

JANUARY 5, 1959

RESOLUTION ON DISCRIMINATION IN HOUSING

(APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
TEMPLE BETH EL, PROVIDENCE)

IN KEEPING WITH THE TEACHINGS OF OUR FAITH, WE ASSERT THAT BOTH THE WELL-BEING OF THE COMMUNITY IN WHICH WE LIVE AND THE MORAL PRINCIPLES WHICH WE AVOW DEMAND THAT MEN AND WOMEN WHO DIFFER FROM US IN RACE OR COLOR OR RELIGION SHOULD NOT BE DENIED THE RIGHT TO SEEK AND TO MAKE THEIR HOMES WHEREVER THEY CHOOSE. WE THEREFORE DEPLORE THOSE DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN THE RENTING, LEASING AND BUYING OF HOMES WHICH, BY DENYING THIS BASIC RIGHT TO SOME OF OUR CITIZENS, TEND TO SEGREGATE THE NON-WHITE INHABITANTS OF THE STATE.

IN REAFFIRMING THE RESOLUTION ON HOUSING ADOPTED AT THE 44TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION OF AMERICAN HEBREW CONGREGATIONS HELD IN TORONTO IN APRIL 1957, WE URGE THAT ALL PEOPLE BE GIVEN THE RIGHT TO LIVE WHERE THEY CHOOSE. WE ASK OUR CONGREGANTS TO REFRAIN FROM DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES IN HOUSING, AND TO HELP MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR NON-WHITES TO MOVE INTO NEW NEIGHBORHOODS. WE RESPECTFULLY CALL UPON THE LEGISLATURE TO PASS BY AN OVERWHELMING VOTE THE LEGISLATION FOR FAIR HOUSING PRACTICES SUCH AS IS PROPOSED BY CITIZENS UNITED FOR A FAIR HOUSING LAW IN RHODE ISLAND.