



Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors *Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, 4th District*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 12, 2017
Contact: Brian Rothgery, Public Information Manager
414-278-4230 or brian.rothgery@milwaukeecountywi.gov

Supervisor Dimitrijevic Proposes to Ban Housing Discrimination

MILWAUKEE – County Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic has proposed a change to Milwaukee County's Fair Housing ordinance that would protect residents from discrimination based on their receipt of rental or housing assistance, commonly known as "Section 8."

"50 years ago the fair housing marches forced Milwaukee to address the terrible reality of housing discrimination, but rampant discrimination against people who receive housing assistance continues to this day. It's time to update Milwaukee County's Fair Housing ordinance and ensure everyone has equal opportunity to access affordable housing," said Dimitrijevic.

Supervisor Dimitrijevic has proposed to add "receipt of rental or housing assistance" to the list of prohibited forms of housing discrimination already included in Milwaukee County's Fair Housing [ordinance](#).

The [proposal](#) would not require landlords to rent to people who receive federal Section 8 housing.

According to the Metropolitan Milwaukee Fair Housing Council, landlords often refuse to rent to Section 8 voucher holders as a cover to discriminate based on race, disability, sexual orientation, status as a victim of domestic abuse, or other forms of discrimination that are currently prohibited.

Dane County and the City of Madison, along with many states and municipalities around the country, already protect Section 8 voucher recipients from housing discrimination.

The Economic and Community Development committee considered the measure this morning, and will take it up again at their May meeting before it goes to the County Board for final action.

###