

# The State of Washington



## Proclamation

**WHEREAS**, the federal Fair Housing Act was signed on April 11, 1968, just one week after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and was an important step toward confronting discrimination against minorities in housing; and

**WHEREAS**, the location in which people live has a direct impact on the quality of their health, education, and access to economic opportunities, and discriminatory housing practices create racial and economic segregation in communities that can lead to disparate outcomes in overall quality of life; and

**WHEREAS**, the Washington State Human Rights Commission, the Department of Financial Institutions, and the Department of Commerce are working to increase public awareness and enforcement of fair housing laws to ensure that all people know their housing rights, including those combating discrimination in mortgage lending, and through their counseling programs and financial literacy efforts, are advancing initiatives to educate families about homeownership and the risks of borrowing; and

**WHEREAS**, we must vigilantly enforce fair housing laws, showing no tolerance for those who discriminate, and work to increase the supply of accessible housing for people with disabilities, low income people, and the homeless; and

**WHEREAS**, the state of Washington is committed to providing fair and equal housing opportunities for all, promoting housing choices, and fostering inclusive communities free from housing discrimination;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April, 2018, as

### *Fair Housing Month*

in Washington, and I encourage all people in our state to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of federal Fair Housing Act.



Signed this 11<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018

Governor Jay Inslee