

6054

2015-2016 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 11, 2015

Introduced by M. of A. KAVANAGH, O'DONNELL, GLICK, PERRY, WEPRIN, WRIGHT, ORTIZ, TITUS, MOSLEY, GOTTFRIED, MAYER, SILVER, FARRELL, AUBRY -- Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. BRENNAN, BROOK-KRASNY, CLARK, COOK, CYMBROWITZ, DINOWITZ, HOOPER, LENTOL -- read once and referred to the Committee on Housing

AN ACT to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, the emergency tenant protection act of nineteen seventy-four and the emergency housing rent control law in relation to approval of major capital improvement rent increases and in relation to extending the length of time over which major capital improvement expenses may be recovered

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

1 Section 1. Subparagraph (g) of paragraph 1 of subdivision g of section
2 26-405 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by
3 chapter 749 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:
4 (g) (I) COLLECTION OF SURCHARGES TO THE MAXIMUM RENT AUTHORIZED PURSU-
5 ANT TO ITEM (II) OF THIS SUBPARAGRAPH SHALL CEASE WHEN THE OWNER HAS
6 RECOVERED THE COST OF THE MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT;
7 (II) There has been since July first, nineteen hundred seventy, a
8 major capital improvement [required for the operation, preservation or
9 maintenance of the structure. An adjustment under this subparagraph (g)
10 shall be in an amount sufficient to amortize the cost of the improve-
11 ments pursuant to this subparagraph (g) over a seven-year period];
12 PROVIDED THAT THE COMMISSIONER FIRST FINDS THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE
13 DEEMED DEPRECIABLE UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SUCH IMPROVEMENTS
14 ARE REQUIRED FOR THE OPERATION OR PRESERVATION OF THE STRUCTURE. HOWEV-
15 ER, NO MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE WILL BE APPROVED BY THE
16 DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL UNLESS THE WORK PERFORMED IS
17 AN ENHANCEMENT OR UPGRADE TO A HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OR SERVICE THEREIN;
18 OR IS AN ADDITION TO SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION AND OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE
19 ACCORDING TO THE PREREQUISITES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT

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

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1 INCREASES. ANY REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT INTENDED TO MAINTAIN AN EXISTING
2 SERVICE SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT
3 INCREASE. NO APPLICATION FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE
4 MAY BE APPROVED IF THERE EXIST ANY OUTSTANDING HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS AT
5 THE TIME OF THE CONSIDERATION OF SUCH APPLICATION, AS DETERMINED PURSU-
6 ANT TO REGULATIONS OF THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL OR
7 ANY AGENCY ADMINISTERING AND ENFORCING A BUILDING CODE IN THE JURISDIC-
8 TION IN WHICH THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED, UNLESS IT IS DETERMINED BY THE
9 DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL THAT SUCH WORK IS ESSENTIAL TO
10 THE ALLEVIATION OF THE VIOLATIONS AND SUCH APPROVAL IS CONSISTENT WITH
11 THE PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY OR GOOD
12 CAUSE, THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SHALL FILE, NOT LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS
13 BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE IMPROVEMENT, WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING
14 AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL A STATEMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION OUTLINING THE
15 SCOPE OF WORK, EXPECTED DATE OF COMPLETION FOR SUCH WORK AND AN AFFIDA-
16 VIT SETTING FORTH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: (A) EVERY OWNER OF RECORD
17 AND OWNER OF A SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY OR ENTITY OWNING THE
18 PROPERTY OR SPONSORING THE IMPROVEMENT; AND (B) A STATEMENT THAT NONE OF
19 SUCH PERSONS HAD, WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE IMPROVEMENT, BEEN
20 FOUND TO HAVE HARASSED OR UNLAWFULLY EVICTED TENANTS BY JUDGMENT OR
21 DETERMINATION OF A COURT OR AGENCY UNDER THE PENAL LAW, ANY STATE OR
22 LOCAL LAW REGULATING RENTS OR ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW RELATING TO HARASS-
23 MENT OF TENANTS OR UNLAWFUL EVICTION. UPON RECEIPT OF THE SCOPE OF WORK
24 AND AFFIDAVIT PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY
25 RENEWAL SHALL PROVIDE THE TENANTS IN OCCUPANCY IN SUCH BUILDINGS WITH
26 SUCH INFORMATION. THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL,
27 IN ADDITION, IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ELICIT-
28 ING TENANT COMMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REHA-
29 BILITATION WORK HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. NO MAJOR CAPITAL
30 IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL ANY DEFECTIVE OR
31 DEFICIENT REHABILITATION WORK HAS BEEN CURED. THE INCREASE PERMITTED FOR
32 SUCH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE COLLECTED AS A MONTHLY SURCHARGE TO
33 THE MAXIMUM RENT. IT SHALL BE SEPARATELY DESIGNATED AND BILLED AS SUCH
34 AND SHALL NOT BE COMPOUNDED BY ANY OTHER ADJUSTMENT TO THE MAXIMUM RENT.
35 THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO EACH APARTMENT SHALL BE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO
36 THE COST OF THE IMPROVEMENT DIVIDED BY EIGHTY-FOUR, DIVIDED BY THE
37 NUMBER OF ROOMS IN THE BUILDING, AND THEN MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF
38 ROOMS IN SUCH APARTMENT; PROVIDED THAT THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO ANY
39 APARTMENT IN ANY ONE YEAR MAY NOT EXCEED AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIX PERCENT
40 OF THE MONTHLY RENT COLLECTED BY THE OWNER FOR SUCH APARTMENT AS SET
41 FORTH IN THE SCHEDULE OF GROSS RENTS. ANY EXCESS ABOVE SAID SIX PERCENT
42 SHALL BE CARRIED FORWARD AND COLLECTED IN FUTURE YEARS AS A FURTHER
43 SURCHARGE NOT TO EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL SIX PERCENT IN ANY ONE YEAR PERIOD
44 UNTIL THE TOTAL SURCHARGE EQUALS THE AMOUNT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE
45 AFOREMENTIONED SIX PERCENT LIMITATION DID NOT APPLY; or

