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WHEREAS, as Americans, we enjoy more political and economic freedom than any other peoples on earth, and our great nation is known around the globe for the liberty and rights enjoyed by its citizens, including the right to own or rent real property; and,

WHEREAS, home ownership is a primary source of wealth for many individuals and most families, as well as a source of stability for the community and future generations; and,

WHEREAS, we recognize that discrimination in the terms and conditions of the sale, lease, financing or insuring of real property is illegal, morally offensive and reprehensible, yet discrimination in housing continues to be a problem in our communities ; and,

WHEREAS, discrimination in housing can result in overcrowded, segregated, sub-standard, unsafe and unsanitary living conditions which can contribute to disease, crime, fire, inter-group tensions and other negative influences that place the safety, health and welfare of our communities at increased risk; and,

WHEREAS, we must work to ensure that our communities are safe and open to people of every race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation and familial status, including those who are disabled; and,

WHEREAS, the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations has worked tirelessly for 50 years to ensure that the public's rights are protected and not taken for granted; and,

WHEREAS, the PRC sets aside April of each year to celebrate the anniversary of the Fair Housing Act and to remind people of these rights and responsibilities, with 2008 being the 40th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby recognize and congratulate the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations for dedication to the citizens of the United States of America and the residents of the City of Pittsburgh in their continuing and unceasing efforts to eliminate any and all disparities in housing; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Wednesday, April 23, 2008, to be "FAIR HOUSING DAY" in the City of Pittsburgh.