

JUST HOUSING INITIATIVE

Fast Facts

June 2017

We are calling for 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
- Protect people who were arrested but never convicted of a crime

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.



cafha.net/just-housing-initiative

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 7xs less likely to end up back in prison than those facing homelessness



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.