46 S 2. Subparagraph (k) of paragraph 1 of subdivision g of section
47 26-405 of the administrative code of the city of New York, as amended by
48 chapter 749 of the laws of 1990, is amended to read as follows:

49 (k) The landlord has incurred, since January first, nineteen hundred
50 seventy, in connection with and in addition to a concurrent major capi-
51 tal improvement pursuant to subparagraph (g) of this paragraph, other
52 expenditures to improve, restore or preserve the quality of the struc-
53 ture. An adjustment under this subparagraph shall be granted only if
54 such improvements represent an expenditure equal to at least ten per
55 centum of the total operating and maintenance expenses for the preceding
56 year. An adjustment under this subparagraph shall be in addition to any

1 adjustment granted for the concurrent major capital improvement and
2 shall be [in an amount sufficient to amortize the cost of the improve-
3 ments pursuant to this subparagraph over a seven-year period] IMPLI-
4 MENTED IN THE SAME MANNER AS SUCH MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT AS A FURTHER
5 SURCHARGE TO THE MAXIMUM RENT.

6 S 3. Paragraph 6 of subdivision c of section 26-511 of the administra-
7 tive code of the city of New York, as amended by chapter 116 of the laws
8 of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

9 (6) provides criteria whereby the commissioner may act upon applica-
10 tions by owners for increases in excess of the level of fair rent
11 increase established under this law provided, however, that such crite-
12 ria shall provide [(a) as] IN REGARD to hardship applications, for a
13 finding that the level of fair rent increase is not sufficient to enable
14 the owner to maintain approximately the same average annual net income
15 (which shall be computed without regard to debt service, financing costs
16 or management fees) for the three year period ending on or within six
17 months of the date of an application pursuant to such criteria as
18 compared with annual net income, which prevailed on the average over the
19 period nineteen hundred sixty-eight through nineteen hundred seventy, or
20 for the first three years of operation if the building was completed
21 since nineteen hundred sixty-eight or for the first three fiscal years
22 after a transfer of title to a new owner provided the new owner can
23 establish to the satisfaction of the commissioner that he or she
24 acquired title to the building as a result of a bona fide sale of the
25 entire building and that the new owner is unable to obtain requisite
26 records for the fiscal years nineteen hundred sixty-eight through nine-
27 teen hundred seventy despite diligent efforts to obtain same from prede-
28 cessors in title and further provided that the new owner can provide
29 financial data covering a minimum of six years under his or her contin-
30 uous and uninterrupted operation of the building to meet the three year
31 to three year comparative test periods herein provided[; and (b) as to
32 completed building-wide major capital improvements, for a finding that
33 such improvements are deemed depreciable under the Internal Revenue Code
34 and that the cost is to be amortized over a seven-year period, based
35 upon cash purchase price exclusive of interest or service charges].
36 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, no hardship
37 increase granted pursuant to this paragraph shall, when added to the
38 annual gross rents, as determined by the commissioner, exceed the sum
39 of, (i) the annual operating expenses, (ii) an allowance for management
40 services as determined by the commissioner, (iii) actual annual mortgage
41 debt service (interest and amortization) on its indebtedness to a lend-
42 ing institution, an insurance company, a retirement fund or welfare fund
43 which is operated under the supervision of the banking or insurance laws
44 of the state of New York or the United States, and (iv) eight and one-
45 half percent of that portion of the fair market value of the property
46 which exceeds the unpaid principal amount of the mortgage indebtedness
47 referred to in subparagraph (iii) of this paragraph. Fair market value
48 for the purposes of this paragraph shall be six times the annual gross
49 rent. The collection of any increase in the stabilized rent for any
50 apartment pursuant to this paragraph shall not exceed six percent in any
51 year from the effective date of the order granting the increase over the
52 rent set forth in the schedule of gross rents, with collectability of
53 any dollar excess above said sum to be spread forward in similar incre-
54 ments and added to the stabilized rent as established or set in future
55 years;

