

**N.A.A.C.P.**

SEATTLE BRANCH  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE  
ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

2310 East Pine — Seattle 22, Washington

IN REPLY REFER TO \_\_\_\_\_

November 30, 1961

The Seattle City Council  
County-City Building  
Seattle, Washington

Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Seattle Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, we present for your consideration an ordinance to prohibit discrimination in the sale & rental of housing.

The 1960 census shows the Seattle Negro population to have increased to 27,000, with all the increase listed in the central district. All surveys have shown that segregated housing patterns are harmful to a city. We believe that Seattle should join the 49 other cities of the United States having city ordinances covering either all or some forms of housing, before future increases in population further aggravate the situation, and make the solution more difficult.

A few of the more urgent reasons for acting now are:

1. Seattle has now seven schools with over 50% Negro student body.
2. The State Supreme Court has just declared that the state housing legislation is unconstitutional due to its wording. The enclosed ordinance answers the courts objection.
3. In 1962 Seattle has invited the world to visit Century 21 and yet the majority of apartment owners will not accept non-caucasian tenants.

No city or nation can afford to isolate a portion of its citizens into inferior status. The housing pattern in Seattle is no better than in the the hard core Southern states.

The NAACP requests a hearing as to the needs of a housing ordinance at which time they will present evidence of the difficulties of Negroes in securing better housing, and the damage it is doing to the community.

Sincerely,

THE LEGISLATIVE AND HOUSING COMMITTEES

*Dr. James E. Moore*

*Earl V. Miller H.D.*

FULL FREEDOM BY 1983

