

An Ordinance to Amend Section 8:525 of Chapter 105, Housing Code, of Title VIII of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor.

The City of Ann Arbor Ordains:

Section 1: That Section 8:525 of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor be amended to read as follows:

8:525. - Information concerning tenants rights.

(1) The city shall provide the City Clerk with booklets explaining the rights of tenants under city and state law. The City Clerk shall make such booklets available to local landlords and their agents to pick up at the Clerk's office without charge for distribution by local landlords to tenants and prospective tenants. In the event the Clerk makes available to local landlords sufficient copies of the booklet to permit those landlords to comply with this section, no owner of rental property located in Ann Arbor or agent of such an owner shall lease or contract to lease such property without furnishing to the tenant, before the time of leasing or contracting, a copy of said booklet. In the event a housing unit is being leased to more than 1 tenant, it shall be sufficient to offer a single booklet for each housing unit. In the event the lease or contract to lease is accomplished by mail, rather than face to face, the booklet shall be furnished the tenant by mail. A landlord shall be deemed to have furnished a tenant a copy of the booklet if the landlord mails it to him or proffers a copy of the booklet to the tenant face to face, whether or not the tenant chooses to receive the booklet. For purposes of this section, the renewal of a lease shall be considered the same as the making of a new lease; however, if a landlord has previously furnished the tenant or tenants of a unit with a copy of the booklet, the landlord is not required to furnish another copy upon lease renewal. This section shall only apply to leasing and contract to lease transactions entered into 30 calendar days after the City Clerk has published in a newspaper of general circulation in Ann Arbor a notice to landlords informing them of this section and of the availability of said booklets at the Clerk's office. The Clerk shall publish such notice promptly upon receipt of such booklets from the City of Ann Arbor.

(2) At the same time an owner or agent of an owner furnishes a tenant with the booklet explaining the rights of tenants under city and state law required in subsection 1 above, each tenant shall also be provided by the landlord with specific information on how to register to vote and the requirements to register, notice that election information and further registration information is available on the Secretary of State's website as well as the City's website through the City Clerk's webpage and a copy of the State of Michigan Voter Registration Application. The City Clerk shall make available without charge for distribution by local landlords to tenant and prospective tenants copies of State of Michigan Voter Registration Application and the above election information on registration. The City Clerk may incorporate the election information as part of the above tenants' booklet or it may be produced separately.

(3) This section shall apply only to residential leases. Violations of this section shall be punishable by a fine up to \$500 but may not be punished by jail.

(4) The failure of an owner or owner's agent to do any act required by this section shall not be construed to affect the validity of the lease or the enforcement of any of the lease provisions.

Section 2. Severability. In the event any court of competent jurisdiction shall hold any provision of this Ordinance invalid or unenforceable, such holding shall not invalidate or render unenforceable any other provision thereof.

Section 3: Effective Date. This Ordinance shall take effect on August 1, 2017.