

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

As Engrossed: S3/9/99

A Bill

SENATE BILL 610

4
5 By: Senators B. Walker, B. Lewellen
6 By: Representatives Booker, J. Lewellen, W. Walker, Ferrell, Harris, L. Thomas, Faris, Jones,
7 Willis, Gullett, C. Johnson, Magnus, Eason

For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9
10 "AN ACT TO AMEND ARKANSAS CODE 16-123-203 TO PERMIT
11 CITIES TO ADOPT ORDINANCES CONCERNING FAIR HOUSING
12 THAT MEET GUIDELINES OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING
13 AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT; DECLARING AN EMERGENCY; AND FOR
14 OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

15
16
17 "TO PERMIT CITIES TO ADOPT ORDINANCES
18 CONCERNING FAIR HOUSING THAT MEET
19 GUIDELINES OF THE U. S. DEPARTMENT OF
20 HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT. "

21
22
23
24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

25
26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code 16-123-203 is amended to read as follows:

27 "16-123-203. Legislative declaration.

28 The opportunity to obtain housing and other real estate without
29 discrimination because of religion, race, color, national origin, sex,
30 disability, or familial status as prohibited by this chapter, is recognized
31 and declared to be a civil right, provided the provisions of this chapter do
32 not apply to any municipality that has adopted a substantially equivalent
33 ordinance pursuant to federal fair housing laws and has been recognized by the
34 appropriate federal agency to enforce the provisions of such an ordinance."

35
36 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature

1 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
2 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

3
4 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
5 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
6 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
7 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
8 act are declared to be severable.

9
10 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
11 hereby repealed.

12
13 SECTION 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE. It is hereby found and determined by the
14 Eighty-second General Assembly that the ability to assure that fair and equal
15 housing opportunities are available to all persons is essential to protect the
16 public health, safety, and welfare; that municipalities that adopt ordinances
17 that are substantially equivalent to the provisions of the federal fair
18 housing laws need to be able to enforce and pursue these ordinances as soon as
19 possible after the substantially equivalent designation has been received, and
20 these municipalities need to be assured that the extensive federal regulations
21 and statutes will provide the procedure for such enforcement; that this act is
22 designed to give municipalities such authority and assurance and should be
23 given effect immediately to avoid further delay in effectuating the purposes
24 of the fair housing laws. Therefore, an emergency is declared to exist and
25 this act being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace,
26 health and safety shall become effective on the date of its approval by the
27 Governor. If the bill is neither approved nor vetoed by the Governor, it
28 shall become effective on the expiration of the period of time during which
29 the Governor may veto the bill. If the bill is vetoed by the Governor and the
30 veto is overridden, it shall become effective on the date the last house
31 overrides the veto.

32 /s/ B. Walker
33
34
35
36