1 S 4. Subdivision c of section 26-511 of the administrative code of the
2 city of New York is amended by adding three new paragraphs 6-b, 6-c and
3 6-d to read as follows:

4 (6-B) PROVIDES CRITERIA WHEREBY THE COMMISSIONER MAY ACT UPON APPLICA-
5 TION BY OWNERS FOR INCREASES IN EXCESS OF THE LEVEL OF FAIR RENT
6 INCREASE ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS LAW PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT SUCH CRITE-
7 RIA SHALL PROVIDE THAT:

8 (I) AS TO COMPLETED BUILDING-WIDE MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, FIRST,
9 THAT A FINDING THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE DEEMED DEPRECIABLE UNDER THE
10 INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE OPERA-
11 TION OR PRESERVATION OF THE STRUCTURE;

12 (II) HOWEVER, NO MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE WILL BE
13 APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL UNLESS THE
14 WORK PERFORMED IS AN ENHANCEMENT OR UPGRADE TO A HOUSING ACCOMMODATION
15 OR SERVICE THEREIN; OR IS AN ADDITION TO SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION AND
16 OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE ACCORDING TO THE PREREQUISITES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL
17 IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASES. ANY REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT INTENDED TO MAIN-
18 TAIN AN EXISTING SERVICE SHALL NOT BE ELIGIBLE FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL
19 IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE;

20 (III) NO APPLICATION FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE MAY
21 BE APPROVED IF THERE EXIST ANY OUTSTANDING HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS AT THE
22 TIME OF THE CONSIDERATION OF SUCH APPLICATION, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO
23 REGULATIONS OF THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL OR ANY
24 AGENCY ADMINISTERING AND ENFORCING A BUILDING CODE IN THE JURISDICTION
25 IN WHICH THE PROPERTY IS LOCATED, UNLESS IT IS DETERMINED BY THE DIVI-
26 SION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL THAT SUCH WORK IS ESSENTIAL TO THE
27 ALLEVIATION OF THE VIOLATIONS AND SUCH APPROVAL IS CONSISTENT WITH THE
28 PROVISIONS OF THIS SECTION. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY OR GOOD
29 CAUSE, THE OWNER OF THE PROPERTY SHALL FILE, NOT LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS
30 BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT OF THE IMPROVEMENT, WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING
31 AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL A STATEMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION OUTLINING THE
32 SCOPE OF WORK, EXPECTED DATE OF COMPLETION FOR SUCH WORK AND AN AFFIDA-
33 VIT SETTING FORTH THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

34 (A) EVERY OWNER OF RECORD AND OWNER OF A SUBSTANTIAL INTEREST IN THE
35 PROPERTY OR ENTITY OWNING THE PROPERTY OR SPONSORING THE IMPROVEMENT;
36 AND

37 (B) A STATEMENT THAT NONE OF SUCH PERSONS HAD, WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS
38 PRIOR TO THE IMPROVEMENT, BEEN FOUND TO HAVE HARASSED OR UNLAWFULLY
39 EVICTED TENANTS BY JUDGMENT OR DETERMINATION OF A COURT OR AGENCY UNDER
40 THE PENAL LAW, ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW REGULATING RENTS OR ANY STATE OR
41 LOCAL LAW RELATING TO HARASSMENT OF TENANTS OR UNLAWFUL EVICTION.

42 UPON RECEIPT OF THE SCOPE OF WORK AND AFFIDAVIT PROVIDED FOR HEREIN,
43 THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL PROVIDE THE TENANTS
44 IN OCCUPANCY IN SUCH BUILDINGS WITH SUCH INFORMATION. THE DIVISION OF
45 HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL, IN ADDITION, IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES
46 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ELICITING TENANT COMMENTS TO DETERMINE
47 WHETHER MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REHABILITATION WORK HAS BEEN SATISFAC-
48 TORILY COMPLETED. NO MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE SHALL
49 BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL ANY DEFECTIVE OR DEFICIENT REHABILITATION WORK
50 HAS BEEN CURED.

