



PRESS RELEASE
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Ohio Advisory Committee to the U. S. Commission on Civil Rights Releases Report:

Source-of-Income Discrimination in Ohio Housing

The Ohio Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights [released a report](#) following a series of public meetings and a collection of public testimony regarding the civil-rights impact of source-of-income (SOI) discrimination in Ohio housing. The report examines the extent to which SOI discrimination may demonstrate a disparate impact on housing access based on race, color, sex, disability, age, religion, familial status, marital status, military status, and/or national origin. The report also examines the extent to which specific state or local policies and practices may contribute to identified disparities, as well as alternative policies or recommendations with the demonstrated potential to address such concerns.

Primary concerns identified in the report include: (1) the existing need for affordable housing and the impact source-of-income discrimination has on families' ability to access available units; (2) demonstrated disparate impact of SOI discrimination on federally protected classes; (3) administrative delays and requirements that may discourage landlords from voluntarily participating in publicly supported housing initiatives such as the housing choice voucher program; (4) the broader impact of SOI discrimination on public fair-housing goals and the effectiveness of housing assistance programs. The report concludes with a series of policy recommendations to improve access to housing and address related civil rights concerns moving forward.

Committee Vice Chair Subodh Chandra said, "Housing affordability is a critical issue for Ohio and our Advisory Committee's report illuminates the path to ending source-of-income discrimination that is harming Ohioans. We hope policymakers will consider our investigative findings and adopt the recommended reforms."

Committee Chair Lee Strang and Member Bradley Smith dissented to the report. All public records from the Committee's meetings are [available online here](#).

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The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent, bipartisan agency charged with advising the President and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 state and U.S. territory Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at state and local levels. The Commission: in our 7th decade, a continuing legacy of influence in civil rights. For information about the Commission, please visit <http://www.usccr.gov> and follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).