



March 9, 2022

Senate Judiciary Committee  
Colorado General Assembly

**RE: HB22-1102 – Veterans and Military Status in Fair Housing**

Dear Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee:

My name is Kathy Smith, and I am a member of the League of Women Voters of Colorado's Legislative Action Committee. **I am writing in support of HB22-1102, on behalf of the League's Legislative Action Committee.**

The League is a nonpartisan organization that encourages informed and active participation in government and influences public policy through education and advocacy. Our membership spans the state of Colorado with 19 local leagues operating in several regions of the state. The League supports policies to provide a decent home and a suitable living environment for every American family, programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and promote self-sufficiency, and measures that strengthen equal access to housing.

Currently, Colorado law does not provide legal protections for persons who have been denied housing because of their veteran or military status. The Colorado Anti-Discrimination Act does provide legal protections based on disability, race, creed, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, familial status, national origin, ancestry, or source of income. Colorado's fair housing law needs to be amended to include veteran and military status as a protected class. At least ten other states have amended their fair housing laws to protect veterans and servicemembers from housing discrimination. Housing discrimination puts veterans at increased risk of housing instability, and at least 9% of Coloradans experiencing homelessness have served in one of our nation's military branches.

We urge the committee members to vote YES on HB22-1102. Thank you for your consideration of this important bill.

Respectfully,  
Kathy Smith, Volunteer Lobbyist  
League of Women Voters of Colorado Legislative Action Committee  
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