

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson Proclaims April “Fair Housing Month” in Oakland County**

**PONTIAC, Mich. – April 5, 2018** – Oakland County Executive L. Brooks Patterson proclaims April as Fair Housing Month in recognition of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the Federal Fair Housing Law under the Civil Rights Act.

“Unlawful discrimination exists today, particularly in the case of families with young children – even with this landmark legislation that was passed half a century ago – so the fight against housing discrimination continues,” Patterson said. “I hope that declaration of April as Oakland County Fair Housing Month increases awareness of fair housing laws and those working to protect individuals in their search for housing of their choice.”

Fair housing laws guarantee all citizens equal opportunity in securing housing of their choice regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, age, marital status, religion, disability or family status. Laws apply to the sale, rental, financing and advertising of housing nationwide.

Karry Rieth, manager of the Oakland County Community & Home Improvement Division, said the 50-year milestone should be celebrated for the impact it has had on communities.

“The Fair Housing Act remains the foundation for the work we are doing to promote fair, inclusive housing, free from discrimination for all Oakland County residents through our housing and community development programs,” Rieth said. “Every year, Oakland County and our participating local communities work to heighten public awareness of their protected rights under fair housing laws.”

The Oakland County Community & Home Improvement Division can assist residents in cases of suspected housing discrimination. Inquiries may be directed to a housing counselor at (248) 858-1891.