51 (6-C) THE INCREASE PERMITTED FOR SUCH CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE
52 COLLECTED AS A MONTHLY SURCHARGE TO THE LEGAL REGULATED RENT. IT SHALL
53 BE SEPARATELY DESIGNATED AND BILLED AS SUCH AND SHALL NOT BE COMPOUNDED
54 BY ANY ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT OF THE LEVEL OF FAIR RENT PROVIDED FOR UNDER
55 SUBDIVISION B OF SECTION 26-510 OF THIS LAW. THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO
56 EACH APARTMENT SHALL BE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE COST OF THE IMPROVEMENT

1 DIVIDED BY EIGHTY-FOUR DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN THE BUILDING,
2 AND THEN MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN SUCH APARTMENT; PROVIDED
3 THAT THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO ANY APARTMENT, IN ANY ONE YEAR MAY NOT
4 EXCEED AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIX PERCENT OF THE MONTHLY RENT COLLECTED BY
5 THE OWNER FOR SUCH APARTMENT AS SET FORTH IN THE SCHEDULE OF GROSS
6 RENTS. ANY EXCESS ABOVE SAID SIX PERCENT SHALL BE CARRIED FORWARD AND
7 COLLECTED IN FUTURE YEARS AS A FURTHER SURCHARGE NOT TO EXCEED AN ADDI-
8 TIONAL SIX PERCENT IN ANY ONE YEAR PERIOD UNTIL THE TOTAL SURCHARGE
9 EQUALS THE AMOUNT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE AFOREMENTIONED SIX PERCENT
10 LIMITATION DID NOT APPLY.

11 (6-D) COLLECTION OF SURCHARGES IN EXCESS OF THE LEVEL OF FAIR RENT
12 AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO PARAGRAPH SIX-B AND SIX-C OF THIS SUBDIVISION
13 SHALL CEASE WHEN THE OWNER HAS RECOVERED THE COST OF THE MAJOR CAPITAL
14 IMPROVEMENT.

15 S 5. Paragraph 3 of subdivision d of section 6 of section 4 of chapter
16 576 of the laws of 1974, constituting the emergency tenant protection
17 act of nineteen seventy-four, as amended by chapter 749 of the laws of
18 1990, is amended to read as follows:

19 (3) (I) COLLECTION OF SURCHARGES IN ADDITION TO THE LEGAL REGULATED
20 RENT AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH SHALL
21 CEASE WHEN THE OWNER HAS RECOVERED THE COST OF THE MAJOR CAPITAL
22 IMPROVEMENT;

23 (II) there has been since January first, nineteen hundred seventy-four
24 a major capital improvement [required for the operation, preservation or
25 maintenance of the structure. An adjustment under this paragraph shall
26 be in an amount sufficient to amortize the cost of the improvements
27 pursuant to this paragraph over a seven-year period]; PROVIDED THAT THE
28 COMMISSIONER FIRST FINDS THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE DEEMED DEPRECIABLE
29 UNDER THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR
30 THE OPERATION OR PRESERVATION OF THE STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, NO MAJOR CAPI-
31 TAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE WILL BE APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUS-
32 ING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL UNLESS THE WORK PERFORMED IS AN ENHANCEMENT OR
33 UPGRADE TO A HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OR SERVICE THEREIN; OR IS AN ADDITION
34 TO SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION AND OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE ACCORDING TO THE
35 PREREQUISITES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASES. ANY REPAIR
36 OR REPLACEMENT INTENDED TO MAINTAIN AN EXISTING SERVICE SHALL NOT BE
37 ELIGIBLE FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE. NO APPLICATION
38 FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE MAY BE APPROVED IF THERE
39 EXIST ANY OUTSTANDING HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS AT THE TIME OF THE CONSIDER-
40 ATION OF SUCH APPLICATION, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS OF THE
41 DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL OR ANY AGENCY ADMINISTERING
42 AND ENFORCING A BUILDING CODE IN THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE PROPERTY
43 IS LOCATED, UNLESS IT IS DETERMINED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND
44 COMMUNITY RENEWAL THAT SUCH WORK IS ESSENTIAL TO THE ALLEVIATION OF THE
45 VIOLATIONS AND SUCH APPROVAL IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
46 SECTION. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY OR GOOD CAUSE, THE OWNER OF THE
47 PROPERTY SHALL FILE, NOT LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT
48 OF THE IMPROVEMENT, WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL A
49 STATEMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION OUTLINING THE SCOPE OF WORK, EXPECTED
50 DATE OF COMPLETION FOR SUCH WORK AND AN AFFIDAVIT SETTING FORTH THE
51 FOLLOWING INFORMATION: (A) EVERY OWNER OF RECORD AND OWNER OF A SUBSTAN-
52 TIAL INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY OR ENTITY OWNING THE PROPERTY OR SPONSOR-
53 ING THE IMPROVEMENT; AND (B) A STATEMENT THAT NONE OF SUCH PERSONS HAD,
54 WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE IMPROVEMENT, BEEN FOUND TO HAVE
55 HARASSED OR UNLAWFULLY EVICTED TENANTS BY JUDGMENT OR DETERMINATION OF A
56 COURT OR AGENCY UNDER THE PENAL LAW, ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW REGULATING

