

# PROCLAMATION

## Fair Housing Awareness Month

**WHEREAS**, April marks the 54<sup>th</sup> 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**, the Fair Housing Act, and its Amendments; the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act, our local ordinances, and we seek to bring attention to discrimination in housing and housing-related transactions in our communities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, familial status, disability, and religion; and

**WHEREAS**, our communities have been particularly impacted during the COVID-19 pandemic, especially communities of color; communities with many single female heads of household with children; and those with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, awareness, knowledge, and advocacy, are essential to promote the ideals of the Fair Housing Act of 1968 and related state and local laws; and


**WHEREAS**, to improve the welfare of all, we must continue to strive for equal housing opportunity; and

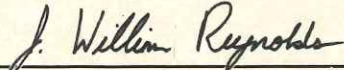
**WHEREAS**, the ongoing struggle for dignity and housing opportunity for all is not the exclusive province of the Federal government; and

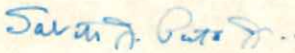
**WHEREAS**, vigorous local efforts to combat discrimination can be as effective, if not more so, than Federal efforts; and

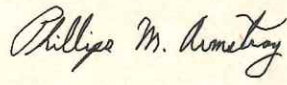
**WHEREAS**, illegal barriers to equal opportunity in housing, no matter how subtle, diminish the rights of all;


**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 2022 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.

  
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Matt Tuerk, Mayor of Allentown

  
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J. William Reynolds, Mayor of Bethlehem

  
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Salvatore J. Panto, Jr, Mayor of Easton

  
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Phillips Armstrong, Lehigh County Executive

  
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Lamont G. McClure, Jr., Northampton County Executive