

Resolution in Support of Adding Section 8:532 to Chapter 105 (Housing Code) of Title VIII (Building Regulations) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor

Whereas, The City of Ann Arbor Renters Commission is committed to promoting equitable housing practices and protecting renters from unnecessary financial burdens;

Whereas, Pre-tenancy fees, beyond those directly related to the rental application process, create financial barriers for renters and disproportionately affect those with limited resources;

Whereas, The proposed addition of Section 8:532 to Chapter 105 of Title VIII of the City Code will limit pre-tenancy fees to only rental application fees, ensuring greater fairness in the rental process;

Whereas, The proposed amendment will also require landlords to refund rental application fees within 60 days if the applicant is not offered a lease, further safeguarding renters' rights and ensuring transparency in the rental process;

Whereas, The Renters Commission recognizes the significance of this amendment in reducing exploitative practices and fostering trust between tenants and landlords;

Resolved, That the Ann Arbor Renters Commission strongly supports the addition of Section 8:532 to Chapter 105 (Housing Code) of Title VIII (Building Regulations) of the Code of the City of Ann Arbor, which addresses pre-tenancy fees and provides protections for renters;

Resolved, That the Renters Commission urges City Council to adopt this amendment promptly to ensure that renters in Ann Arbor are not subject to excessive or unfair fees during the rental application process;

Resolved, That the Renters Commission commits to educating the public about the importance and implications of this amendment and to collaborating with City Council and city staff to support its implementation;

Resolved, That the Renters Commission will forward this resolution to the Ann Arbor City Council and request that it be included in the Council's upcoming agenda for consideration.