

**McKean County Association of Realtors**  
**30 Fraley Street**  
**Kane, PA 16735**

**April 4, 2018**

## **Fair Housing Act Marks 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**MCKEAN COUNTY** – This year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fair Housing Act.

The act, signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1968, is recognized each April. It prohibits discrimination against homebuyers or renters due to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability. Realtors® have a strong hand in ensuring fair housing for all.

“The Fair Housing Act changed the housing industry half of a century ago,” said McKean County Association of Realtors® Vice- President Kevin McMurtrie. “Realtors® pride themselves in following the act, along the National Association of Realtors® Code of Ethics, providing an opportunity for housing for all.”

On the other hand, homebuyers searching for their dream home should not ask Realtors® about these same demographics, such as the race, schools or religion, of a neighborhood.

“Some homebuyers simply don’t realize it is illegal for a Realtor® to give this information,” McMurtrie said. “The Fair Housing Act prevents Realtors® from providing this information, as it may steer some homebuyers toward or away from certain neighborhoods. The Fair Housing Act gives everyone the opportunity to live where they choose to regardless of race, religion, sex or disability status, so they can achieve the American dream of homeownership.”

If consumers believe they have experienced a fair housing issue, they should contact the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission at [phrc.pa.gov](http://phrc.pa.gov).

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*The McKean County Association of Realtors® is the voice for real estate in McKean County.*