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Open Housing

APARTMENT OPERATORS ASSOCIATION OF SEATTLE, INC.

616 FOURTH AVENUE WEST
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98119
Organized in 1924 by and for Apartment Owners

April 11, 1968

Rec'd. Mayor's Office
Route To
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File

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ASSOCIATION COUNSEL

EDWARDS E. MERGES
*Attorney-at-Law
Norton Building*

City Council
City of Seattle
Municipal Building
Seattle, Wash. 98104

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At a session of the Executive Committee of this Organization, the following Resolution was adopted, and it was urged that you concur in our thinking for the benefit of the citizens of this city:

RESOLVED that the passage of the Forced Housing Ordinance now before the Seattle City Council, on which public hearing is to be held Friday, April 19, 1968, be indefinitely postponed. The reasons for this resolution are as follows:

1. With Federal forced housing legislation enforced throughout the Greater Seattle area, there will be no reason for Caucasians in tenancy who are now residents of this City to flee to the suburbs. This has been the pattern in every other city where forced housing was adopted on a municipal level, and either does not exist or exists in a modified form in the suburban areas.
2. The construction of new apartment buildings and new single residences will likewise be diverted in the majority of cases to the suburbs for the same reason as above. While others may not agree that the Caucasians will flee to the suburbs, we have been polling our tenants over the last week, and all indications as a result of the poll convince us that these tenants will leave the Central City and take up residence in the numerous new apartments outside the City limits. Those who have propounded integrated housing have failed to convince the residents in our apartment buildings that they should remain when the buildings become integrated. When these citizens leave our city, a great disservice will be done to those who hope to save the Central City rather than have it become one so-called enormous Negro ghetto.

We concur most heartily with the statement of our distinguished Mayor, Dorm Braman, that the Federal Bill should eliminate the immediate need for an Open Housing Law in Seattle:

"I would hope the presence of the (federal) bill would make moot the urgency for passing a local housing ordinance."

Sincerely,

APARTMENT OPERATORS ASSOCIATION
Donald C. Haas
Donald C. Haas, President

Hazel K. Bloss, Secretary