

HAVERHILL, MASS.

JUNE 6, 1966

CONGRESSMAN WILLIAM H. BATES
HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN BATES:

I AM WRITING TO YOU IN REGARDS TO H.R. 14765, WHICH ACCORDING TO INFORMATION AVAILABLE TO ME, APPEARS TO DENY ONE OF THE RIGHT TO EXERCISE HIS FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

THOSE OF US WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REAL ESTATE BOARDS ARE NOT AGAINST OPEN OCCUPANCY OR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY TO OBTAIN HOUSING. WE FEEL THAT THIS BILL WILL RETARD THE ADVANCEMENT OF BETTER RACIAL RELATIONS BY ATTEMPTING TO DENY PEOPLE THE FREEDOM OF CHOICE.

I WISH, THEREFORE, TO VOICE MY OBJECTION TO THIS BILL.

VERY TRULY YOURS,

Judiciary (HR 14765)

June 8, 1966

Haverhill, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Davis:

I appreciate very much your letter of June 6th in which you express your opposition to that portion of H.R. 14765 dealing with real estate.

I believe that any extension of the civil rights law, in this regard, should be in accord with Massachusetts laws. In the Massachusetts laws (Massachusetts Annotated Laws, Chapter 151 B, Sections 1-10 (1951) as amended) as in the laws of numerous other states, there is this same exception to the Fair Housing Acts. This exception is also in the FHA rules and regulations as Secretary Weaver testified recently before the House Judiciary Committee.

This matter is presently pending in the Committee and I understand that it will undertake consideration of such an amendment, which I would be very happy to support.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

William H. Bates