1 RENTS OR ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW RELATING TO HARASSMENT OF TENANTS OR
2 UNLAWFUL EVICTION. UPON RECEIPT OF THE SCOPE OF WORK AND AFFIDAVIT
3 PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL
4 PROVIDE THE TENANTS IN OCCUPANCY IN SUCH BUILDINGS WITH SUCH INFORMA-
5 TION. THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL, IN ADDITION,
6 IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ELICITING TENANT
7 COMMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REHABILITATION
8 WORK HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. NO MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
9 RENT INCREASE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL ANY DEFECTIVE OR DEFICIENT
10 REHABILITATION WORK HAS BEEN CURED. THE INCREASE PERMITTED FOR SUCH
11 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE COLLECTED AS A MONTHLY SURCHARGE TO THE
12 LEGAL REGULATED RENT. IT SHALL BE SEPARATELY DESIGNATED AND BILLED AS
13 SUCH AND SHALL NOT BE COMPOUNDED BY ANY ANNUAL RENT ADJUSTMENT AUTHOR-
14 IZED BY THE RENT GUIDELINES BOARD UNDER THIS ACT. THE SURCHARGE ALLOCA-
15 BLE TO EACH APARTMENT SHALL BE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE COST OF THE
16 IMPROVEMENT DIVIDED BY EIGHTY-FOUR, DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN
17 THE BUILDING, AND THEN MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN SUCH APART-
18 MENT; PROVIDED THAT THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO ANY APARTMENT IN ANY ONE
19 YEAR MAY NOT EXCEED AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIX PERCENT OF THE MONTHLY RENT
20 COLLECTED BY THE OWNER FOR SUCH APARTMENT AS SET FORTH IN THE SCHEDULE
21 OF GROSS RENTS. ANY EXCESS ABOVE SAID SIX PERCENT SHALL BE CARRIED
22 FORWARD AND COLLECTED IN FUTURE YEARS AS A FURTHER SURCHARGE NOT TO
23 EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL SIX PERCENT IN ANY ONE YEAR PERIOD UNTIL THE TOTAL
24 SURCHARGE EQUALS THE AMOUNT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE AFOREMENTIONED SIX
25 PERCENT LIMITATION DID NOT APPLY, or

26 S 6. The second undesignated paragraph of paragraph (a) of subdivision
27 4 of section 4 of chapter 274 of the laws of 1946, constituting the
28 emergency housing rent control law, as amended by section 25 of part B
29 of chapter 97 of the laws of 2011, is amended to read as follows:

30 No application for adjustment of maximum rent based upon a sales price
31 valuation shall be filed by the landlord under this subparagraph prior
32 to six months from the date of such sale of the property. In addition,
33 no adjustment ordered by the commission based upon such sales price
34 valuation shall be effective prior to one year from the date of such
35 sale. Where, however, the assessed valuation of the land exceeds four
36 times the assessed valuation of the buildings thereon, the commission
37 may determine a valuation of the property equal to five times the equal-
38 ized assessed valuation of the buildings, for the purposes of this
39 subparagraph. The commission may make a determination that the valuation
40 of the property is an amount different from such equalized assessed
41 valuation where there is a request for a reduction in such assessed
42 valuation currently pending; or where there has been a reduction in the
43 assessed valuation for the year next preceding the effective date of the
44 current assessed valuation in effect at the time of the filing of the
45 application. Net annual return shall be the amount by which the earned
46 income exceeds the operating expenses of the property, excluding mort-
47 gage interest and amortization, and excluding allowances for obsoles-
48 cence and reserves, but including an allowance for depreciation of two
49 per centum of the value of the buildings exclusive of the land, or the
50 amount shown for depreciation of the buildings in the latest required
51 federal income tax return, whichever is lower; provided, however, that
52 (1) no allowance for depreciation of the buildings shall be included
53 where the buildings have been fully depreciated for federal income tax
54 purposes or on the books of the owner; or (2) the landlord who owns no
55 more than four rental units within the state has not been fully compen-
56 sated by increases in rental income sufficient to offset unavoidable

