

This meeting is being held in accordance to Governor Hochul's signed legislation allowing municipalities to resume remote meetings. If the legislation is revoked, then it will be an in-person meeting. Please stay up to date with the status of our meetings by going to our website and following us on Facebook. We encourage residents to continue participating. Constituents can provide public comment on our new public comment line 518-694-3987, by email commoncouncil@albanyny.gov or the form on our website <https://www.albanyny.gov/Government/CityOfficials/CommonCouncil.aspx>. These comments will be shared with members and/ or read for the record at the meeting, posted on our website and Facebook. Constituents may also register to speak during the meeting and you will be provided with the zoom credentials if it is your intent to speak email us at commoncouncil@albanyny.gov



**COMMON COUNCIL MEETING
LAW, BUILDINGS, AND CODE ENFORCEMENT
Ginnie Farrell, Chair**

DATE: MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

TIME: 5:30 PM

LOCATION: VIRTUALLY ON ZOOM

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- **Local Law H of 2022**

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO CREATING A PUBLIC CODE VIOLATION DATABASE

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: YES

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Council Member(s) Romero, Kimbrough, Farrell, and Anane introduced the following:

LOCAL LAW H of 2022

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO CREATING A PUBLIC CODE VIOLATION DATABASE

Be it enacted by the Common Council of the City of Albany as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 231 (Housing) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is amended by adding a new Part 5 to be titled "Online Portfolio of Registered Property Owners" to read as follows:

§ 231-137 Purpose and scope.

The purpose and scope of this part is to provide tenants of the City of Albany at large with the tools and resources to be knowledgeable and informed residents. This Part provides transparency, and empowers tenants to protect their housing rights and help make the right choice when choosing a property to rent. Finally, this Part will help landlords by incentivizing remediation of potential code violations.

§ 231-138 Database information.

A. The Department of Building and Regulatory Compliance (hereinafter "the Department") shall maintain, through the Department's website, a publicly-accessible electronic interface that reports code violation and complaint information based on the name of the property owner and the address of the property. This interface shall include:

- (1) The mailing address of each registered property owned by such registered owner;
- (2) The name of the corporate entity associated with the property owner, if applicable;
- (3) The nature of all code violations that have occurred at the property, including the date issues, opened, resolved, and for each action taken on each violation:
 - (a) The inspector that observed or acted on the violation;
 - (b) The date and time such action was taken; and
 - (c) The proposed next step to remediate the alleged violation;

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- (4) The number of violation complaints involving the property;
- (5) All former health and safety violations, including the date issued, opened, and resolved;
- (6) A list of current and prior owners
- (7) Any and all judgements for evictions executed by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Section 2. This Local Law shall take effect 120 days after passage, public hearing, and filing with the Secretary of State.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
10TH DAY OF JUNE, 2022**

Corporation Counsel

To: Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk

From: Gabriella Romero, Council Member 6th Ward

Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum

Date: June 8, 2022

Sponsor: Council Member Romero

LOCAL LAW H OF 2022

TITLE

A LOCAL LAW AMENDING CHAPTER 231 (HOUSING) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY IN RELATION TO CREATING A PUBLIC CODE VIOLATION DATABASE

GENERAL PURPOSE OF THE LEGISLATION

Local Law H of 2022 would require the Department of Building and Compliance to create a publicly-accessible interface to view past and pending violations of Albany City Code for each property in the City of Albany.

NECESSITY OF LEGISLATION AND CHANGES TO EXISTING LAW

With this database, tenants and prospective homeowners will have the tools and resources to see and understand potential unsafe and unfit conditions. The bill continues a trend of transparency for the residents of the City of Albany, and empowers tenants to protect their housing rights. This will also protect property owners and landlords, to provide a real-time update on the progress of their remedial updates.

The Department of Building and Compliance is updating their internal software and will be able to provide a public interface to the City of Albany. This legislation will save the City and the Department time and labor completing FOIL requests, as all information will be publicly available.

FISCAL IMPACT

De minimis.