

2022 -- H 7894

LC005028

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2022

A N A C T

RELATING TO PROPERTY -- RESIDENTIAL LANDLORD AND TENANT ACT

Introduced By: Representatives Kislak, Ajello, Speakman, Morales, Cassar, and Potter

Date Introduced: March 04, 2022

Referred To: House Judiciary

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 34-18 of the General Laws entitled "Residential Landlord and Tenant
2 Act" is hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **34-18-58. Statewide mandatory rental registry.**

4 (a) All persons, corporations, organizations, associations or other legal entities owning and
5 leasing property in the State of Rhode Island shall register their names, home addresses, including
6 zip codes, telephone numbers, and any property manager, management company or agent for
7 service of the property, along with the address and telephone number of the property manager,
8 management company or agent for service of process, with the secretary of state.

9 (b) The secretary of state, or designee, shall compile a report setting forth the information
10 obtained in accordance with subsection (a) of this section, no later than December 1 of every year,
11 commencing December 1, 2022. The report shall be made available to the public and be posted on
12 the website of the secretary of state.

13 (c) Any person, corporation, organization, association or other legal entity who fails to
14 comply with subsection (a) of this section shall be subject to a civil fine of one hundred dollars
15 (\$100) per month up to a maximum of one thousand two hundred dollars (\$1,200) in a calendar
16 year or if the monthly rent exceeds one thousand two hundred dollars (1,200), the civil fine shall
17 be one month's rent for the calendar year, payable to the secretary of state.

1 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF
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1 This act would require all property owners of rental property to file with the secretary of
2 state notice of their name, home address, including zip code, and telephone number. The secretary
3 of state would be required to compile a report of all the required information and make such report
4 available to the public. Any property owner of rental property who fails to comply with the
5 requirements of filing the necessary information with the secretary of state will be subject to a civil
6 fine of one hundred dollars (\$100) per month up to a maximum of one thousand two hundred dollars
7 (\$1,200) in a calendar year, or one month's rent, whichever is greater.

8 This act would take effect upon passage.

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