JUST HOUSING INITIATIVE

Tell your Commissioner that you support the Just Housing Amendment!
cookcountylil.gov/board-of-commissioners

Just Housing Initiative Endorsers

Access Living • Alexian Brothers Housing and Health Alliance • Asian Americans Advancing Justice, Chicago • Bethel New Life • Breakthrough Urban Ministries • Cabrini Green Legal Aid • CAIR-Chicago • Charles P. Fischbach, Former Commissioner, City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations • Chicago Are Fair Housing Alliance • Chicago Coalition for the Homeless • Chicago Jobs Council • Chicago Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law • Chicago Urban League • Coalition for Equitable Community Development • Connections for the Homeless • Communities United • Corporation for Supportive Housing • First Congregational UCC, Evanston • Ford Heights Community Service Organization • Greater West Town Training Partnership • Growing Home Inc. • Heartland Alliance for Human Rights and Human Needs • HOPE Fair Housing Center • Housing Action Illinois • Housing Choice Partners • Housing Forward • Illinois Consortium on Drug Policy at Roosevelt University • Independent Voters of Illinois-Independent Precinct Organization • Inspiration Corporation • James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy • Jewish Council on Urban Affairs • John Marshall Law School Fair Housing Legal Clinic • Kenwood Oakland Community Organization • Latino Policy Forum • Lawyers’ Committee for Better Housing • Legal Aid Society of Metropolitan Family Services • Latin United Community Housing Association (LUCHA) • Mothers Against Senseless Killings • Mental Health America of Illinois • Mental Health Summit • Metropolitan Tenants Organization • Northside Housing and Supportive Services • NAMI Chicago • Oak Park Regional Housing Center • ONE Northside • Open Communities • Irene • Respond Now • Restaurant Opportunities Center • National Center on Poverty Law • SEIU Healthcare Illinois • South Suburban Housing Center • Southwest Organizing Project • Streetwise • TASC, Inc. • Thresholds • Trilogy • Uptown People’s Law Center • Westside Health Authority

cafha.net/justhousinginitiative

Home is the cornerstone from which people build better lives for themselves and their families. People with records, like everyone else, deserve a place to call home.
JUST HOUSING INITIATIVE

On [date], [Cook County Board President Preckwinkle] sponsored and introduced a countywide amendment that will ensure that people with records have equal access to stable housing opportunities.

The Just Housing Amendment will:

☑ Ban discrimination in real estate transactions based on one’s covered criminal history
☑ Help reduce recidivism and make Cook County a safer place
☑ Protect children and families from the consequences of housing instability

This isn't a new idea

Other jurisdictions in Illinois already offer protections for people with records. In municipalities like Urbana, IL, people with records are considered a protected class in housing-related transactions, and the use of criminal histories in housing decisions is expressly prohibited.

This is a common sense, basic step

We all want to live in a fair, safe community where people can build good lives.

#IAmNotMyRecord

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Fast Facts
August 2016

1 in 3 Americans has an arrest record

Nearly 50% of children have a parent with a record

Housing policies that ban people with records harm people of color and people with disabilities the most.

People re-entering their communities with access to stable housing are 71% less likely to recidivate than those facing homelessness

Fact sources: The Sentencing Project, Vera Institute of Justice, Center for American Progress