliminate factors leading to housing discrimination, segregation, and disproportionate access to housing opportunities.
- Leverage the Fair Housing Trust Fund to combat housing discrimination, support compliance with fair housing laws and fund activities such as education, fair housing testing, and lending discrimination initiatives.