5 Things You Should Know About Disability Discrimination in Housing

- **1** Having a disability cannot keep you from owning or renting property. The New Jersey Law Against Discrimination (LAD) prevents housing providers from discriminating and harassing current and potential tenants based on a disability when trying to sell, rent, or purchase property. Housing providers include landlords, condominium boards, and homeowners' associations.
- 2 You cannot be denied housing because of your disability. It is illegal for housing providers to prevent you from renting or buying property because of your disability. For example, a landlord cannot refuse your rental application because you use a service dog.
- 3 You cannot be required to satisfy different or extra conditions to obtain housing because of your disability. For example, housing providers cannot charge you extra rent, charge a fee for a reasonable accommodation, require extra insurance, or shorten your lease because of your disability. Landlords cannot ask for information about your disability as a condition of your lease.
- 4 You cannot be evicted because of your disability. A landlord cannot use your disability or a family member's disability as a reason to evict you. For example, a landlord cannot evict you because of your child's disability or refuse to renew your lease because you need a service dog.
- 5 Housing providers must make reasonable accommodations for your disability unless doing so would be unduly burdensome to the housing provider. Accommodations may include changing the monthly rent date to accommodate when disability checks are received or allowing changes to a unit needed to accommodate your disability. If the housing provider refuses, they must establish that an accommodation would be an undue burden.

To find out more or to file a complaint, go to NJCivilRights.gov or call 1.833.NJDCR4U. The Division on Civil Rights (DCR) enforces the LAD, which protects all people from discrimination in NJ regardless of immigration status. To learn more, click <u>here</u>.

The LAD protects you against retaliation. No one can retaliate against you for reporting possible LAD violations; filing a discrimination complaint internally, with DCR, or in court; or exercising any other rights under the LAD.

Available in other languages on the <u>Resources section</u> of DCR's website.

To find out more or to file a complaint, go to NJCivilRights.gov or call 1.833.NJDCR4U



NJ Office of the Attorney General

CivilRights.gov

