

# STATE OF NEW YORK

414

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN SENATE

(Prefiled)

January 6, 2021

Introduced by Sen. BIAGGI -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Housing, Construction and Community Development

AN ACT to amend the real property actions and proceedings law, in relation to directing the department of financial services to conduct periodic inspections of vacant and abandoned residential real property required to be maintained by the mortgagee, authorize the department of financial services and municipalities to impose a daily civil penalty upon mortgagees which fail to maintain abandoned and vacant residential real property, and requiring lenders having a duty to maintain residential real property to register with the statewide vacant and abandoned property registry

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Section 1307 of the real property actions and proceedings  
2 law is amended by adding a new subdivision 2-a to read as follows:

3 2-a. The department of financial services shall cause an inspection to  
4 be conducted, with regard to compliance with the provisions of this  
5 section, of each residential real property that is subject to the  
6 provisions of this section within four months of the date the lender,  
7 assignee or mortgage loan servicer registers with the statewide vacant  
8 and abandoned property registry pursuant to section thirteen hundred ten  
9 of this article and every six months thereafter until the property is no  
10 longer subject to the provisions of this section.

11 § 2. Subdivision 3 of section 1307 of the real property actions and  
12 proceedings law, as added by chapter 507 of the laws of 2009, is amended  
13 to read as follows:

14 3. The department of financial services, the municipality in which  
15 such residential real property is located, any tenant lawfully in  
16 possession, and a board of managers of a condominium in which the prem-  
17 ises are located or a homeowners association if said premises are  
18 subject to the rules and regulations of such an association, shall have  
19 the right to enforce the obligations described in this section in any

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

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1 court of competent jurisdiction after at least seven days notice to the  
2 plaintiff in the foreclosure action unless emergency repairs are  
3 required. Any entity acting pursuant to this subdivision shall have a  
4 cause of action in any court of competent jurisdiction against the  
5 plaintiff in the foreclosure action to recover costs incurred as a  
6 result of maintaining the property. In addition, the department of  
7 financial services or the municipality in which the residential property  
8 is located may impose a civil penalty of five hundred dollars for each  
9 day a party required to maintain property pursuant to this section fails  
10 to do so or fails to comply with the provisions of section thirteen  
11 hundred ten of this article. The authority provided by this subdivision  
12 shall be in addition to, and shall not be deemed to diminish or reduce,  
13 any rights of the parties described in this section under existing law  
14 against the mortgagor of such property for failure to maintain such  
15 property.

16 § 3. Section 1308 of the real property actions and proceedings law is  
17 amended by adding a new subdivision 7-a to read as follows:

18 7-a. The department of financial services shall cause an inspection of  
19 the subject property to be conducted, with regard to compliance with the  
20 provisions of this section within four months of the date the servicer  
21 registers with the statewide vacant and abandoned property electronic  
22 registry pursuant to section thirteen hundred ten of this article, and  
23 every six months thereafter until such time as the property is no longer  
24 subject to the provisions of this section.

25 § 4. Subdivision 2 of section 1310 of the real property actions and  
26 proceedings law, as added by section 4 of part Q of chapter 73 of the  
27 laws of 2016, is amended to read as follows:

28 2. A lender, assignee or mortgage loan servicer shall submit or cause  
29 to be submitted to the department of financial services information  
30 required by the superintendent of financial services about any vacant  
31 and abandoned residential real property, as that term is defined in  
32 subdivision two of section thirteen hundred nine of this article, or as  
33 the superintendent of financial services may otherwise define that term,  
34 or about any foreclosed property for which the lender, assignee or mort-  
35 gage loan servicer has a duty to maintain pursuant to section thirteen  
36 hundred seven or thirteen hundred eight of this article within twenty-  
37 one business days of when the lender, assignee or mortgage loan servicer  
38 learns, or should have learned, that such property is vacant and aban-  
39 doned, or that the property is the subject of a judgment of foreclosure  
40 and sale and remains vacant and abandoned, as the case may be. Such  
41 information shall, at a minimum, include: (a) the current name, address  
42 and contact information for the lender, assignee or mortgage loan servi-  
43 cer responsible for maintaining the vacant property; (b) whether a fore-  
44 closure action has been filed for the property in question, and, if so,  
45 the date on which the foreclosure action was commenced, or the date the  
46 judgement of foreclosure and sale was entered, as the case may be; [and]  
47 (c) the last known address and contact information for the  
48 [~~mortgagor(s)~~] mortgagor or mortgagors of record; (d) the date the prop-  
49 erty was determined to be vacant or abandoned, or the date the duty of  
50 the lender, assignee or mortgage loan servicer to maintain the property  
51 accrued; and (e) the names of all officers of the lender, assignee or  
52 mortgage loan servicer upon which service of process may be made.

53 § 5. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeed-  
54 ing the date on which it shall have become a law.