

## Seattle City Council



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Jeanette Williams  
Chairman  
Human Resources &  
Judiciary Committee  
883-2328

May 22, 1975

The Honorable John Harris  
Corporation Counsel  
City of Seattle

Dear Mr. Harris:

The attached ordinance indicates the amendments that the Human Resources and Judiciary Committee Members have authorized to the most recent copy of the Open Housing Ordinance prepared by your Department. Although I have attempted to indicate all proposed word changes, etc. to the ordinance, I would like to individually point out a few other changes of a more substantive nature.

1. The terms "sexual orientation" and "political ideology" have been added throughout and definitions have been prepared as well. We would appreciate a thorough review of these definitions, including advice on whether definitions should be included in the ordinance for these terms, but not for all terms.
2. An exclusion is provided for all duplexes and for older dwellings in RS or RD zones converted to multiple uses prior to 1957. The intent of this exclusion is to exclude the owners of older dwellings that were converted to multiple use during the war-time housing shortage, that are still lived in by the owners. Most of these are non-conforming uses under the current zoning code.
3. This ordinance was removed from the Criminal Code since it contains a civil penalty. This change will necessitate a new title, new section numbers, and a new penalty section. The penalty section should be identical to the penalty section in the Fair Employment Practices Ordinance. This section should, therefore, read as follows:

Letter by Councilwoman Jeanette Williams outlining potential alterations to the Open Housing Ordinance, May 22, 1975. Folder 3, Box 55, Jeanette Williams Subject Files, 4693-02. Seattle Municipal Archives.

The Honorable John Harris  
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PENALTIES. Any person who shall knowingly and willfully resist, prevent, impede or interfere with a Director, Hearing Examiner or Hearing Panel, in the performance of duties pursuant to this ordinance, or shall fail, refuse, or neglect to comply with any lawful decision or order of a Director, Hearing Examiner or Hearing Panel or any person who knowingly makes a false complaint under this ordinance shall be subject to a civil penalty, sanction, injunction or remedial decree imposed by order of any court.

I would appreciate it if you could incorporate these changes at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions, please call my assistant, Suzi Forbes, on 583-2366.

Sincerely,



JEANETTE WILLIAMS, Chairman  
Human Resources and Judiciary Committee

JW:sf:pl