

2005

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

January 14, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. ROSENTHAL, SILVER, BRENNAN, V. LOPEZ, LENTOL, WRIGHT, JEFFRIES, BING, LATIMER, CAMARA, BROOK-KRASNY, PERALTA, BOYLAND, KELLNER, LANCMAN, SCHIMEL, MAISEL, KAVANAGH, GOTTFRIED, DINOWITZ, MILLMAN, MAYERSOHN, POWELL, LAVINE, COLTON, NOLAN, O'DONNELL, TITUS, FARRELL, ORTIZ, ESPAILLAT, BENEDETTO, HOOPER, JACOBS, ROBINSON, N. RIVERA, ZEBROWSKI, GLICK, SPANO, BENJAMIN, TOWNS, CASTRO -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BARRON, BRODSKY, COOK, HEASTIE, JAFFEE, MARKEY, MENG, PEOPLES-STOKES, PERRY, PHEFFER, PRETLOW, J. RIVERA, SCARBOROUGH, WEISENBERG -- read once and referred to the Committee on Housing

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York and the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four, in relation to making conforming technical changes; and to repeal paragraph 13 of subdivision a of section 5 of section 4 of chapter 576 of the laws of 1974 constituting the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four, paragraph (n) of subdivision 2 of section 2 of chapter 274 of the laws of 1946, constituting the emergency housing rent control law, and section 26-504.2 and subparagraph (k) of paragraph 2 of subdivision e of section 26-403 of the administrative code of the city of New York, relating to vacancy decontrol

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 Section 1. Legislative findings and declaration of emergency. The
2 legislature hereby finds and declares that the serious public emergency
3 which led to the enactment of the existing laws regulating residential
4 rents and evictions continues to exist; that such laws would better
5 serve the public interest if certain changes were made thereto, includ-
6 ing the continued regulation of certain housing accommodations that
7 become vacant and the reinstatement of regulation of certain housing
8 accommodations that have been deregulated upon vacancy.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets
[] is old law to be omitted.

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1 The legislature further recognizes that severe disruption of the
2 rental housing market has occurred and threatens to be exacerbated as a
3 result of the present state of the law in relation to the deregulation
4 of housing accommodations upon vacancy. The situation has permitted
5 speculative and profiteering practices and has brought about the loss of
6 vital and irreplaceable affordable housing for working persons and fami-
7 lies.

8 The legislature therefore declares that in order to prevent uncertain-
9 ty, potential hardship and dislocation of tenants living in housing
10 accommodations subject to government regulations as to rentals and
11 continued occupancy as well as those not subject to such regulation, the
12 provisions of this act are necessary to protect the public health, safe-
13 ty and general welfare. The necessity in the public interest for the
14 provisions hereinafter enacted is hereby declared as a matter of legis-
15 lative determination.

16 S 2. Paragraph (n) of subdivision 2 of section 2 of chapter 274 of the
17 laws of 1946, constituting the emergency housing rent control law, is
18 REPEALED.

19 S 3. Paragraph 13 of subdivision a of section 5 of section 4 of chap-
20 ter 576 of the laws of 1974, constituting the emergency tenant
21 protection act of nineteen seventy-four, is REPEALED.

22 S 4. Subparagraph (k) of paragraph 2 of subdivision e of section
23 26-403 of the administrative code of the city of New York is REPEALED.

24 S 5. Section 26-504.2 of the administrative code of the city of New
25 York is REPEALED.

26 S 6. Any housing accommodations that on or after January 1, 2007 were
27 excluded from coverage from the emergency tenant protection act of nine-
28 teen seventy-four, the emergency housing rent control law or the admin-
29 istrative code of the city of New York pursuant to the provisions of law
30 repealed by sections two, three, four and five of this act shall be
31 subject to the provisions of such act, law or administrative code,
32 respectively. Notwithstanding the provisions of any lease or rental
33 agreement, the legal regulated rent or maximum collectible rent of any
34 housing accommodation excluded from regulation on or after January 1,
35 2007 by reason of the provisions repealed by sections two, three, four
36 and five of this act shall be the legal regulated rent or maximum
37 collectible rent applicable to such accommodation on December 31, 2006,
38 subject to further adjustment in accordance with applicable provisions
39 of law.

