



To our fellow North Carolinians:

The State of North Carolina is conducting a study concerning fair housing compliance and impediments to fair housing choice throughout the state. This study will analyze mortgage application data, fair housing complaints and the fair housing service delivery system, as well as any media reports regarding fair housing. The study also depends on the opinions and experiences of people who are knowledgeable about housing and fair housing compliance issues — people like you.

Known as the “Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice,” the study is required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The goal of the research is to identify whether barriers and adverse policies exist in a variety of areas, including housing rentals and sales, banking, insurance, and real estate industries. The study also examines public and administrative policies that may inadvertently lead to discrimination against protected classes.

Western Economic Services (WES), the firm conducting the study on behalf of the state, is addressing these fair housing concerns in North Carolina. WES has prepared an online survey for you to complete at your convenience. It is located at this link:

<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/859FBT9>

This survey should take less than 10 minutes and is related to impediments to fair housing choice in your community. Your input concerning fair housing is essential to ensuring thorough representation of the views held by those in the housing industry. We urge your participation in this important research. Comments gathered during this survey will be combined in a single narrative for inclusion in the Analysis of Impediments. Your comments will remain anonymous.

We need the expertise of people like you to help North Carolina continue to provide fair housing for all of the state’s residents. I realize that you are very busy, but I hope you’ll have the time to participate in this important study. Please feel free to forward this e-mail and the online survey link to any other people you feel would like to participate in this research.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Gloria Nance-Sims, Director
North Carolina Division of Community Assistance