

AN ACT

D.C. ACT 21-677

IN THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

FEBRUARY 15, 2017

To assist in the successful reintegration of those with a criminal history by removing barriers to securing adequate housing accommodations, to restrict a housing provider's inquiry into a housing applicant's pending criminal accusation or prior conviction until after a conditional offer of housing is made, to allow a housing provider to consider an applicant's pending criminal accusation or criminal conviction only if the conviction occurred during the last 7 years and only with respect to specific crimes, to ensure criminal record-screening policies achieve substantial, legitimate, non-discriminatory interests, to authorize the Office of Human Rights to adjudicate complaints filed under this act, to establish penalties, and to provide for immunity.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this act may be cited as the "Fair Criminal Record Screening for Housing Act of 2016".

Sec. 2. Definitions.

For the purposes of this act, the term:

(1) "Applicant" means any person considered for, who requests to be considered for, or who intends to request to be considered for tenancy within a housing accommodation.

(2) "Arrest" shall have the same meaning as provided in section 2(2) of the Fair Criminal Record Screening Amendment Act of 2014, effective December 17, 2014 (D.C. Law 20-152; D.C. Official Code § 32-1341(2)).

(3) "Conditional offer" means an offer to rent or lease a rental unit to an applicant that is:

(A) Contingent on the housing provider's subsequent inquiry into the applicant's criminal record; or

(B) Contingent on any other eligibility criteria that the housing provider may utilize.

(4) "Conviction" means a verdict or plea of guilty or nolo contendere.

(5) "Housing accommodation" shall have the same meaning as provided in section 103(14) of the Rental Housing Act of 1985, effective July 17, 1985 (D.C. Law 6-10; D.C. Official Code § 42-3501.03(14)).