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Providence Monthly Meeting of Friends

Jeanette A. Smith

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To whom it may concern:

Providence Monthly Meeting of Friends in regular session February 5, 1959, adopted the following minute:

We support Bill No. S-31, H-1037, now pending in the Rhode Island General Assembly, pertaining to fair housing. We believe that no man should meet hindrance in his search for his own full development. Discrimination on account of race, religion or national origin, is wrong in the sight of God and man.

The proposed bill would make it a policy of the State that all should have "equal opportunity to live in decent, safe, sanitary and healthful living quarters in order that the peace, health, safety and general welfare of all the inhabitants of the State may be protected and insured."

The present Rhode Island Commission against discrimination would have power to investigate complaints and to seek compliance through conference, persuasion and conciliation.

We believe that such legislation would help realtors to give equal treatment to those who want to buy or rent. We believe that the legislation would work against slums growing out of restricted areas, and the concomitant evils growing out of slums. Such legislation would also set a policy of fairness in the state which would help the individual obtain housing in keeping with his economic ability.

Jeannette A. Smith
Recording Clerk