1 increases in property taxes, fuel, utilities, insurance and repairs and
2 maintenance, excluding mortgage interest and amortization, and excluding
3 allowances for depreciation, obsolescence and reserves, which have
4 occurred since the federal date determining the maximum rent or the date
5 the property was acquired by the present owner, whichever is later; or
6 (3) the landlord operates a hotel or rooming house or owns a cooperative
7 apartment and has not been fully compensated by increases in rental
8 income from the controlled housing accommodations sufficient to offset
9 unavoidable increases in property taxes and other costs as are allocable
10 to such controlled housing accommodations, including costs of operation
11 of such hotel or rooming house, but excluding mortgage interest and
12 amortization, and excluding allowances for depreciation, obsolescence
13 and reserves, which have occurred since the federal date determining the
14 maximum rent or the date the landlord commenced the operation of the
15 property, whichever is later; or (4) the landlord and tenant voluntarily
16 enter into a valid written lease in good faith with respect to any hous-
17 ing accommodation, which lease provides for an increase in the maximum
18 rent not in excess of fifteen per centum and for a term of not less than
19 two years, except that where such lease provides for an increase in
20 excess of fifteen per centum, the increase shall be automatically
21 reduced to fifteen per centum; or (5) the landlord and tenant by mutual
22 voluntary written agreement agree to a substantial increase or decrease
23 in dwelling space or a change in the services, furniture, furnishings or
24 equipment provided in the housing accommodations; provided that an owner
25 shall be entitled to a rent increase where there has been a substantial
26 modification or increase of dwelling space or an increase in the
27 services, or installation of new equipment or improvements or new furni-
28 ture or furnishings provided in or to a tenant's housing accommodation.
29 The permanent increase in the maximum rent for the affected housing
30 accommodation shall be one-fortieth, in the case of a building with
31 thirty-five or fewer housing accommodations, or one-sixtieth, in the
32 case of a building with more than thirty-five housing accommodations
33 where such permanent increase takes effect on or after September twen-
34 ty-fourth, two thousand eleven, of the total cost incurred by the land-
35 lord in providing such modification or increase in dwelling space,
36 services, furniture, furnishings or equipment, including the cost of
37 installation, but excluding finance charges provided further that an
38 owner who is entitled to a rent increase pursuant to this clause shall
39 not be entitled to a further rent increase based upon the installation
40 of similar equipment, or new furniture or furnishings within the useful
41 life of such new equipment, or new furniture or furnishings. The owner
42 shall give written notice to the commission of any such adjustment
43 pursuant to this clause; or (6) there has been, since March first, nine-
44 teen hundred fifty, an increase in the rental value of the housing
45 accommodations as a result of a substantial rehabilitation of the build-
46 ing or housing accommodation therein which materially adds to the value
47 of the property or appreciably prolongs its life, excluding ordinary
48 repairs, maintenance and replacements; or (7) (I) COLLECTION OF
49 SURCHARGES TO THE MAXIMUM RENT AUTHORIZED PURSUANT TO ITEM (II) OF THIS
50 CLAUSE SHALL CEASE WHEN THE OWNER HAS RECOVERED THE COST OF THE MAJOR
51 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT; (II) there has been since March first, nineteen
52 hundred fifty, a major capital improvement [required for the operation,
53 preservation or maintenance of the structure]; PROVIDED THAT THE COMMIS-
54 SIONER FIRST FINDS THAT SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE DEEMED DEPRECIABLE UNDER
55 THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE AND SUCH IMPROVEMENTS ARE REQUIRED FOR THE
56 OPERATION OR PRESERVATION OF THE STRUCTURE. HOWEVER, NO MAJOR CAPITAL