40 S 7. Any housing accommodations that prior to January 1, 2007 were
41 excluded from coverage from the emergency tenant protection act of nine-
42 teen seventy-four, the emergency housing rent control law or the admin-
43 istrative code of the city of New York pursuant to the provisions of law
44 repealed by sections two, three, four, and five of this act, and where
45 such housing accommodations were located outside the city of New York
46 and were rented to a tenant on or after January 1, 2007 for less than
47 \$3,500 per month or were located within the city of New York and were
48 rented to a tenant on or after January 1, 2007 for less than \$5,000.00
49 per month, shall be subject to the provisions of such act, law or admin-
50 istrative code, respectively. Notwithstanding the provisions of any
51 lease or rental agreement, the legal regulated rent or maximum collect-
52 ible rent of any housing accommodation excluded from regulation prior to
53 January 1, 2007 by reason of the provisions repealed by sections two,
54 three, four and five of this act and made subject to regulation shall be
55 the actual rent applicable to such accommodations on January 1, 2007 or
56 the first rent applicable to such accommodation after January 1, 2007,

1 subject to further adjustment in accordance with applicable provisions
2 of law.

3 S 8. Paragraph 14 of subdivision c of section 26-511 of the adminis-
4 trative code of the city of New York, as added by chapter 82 of the laws
5 of 2003, is amended to read as follows:

6 (14) provides that where the amount of rent charged to and paid by the
7 tenant is less than the legal regulated rent for the housing accommo-
8 dation, the amount of rent for such housing accommodation which may be
9 charged upon renewal or upon vacancy thereof may, at the option of the
10 owner, be based upon such previously established legal regulated rent,
11 as adjusted by the most recent applicable guidelines increases and any
12 other increases authorized by law. [Where, subsequent to vacancy, such
13 legal regulated rent, as adjusted by the most recent applicable guide-
14 lines increases and any other increases authorized by law is two thou-
15 sand dollars or more per month, such housing accommodation shall be
16 excluded from the provisions of this law pursuant to section 26-504.2 of
17 this chapter.]

18 S 9. Subdivision a-2 of section 10 of section 4 of chapter 576 of the
19 laws of 1974 constituting the emergency tenant protection act of nine-
20 teen seventy-four, as added by chapter 82 of the laws of 2003, is
21 amended to read as follows:

22 a-2. Provides that where the amount of rent charged to and paid by the
23 tenant is less than the legal regulated rent for the housing accommo-
24 dation, the amount of rent for such housing accommodation which may be
25 charged upon renewal or upon vacancy thereof may, at the option of the
26 owner, be based upon such previously established legal regulated rent,
27 as adjusted by the most recent applicable guidelines increases and other
28 increases authorized by law. [Where, subsequent to vacancy, such legal
29 regulated rent, as adjusted by the most recent applicable guidelines
30 increases and any other increases authorized by law is two thousand
31 dollars or more per month, such housing accommodation shall be excluded
32 from the provisions of this act pursuant to paragraph thirteen of subdi-
33 vision a of section five of this act.]

34 S 10. This act shall take effect immediately; provided, however, that:

35 (a) the amendments to section 26-511 of chapter 4 of title 26 of the
36 administrative code of the city of New York made by section eight of
37 this act shall expire on the same date as such law expires and shall not
38 affect the expiration of such law as provided under section 26-520 of
39 such law; and

40 (b) the amendments to subdivision a-2 of section 10 of section 4 of
41 the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four made by
42 section nine of this act shall expire on the same date as such act
43 expires and shall not affect the expiration of such act as provided in
44 section 17 of chapter 576 of the laws of 1974.