THE MISSION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING IS TO PROTECT THE PEOPLE OF CALIFORNIA FROM UNLAWFUL DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT, HOUSING AND PUBLIC ACCOMMODATIONS, AND FROM THE PERPETRATION OF ACTS OF HATE VIOLENCE AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

YOU ARE PROTECTED UNDER CALIFORNIA LAW

Laws enforced by the Department of Fair Employment and Housing (DFEH) protect you from illegal discrimination and harassment in housing based on:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- Sex
- Gender
- Gender identity
- Gender expression
- Sexual orientation
- Marital status
- National origin (including language use restrictions)
- Ancestry
- Familial status (households with children under age 18, individuals who are pregnant, or who are pending legal custody of a child under age 18)
- Source of income
- Disability (mental and physical, including HIV/AIDS, cancer, and genetic characteristics)
- Genetic information
- Age

If you have a disability that prevents you from submitting a written intake form on-line, by mail, or email, the DFEH can assist you by scribing your intake by phone or, for individuals who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing or have speech disabilities, through the California Relay Service (711), or call us through your VRS at (800) 884-1684 (voice).

To schedule an appointment, contact the Communication Center at (800) 884-1684 (voice or via relay operator 711) or (800) 700-2320 (TTY) or by email at contact.center@dfeh.ca.gov.

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The Department of Fair Employment and Housing has authority to perform the following:

- Enforce the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), the Ralph Civil Rights Act, the Unruh Civil Rights Act, and the Disabled Person’s Act
- Investigate harassment, discrimination, retaliation, and hate violence complaints
- Help landlords and tenants resolve complaints involving alleged violations of the laws enforced by DFEH
- Prosecute violations of the laws enforced by DFEH
- Educate Californians about the laws against discrimination, harassment, retaliation, hate violence, and human trafficking

- Refusal to sell, rent, or lease housing accommodations
- Representation that a housing accommodation is not available for inspection, sale, or rental when that accommodation is in fact available
- Denial of a home loan or homeowner’s insurance
- Provision of inferior terms, conditions, privileges, facilities or services in connection with a housing accommodation
- Sexual harassment involving unwanted sexual advances or requiring sexual favors for housing rights or privileges
- Cancellation or termination of a sale or rental agreement
- Refusal to permit, at the disabled tenant’s expense, reasonable modifications when necessary to accommodate a disability
- Refusal to make reasonable accommodations in housing rules, policies, practices, or services where necessary to afford a person with disabilities equal opportunity to use and enjoy a dwelling
- Discriminatory policies, practices, terms, or conditions that result in unequal access to housing or housing-related services

It is also illegal for cities, counties, or other local government agencies to make zoning or land-use decisions or policies that unlawfully discriminate against you based on the categories listed above.