

City's Stand Restated On Fair Housing

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Potter Cites State
Role In Letter
To Legislators

Mayor Potter today reaffirmed City Council's decision to let the General Assembly take the lead in enacting fair housing legislation.

In separate letters to four Toledo legislators, the mayor said that, if the General Assembly fails to recognize its responsibilities in the area of fair housing legislation, Toledo will take appropriate action.

He added, however, that fair housing is primarily a matter of state-wide concern.

The mayor's letter was in reply to one urging Toledo to enact a local fair housing ordinance. The letter was signed by State Reps. William Donovan, James Holzheimer, Samuel Jones III, and Marigene Valiquette.

The four legislators said they agreed fair housing can best be handled at the state level, but added that they feel Toledo has a moral obligation to enact a strong fair housing ordinance.

Even if fair housing bill is enacted by the General Assembly, there is no assurance it will be adequate for large municipalities and should a state fair housing bill fail, it might seriously impede passage of local ordinances, the legislators added.

Mayor Potter, however, said he feels that action by Toledo at this time might impede action by the General Assembly.

City Council earlier this month placed itself on record as supporting passage of a state-wide fair housing law. It was this action that prompted the letter from the four representatives.