



LAES has developed a series of immigrant issue instructional modules entitled "Tierra de Oportunidad" for orientation to our complex society.

LAES - Renting A Place To Live

Tierra de Oportunidad - Module 9

Fair Housing--It's Your Right

Reading 5

A Message From The Secretary:

Every American has a right to fair housing. The right to live where you choose, to raise a family, to own a home -- in dignity and without fear of discrimination -- is a fundamental right guaranteed to all. It cannot be denied to anyone because of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status, or handicap.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development enforces the Fair Housing Act, which protects you against violations of your housing rights. We want you to know how you are protected and what to do if you believe you have been discriminated against.

I pledge to you that the Department will act quickly and efficiently on all complaints of discrimination brought to our attention, and that every American will receive the full protection of the law.

Henry Cisneros

The Fair Housing Act

If You Think Your Rights Have Been Violated

HUD is ready to help with any problem of housing discrimination. If you think your rights have been violated, you may fill out a Housing Discrimination Complaint form, write HUD a letter, or telephone the HUD Hotline. You have one year after an alleged violation to file a complaint with HUD, but you should file it as soon as possible.

What to Tell HUD:

- Your name and address
- The name and address of the person your complaint is against (the respondent)
- The address or other identification of the housing involved
- A short description of the alleged violation (the event that caused you to believe your rights were violated)
- The date(s) of the alleged violation

Where to Write:

Send the Housing Discrimination Complaint Form or a letter to the HUD office nearest you or to:

Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity

U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
Room 5204
Washington, D.C. 20410-2000

Where to Call:

If you wish, you may use the toll-free Hotline number: 1-800-669-9777.
(In Washington, D.C. call 708-0836.)

Authors: Ed Kissam and Holda Dorsey

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