



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MICHAEL J. DUNLEAVY

Office of the Governor

COMMISSION FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

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RESOLUTION 2023-06

Encouraging the Alaska Pioneer Homes to Voluntarily Retrofit Facilities to Meet Current Americans with Disabilities Act Requirements

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights is the State of Alaska's civil rights enforcement agency; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights enforces the Alaska Human Rights Act, AS 18.80 *et seq.*; and,

WHEREAS, the Alaska Pioneer Homes have a storied history of providing a home and community to senior citizens of Alaska and currently serve almost 500 elders; and,

WHEREAS, section 12182 of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires that, "No individual shall be discriminated against on the basis of disability in the full and equal enjoyment of the goods, services, privileges, advantages, or accommodations of any place or public accommodation by any person who owns, leases (or leases to), or operates a place of public accommodation;" and,

WHEREAS, in furtherance of these goals, the federal government has enacted many regulations on construction of buildings of public accommodation covering aspects including the height of light switches, the number of dedicated handicapped parking spaces, and the labelling of elevator buttons, etc.; and,

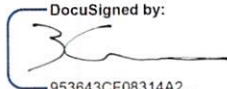
WHEREAS, these federally promulgated ADA regulations contain a variety of exemptions and "safe harbors" from their enforcement that can be acquired based on compliance on earlier lesser standards or the historic nature of the buildings; and,

WHEREAS, the various Pioneer Homes likely qualify for a number of these ADA regulation exemptions and therefore may legally have facilities that are not up to the highest accessibility standards.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Commission for Human Rights calls upon the Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes to voluntarily retrofit their facilities to meet the highest standards required under the Americans with Disabilities Act regulations.

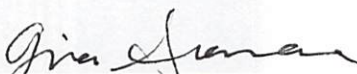
Copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to Central Office of the Division of Alaska Pioneer Homes, and the Alaska Division of Senior and Disability Services.

ADOPTED in Anchorage, Alaska, this 22nd day of August, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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Zackary Gottshall
Chairperson
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution 2023-06 is a true and accurate copy of the language adopted by the Commission on August 22, 2023.



Gina Aumuvae
Secretary
Alaska State Commission for Human Rights