PROCLAMATION
Fair Housing Awareness Month

WHEREAS, April marks the anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, which sought to eliminate discrimination in housing opportunities and to affirmatively further housing choices for all Americans; and

WHEREAS, there are still too many violations of fair housing laws occurring each year; and

WHEREAS, since the introduction of the Fair Housing Act of 1968, civil rights protections in housing continue to evolve; and

WHEREAS, with increased knowledge on the subject of fair housing, the welfare of all will improve; and

WHEREAS, we must continue to strive for equal housing opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, the ongoing struggle for dignity and housing opportunity for all is not the exclusive province of the Federal government; and

WHEREAS, vigorous local efforts to combat discrimination can be as effective, if not more so, than Federal efforts; and

WHEREAS, illegal barriers to equal opportunity in housing, no matter how subtle, diminish the rights of all;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the Mayors of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton, and the County Executives of Lehigh County and Northampton County, do hereby proclaim April 2020 as Fair Housing Awareness Month. We encourage all agencies, institutions and individuals, public and private, in Lehigh and Northampton Counties to abide by the letter and spirit of the Fair Housing Act.

Ray O’Connell, Mayor of Allentown

Robert J. Donchez, Mayor of Bethlehem

Salvatore J. Panto, Jr, Mayor of Easton

Phillips Armstrong, Lehigh County Executive

Lamont G. McClure, Jr., Northampton County Executive