

Commission on Human Rights

The Kentucky Civil Rights Act guarantees equal treatment for everyone by businesses that serve the public

Press Release Date: Friday, November 20, 2015
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For help with discrimination, contact commission headquarters:
1.800.292.5566

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights has published a new online brochure that explains the rights everyone has to equal treatment and equal enjoyment of goods and services in stores, restaurants, hotels and all businesses serving the public.

Such places are referred to in the U.S. and Kentucky Civil Rights acts as 'public accommodations.'

The national and state civil rights acts make it unlawful for a place of public accommodation, resort or amusement to refuse or deny the full and equal enjoyment of goods, facilities and accommodations to any person because of his or her color, sex, disability, national origin, race or religion.

The laws also apply to any facility supported directly or indirectly by government funds.

Discrimination is defined in the Kentucky Civil Rights Act (Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 344) as any direct or indirect act or practice of exclusion, distinction, restriction, segregation, limitation, refusal, denial, or any other act or practice of differentiation or preference in the treatment of a person or persons, or the aiding, abetting, inciting, coercing, or compelling thereof made unlawful under this law.

In advertising goods and services provided by places of public accommodations, it is against the law to indicate that the goods, services, facilities, privileges, advantages, and accommodations of the place will be withheld from or denied individuals on account of disability, race, color, religion, or national origin, or that the patronage of, or presence at the public accommodation of an individual, on account of disability, race, color, religion, or national origin is objectionable, unwelcome, unacceptable, or undesirable.

To read or print the brochure, follow this link:

<http://kchr.ky.gov/reports/Pages/publicaccommodation.aspx>

The Kentucky Commission on Human Rights is the state government authority that enforces the Kentucky Civil Rights Act (Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 344), and, through its affiliations with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, enforces federal civil rights laws.

The Kentucky Civil Rights Act makes it unlawful to discriminate against people in the areas of employment, financial transactions, housing and public accommodations. Discrimination is prohibited in the aforementioned areas based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, and disability. In employment, discrimination is further prohibited on the basis of age (40-years and over) and on the basis of tobacco-smoking status. In housing, discrimination is further prohibited based on familial status, which protects people with children in the household under the age of 18-years old, and it protects women who are pregnant. It is also a violation of the law to retaliate against a person for complaining of discrimination to the commission.

For help with discrimination, contact the commission at 1.800.292.5566. For information about the commission and civil rights, visit the website at www.kchr.ky.gov

For news about civil rights and information pertaining to protected classes, visit the Kentucky Commission on Human Rights Facebook and Twitter sites. Directly link to the sites from the commission website address listed above.