1 IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE WILL BE APPROVED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING
2 AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL UNLESS THE WORK PERFORMED IS AN ENHANCEMENT OR
3 UPGRADE TO A HOUSING ACCOMMODATION OR SERVICE THEREIN; OR IS AN ADDITION
4 TO SUCH HOUSING ACCOMMODATION AND OTHERWISE ELIGIBLE ACCORDING TO THE
5 PREREQUISITES FOR MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASES. ANY REPAIR
6 OR REPLACEMENT INTENDED TO MAINTAIN AN EXISTING SERVICE SHALL NOT BE
7 ELIGIBLE FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE. NO APPLICATION
8 FOR A MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT RENT INCREASE MAY BE APPROVED IF THERE
9 EXIST ANY OUTSTANDING HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS AT THE TIME OF THE CONSIDER-
10 ATION OF SUCH APPLICATION, AS DETERMINED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS OF THE
11 DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL OR ANY AGENCY ADMINISTERING
12 AND ENFORCING A BUILDING CODE IN THE JURISDICTION IN WHICH THE PROPERTY
13 IS LOCATED, UNLESS IT IS DETERMINED BY THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND
14 COMMUNITY RENEWAL THAT SUCH WORK IS ESSENTIAL TO THE ALLEVIATION OF THE
15 VIOLATIONS AND SUCH APPROVAL IS CONSISTENT WITH THE PROVISIONS OF THIS
16 SECTION. EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF EMERGENCY OR GOOD CAUSE, THE OWNER OF THE
17 PROPERTY SHALL FILE, NOT LESS THAN THIRTY DAYS BEFORE THE COMMENCEMENT
18 OF THE IMPROVEMENT, WITH THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL A
19 STATEMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION OUTLINING THE SCOPE OF WORK, EXPECTED
20 DATE OF COMPLETION FOR SUCH WORK AND AN AFFIDAVIT SETTING FORTH THE
21 FOLLOWING INFORMATION: (A) EVERY OWNER OF RECORD AND OWNER OF A SUBSTAN-
22 TIAL INTEREST IN THE PROPERTY OR ENTITY OWNING THE PROPERTY OR SPONSOR-
23 ING THE IMPROVEMENT; AND (B) A STATEMENT THAT NONE OF SUCH PERSONS HAD,
24 WITHIN THE FIVE YEARS PRIOR TO THE IMPROVEMENT, BEEN FOUND TO HAVE
25 HARASSED OR UNLAWFULLY EVICTED TENANTS BY JUDGMENT OR DETERMINATION OF A
26 COURT OR AGENCY UNDER THE PENAL LAW, ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW REGULATING
27 RENTS OR ANY STATE OR LOCAL LAW RELATING TO HARASSMENT OF TENANTS OR
28 UNLAWFUL EVICTION. UPON RECEIPT OF THE SCOPE OF WORK AND AFFIDAVIT
29 PROVIDED FOR HEREIN, THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL
30 PROVIDE THE TENANTS IN OCCUPANCY IN SUCH BUILDINGS WITH SUCH INFORMA-
31 TION. THE DIVISION OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RENEWAL SHALL, IN ADDITION,
32 IMPLEMENT PROCEDURES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, ELICITING TENANT
33 COMMENTS TO DETERMINE WHETHER MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT REHABILITATION
34 WORK HAS BEEN SATISFACTORILY COMPLETED. NO MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT
35 RENT INCREASE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL ANY DEFECTIVE OR DEFICIENT
36 REHABILITATION WORK HAS BEEN CURED. THE INCREASE PERMITTED FOR SUCH
37 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SHALL BE COLLECTED AS A MONTHLY SURCHARGE TO THE
38 MAXIMUM RENT. IT SHALL BE SEPARATELY DESIGNATED AND BILLED AS SUCH AND
39 SHALL NOT BE COMPOUNDED BY ANY OTHER ADJUSTMENT TO THE MAXIMUM RENT. THE
40 SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO EACH APARTMENT SHALL BE AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO THE
41 COST OF THE IMPROVEMENT DIVIDED BY EIGHTY-FOUR, DIVIDED BY THE NUMBER OF
42 ROOMS IN THE BUILDING, AND THEN MULTIPLIED BY THE NUMBER OF ROOMS IN
43 SUCH APARTMENT; PROVIDED THAT THE SURCHARGE ALLOCABLE TO ANY APARTMENT
44 IN ANY ONE YEAR MAY NOT EXCEED AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO SIX PERCENT OF THE
45 MONTHLY RENT COLLECTED BY THE OWNER FOR SUCH APARTMENT AS SET FORTH IN
46 THE SCHEDULE OF GROSS RENTS. ANY EXCESS ABOVE SAID SIX PERCENT SHALL BE
47 CARRIED FORWARD AND COLLECTED IN FUTURE YEARS AS A FURTHER SURCHARGE NOT
48 TO EXCEED AN ADDITIONAL SIX PERCENT IN ANY ONE YEAR PERIOD UNTIL THE
49 TOTAL SURCHARGE EQUALS THE AMOUNT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN IF THE AFOREMEN-
50 TIONED SIX PERCENT LIMITATION DID NOT APPLY; or (8) there has been since
51 March first, nineteen hundred fifty, in structures containing more than
52 four housing accommodations, other improvements made with the express
53 consent of the tenants in occupancy of at least seventy-five per centum
54 of the housing accommodations, provided, however, that no adjustment
55 granted hereunder shall exceed fifteen per centum unless the tenants
56 have agreed to a higher percentage of increase, as herein provided; or

1 (9) there has been, since March first, nineteen hundred fifty, a sublet-
2 ting without written consent from the landlord or an increase in the
3 number of adult occupants who are not members of the immediate family of
4 the tenant, and the landlord has not been compensated therefor by
5 adjustment of the maximum rent by lease or order of the commission or
6 pursuant to the federal act; or (10) the presence of unique or peculiar
7 circumstances materially affecting the maximum rent has resulted in a
8 maximum rent which is substantially lower than the rents generally
9 prevailing in the same area for substantially similar housing accommo-
10 dations.

11 S 7. Paragraph 5 of subdivision d of section 6 of section 4 of chapter
12 576 of the laws of 1974, constituting the emergency tenant protection
13 act of nineteen seventy-four, as amended by chapter 102 of the laws of
14 1984, is amended and a new paragraph 6 is added to read as follows:

