



General Assembly

January Session, 2023

Raised Bill No. 1232

LCO No. 6102



Referred to Committee on JUDICIARY

Introduced by:
(JUD)

**AN ACT CONCERNING HOUSING DISCRIMINATION MATTERS
BEFORE THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND
OPPORTUNITIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 46a-86 of the general statutes is amended by adding
2 subsection (h) as follows (*Effective October 1, 2023*):

3 (NEW) (h) In addition to any other action taken under this section,
4 upon a finding of a discriminatory housing practice prohibited by
5 section 46a-64c, the presiding officer may assess a civil penalty payable
6 to the state against the respondent to vindicate the public interest: (1) In
7 an amount not exceeding ten thousand dollars if the respondent has not
8 been adjudged to have committed any prior discriminatory housing
9 practice; (2) in an amount not exceeding twenty-five thousand dollars if
10 the respondent has been adjudged to have committed one other
11 discriminatory housing practice during the five-year period prior to the
12 date of the filing of this complaint; and (3) in an amount not exceeding
13 fifty thousand dollars if the respondent has been adjudged to have
14 committed two or more discriminatory housing practices during the

15 seven-year period prior to the date of the filing of the complaint, except
16 that if the acts constituting the discriminatory housing practice that is
17 the object of the complaint are committed by the same natural person
18 who has been previously adjudged to have committed acts constituting
19 a discriminatory housing practice, then the civil penalties set forth in
20 subdivisions (2) and (3) of this subsection may be imposed without
21 regard to the period of time within which any subsequent
22 discriminatory housing practice occurred.

23 Sec. 2. (*Effective July 1, 2023*) The sum of two hundred seventy
24 thousand dollars is appropriated to the Commission on Human Rights
25 and Opportunities from the General Fund, for the fiscal year ending
26 June 30, 2024, for the purpose of hiring additional staff to investigate
27 claims of discriminatory housing practices that are filed with the
28 commission.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2023</i>	46a-86(h)
Sec. 2	<i>July 1, 2023</i>	New section

Statement of Purpose:

To increase the penalties for committing discriminatory housing practices and provide the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities with additional funding to hire staff assigned to investigate claims of discriminatory housing practices.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]