



Est. 1992

Coalition of Bar Associations of Color

## **RESOLUTION SUPPORTING FAIR HOUSING LEGISLATION**

Endorsed March 2015

**WHEREAS**, the Coalition of Bar Associations of Color (CBAC), organized in 1992, is a coalition created to act as a collective voice for issues of common concern to its member organizations; and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of CBAC are the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA); and

**WHEREAS**, the member organizations of CBAC are the national voices of their respective legal communities in the United States and its territories and possessions; and

**WHEREAS**, safe, decent and affordable housing is a basic human need and a fundamental source of stability in every community; and

**WHEREAS**, the opportunity for homeownership should not be abridged on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status; and

**WHEREAS**, homeownership can provide financial and physical security; and

**WHEREAS**, homeowners are more likely to be civically engaged and active in their respective communities which allows for a foundation of social responsibility; and

**WHEREAS**, low income Americans and minorities have historically faced discrimination through practices such as redlining, gentrification, and predatory lending; and

**WHEREAS**, Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968, otherwise known as the Fair Housing Act, provides a framework for protection from the injustices cited above, as such, the Fair Housing Act must be deliberately enforced; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the member associations of CBAC support legislation that (1) supports homeownership by increasing equal access for communities of color and low income families to affordable and accessible housing in neighborhoods of their choice across America; (2) addresses housing discrimination through a swift and forceful congressional response consistent with the Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Regulation issued by HUD;

(3) prevents discriminatory foreclosures and their crippling effects on communities of color and low income communities; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that CBAC also supports other efforts and laws that are consistent with this resolution; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that CBAC authorizes its officers and staff to communicate the content of this resolution to other bar associations, advocacy groups, members of Congress, the Administration, the press, and to whomever else CBAC board deems suitable to receive the information; and

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall be the policy of CBAC until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.

**CERTIFICATION**

We, the duly-elected Presidents of the Hispanic National Bar Association (HNBA), the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA), the National Bar Association (NBA), and the National Native American Bar Association (NNABA), hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was duly enacted by a duly-noticed meeting of the Coalition Bar Associations of Color.



*Cynthia Mares*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cynthia Mares  
President, Hispanic National Bar Association

\_\_\_\_\_  
3/2/2015  
Date

*George C. Chen*

\_\_\_\_\_  
George C. Chen  
President, National Asian Pacific American Bar Association

\_\_\_\_\_  
3/2/2015  
Date

*Pamela Meanes*

---

Pamela Meanes  
President, National Bar Association

3/2/2015  
Date

*Mary Smith*

---

Mary Smith  
President, National Native American Bar Association

3/2/2015  
Date