15 (5) as an alternative to the hardship application provided under para-
16 graph four of this subdivision, owners of buildings acquired by the same
17 owner or a related entity owned by the same principals three years prior
18 to the date of application may apply to the division for increases in
19 excess of the level of applicable guideline increases established under
20 this law based on a finding by the commissioner that such guideline
21 increases are not sufficient to enable the owner to maintain an annual
22 gross rent income for such building which exceeds the annual operating
23 expenses of such building by a sum equal to at least five percent of
24 such gross rent. For the purposes of this paragraph, operating expenses
25 shall consist of the actual, reasonable, costs of fuel, labor, utili-
26 ties, taxes, other than income or corporate franchise taxes, fees,
27 permits, necessary contracted services and non-capital repairs, insur-
28 ance, parts and supplies, management fees and other administrative costs
29 and mortgage interest. For the purposes of this paragraph, mortgage
30 interest shall be deemed to mean interest on a bona fide mortgage
31 including an allocable portion of charges related thereto. Criteria to
32 be considered in determining a bona fide mortgage other than an institu-
33 tional mortgage shall include[;]: condition of the property, location of
34 the property, the existing mortgage market at the time the mortgage is
35 placed, the term of the mortgage, the amortization rate, the principal
36 amount of the mortgage, security and other terms and conditions of the
37 mortgage. The commissioner shall set a rental value for any unit occu-
38 pied by the owner or a person related to the owner or unoccupied at the
39 owner's choice for more than one month at the last regulated rent plus
40 the minimum number of guidelines increases or, if no such regulated rent
41 existed or is known, the commissioner shall impute a rent consistent
42 with other rents in the building. The amount of hardship increase shall
43 be such as may be required to maintain the annual gross rent income as
44 provided by this paragraph. The division shall not grant a hardship
45 application under this paragraph or paragraph four of this subdivision
46 for a period of three years subsequent to granting a hardship applica-
47 tion under the provisions of this paragraph. The collection of any
48 increase in the rent for any housing accommodation pursuant to this
49 paragraph shall not exceed six percent in any year from the effective
50 date of the order granting the increase over the rent set forth in the
51 schedule of gross rents, with collectability of any dollar excess above
52 said sum to be spread forward in similar increments and added to the
53 rent as established or set in future years. No application shall be
54 approved unless the owner's equity in such building exceeds five percent
55 of: (i) the arms length purchase price of the property; (ii) the cost of
56 any capital improvements for which the owner has not collected a

1 surcharge; (iii) any repayment of principal of any mortgage or loan used
2 to finance the purchase of the property or any capital improvements for
3 which the owner has not collected a surcharge; and (iv) any increase in
4 the equalized assessed value of the property which occurred subsequent
5 to the first valuation of the property after purchase by the owner. For
6 the purposes of this paragraph, owner's equity shall mean the sum of (i)
7 the purchase price of the property less the principal of any mortgage or
8 loan used to finance the purchase of the property, (ii) the cost of any
9 capital improvement for which the owner has not collected a surcharge
10 less the principal of any mortgage or loan used to finance said improve-
11 ment, (iii) any repayment of the principal of any mortgage or loan used
12 to finance the purchase of the property or any capital improvement for
13 which the owner has not collected a surcharge, and (iv) any increase in
14 the equalized assessed value of the property which occurred subsequent
15 to the first valuation of the property after purchase by the owner[.];
16 OR

17 (6) NOTWITHSTANDING PARAGRAPH THREE OF THIS SUBDIVISION THERE SHALL BE
18 NO ADJUSTMENT FOR ANY MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDED IN ANY PART FROM
19 MONEYS PROVIDED BY THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
20 AUTHORITY.

21 S 8. Paragraph 1 of subdivision g of section 26-405 of the administra-
22 tive code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new subpara-
23 graph (p) to read as follows:

24 (P) NOTWITHSTANDING SUBPARAGRAPH (G) OR (K) OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THERE
25 SHALL BE NO ADJUSTMENT FOR ANY MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OR FOR ANY
26 OTHER EXPENDITURES TO IMPROVE, RESTORE OR PRESERVE THE QUALITY OF A
27 STRUCTURE IF SUCH MAJOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT OR SUCH OTHER EXPENDITURE IS
28 FUNDED IN ANY PART FROM MONEYS PROVIDED BY THE NEW YORK STATE ENERGY
29 RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.

30 S 9. This act shall take effect immediately; provided that the amend-
31 ments to section 26-405 of the city rent and rehabilitation law made by
32 sections one, two and eight of this act shall remain in full force and
33 effect only so long as the public emergency requiring the regulation and
34 control of residential rents and evictions continues, as provided in
35 subdivision 3 of section 1 of the local emergency housing rent control
36 act; provided that the amendment to section 26-511 of the rent stabili-
37 zation law of nineteen hundred sixty-nine made by sections three and
38 four of this act shall expire on the same date as such law expires and
39 shall not affect the expiration of such law as provided under section
40 26-520 of such law, as from time to time amended; provided that the
41 amendments to section 6 of the emergency tenant protection act of nine-
42 teen seventy-four made by sections five and seven of this act shall
43 expire on the same date as such act expires and shall not affect the
44 expiration of such act as provided in section 17 of chapter 576 of the
45 laws of 1974, as from time to time amended; and provided that the amend-
46 ment to section 4 of the emergency housing rent control law made by
47 section six of this act shall expire on the same date as such law
48 expires and shall not affect the expiration of such law as provided in
49 subdivision 2 of section 1 of chapter 274 of the laws of 1946.