



A SHORT LEGAL GUIDE

To Protections Against Landlord Discrimination Based on Lawful Source of Income

SUMMARY

A landlord's refusal to lease based on a person's lawful source of income, such as Section 8, violates the plain language of a Louisville Metro Government ordinance enacted in March 2021 that expressly outlaws any form of housing discrimination against renters based on lawful source of income.

LAW

Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances § 92.02

LAWFUL SOURCE OF INCOME. Shall include, but not be limited to, child support, alimony, foster care subsidies, income derived from social security, grants, pension, or any form of federal, state, or local public assistance or **housing assistance including, but not limited to, section 8 vouchers, or any other form of housing assistance payment** or credit whether or not such income or credit is paid or attributed directly to a landlord, and any other forms of lawful income.

Louisville Metro Code of Ordinances § 92.03(A)-(O)

It is **illegal** for a landlord to "[r]efuse to sell, purchase, exchange, rent or lease, lend or deny brokerage service or otherwise deny to or withhold any housing accommodation from a person because . . . lawful source of income." The law also states that a landlord violates Section E when they "[r]epresent to a person that any housing accommodation is not available for inspection, sale, purchase, exchange, rental, or lease when in fact it is available, or to refuse to permit a person to inspect any housing accommodation because of . . . lawful source of income." Section F specifically outlaws the posting of signs which discriminate against prospective renters based on lawful source of income.

REMEDY

If you experience housing discrimination—for example, if your landlord refuses to accept rental assistance payments made on your behalf—please contact the Legal Aid Society at (502) 584-1254, or visit yourlegalaidsociety.org to complete an online intake application. We are located in downtown Louisville at 416 W Muhammad Ali Blvd, Suite 300.