



August 8, 2023

To The Honorable
Rochester City Council
30 Church Street
Rochester, New York 14614

RE: Memorializing the Governor to sign A6843A/S1684-A, a bill amending the Emergency Tenant Protection Act 576/74 (ETP) Chapter 1974

Honorable Council Members:

I ask you to join me by signing your name on this Memorializing Resolution to urge Governor Kathy Hochul to sign Assembly Bill A6843A/Senate Bill S1684-A, which amends the Emergency Tenant Act 1974, in relation to studies to determine vacancy rates and, in doing so, to collectively **State and Resolve:**

WHEREAS, We, the undersigned members of the Rochester City Council urge the Governor of New York State to sign Assembly Bill A6843A/Senate Bill S1684-A; and

WHEREAS, we recognize that New York State is in the midst of a housing crisis; primarily among the rental population, most of which are low to moderate income, working households, and

WHEREAS, the Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act passed in 2019 permitted municipalities to opt into tenant protection regulations if municipalities had a vacancy rate among rental properties of less than 5%, which was determined by the completion of a survey by property owners within that municipality, and

WHEREAS, in the past, the City of Rochester attempted to execute said vacancy rate survey, whereby many property owners did not complete or share accurate information, leading to results that did not reflect the true vacancy rate in our city; and

WHEREAS, We recognize A6843A/S1684-A requires property owners to complete the vacancy rate survey, and that failure to submit said survey can result in the loss of a certificate of occupancy or a civil penalty by the municipality and the property will be deemed to have a zero vacancy rate, and

RESOLVED, We, the undersigned Members of Rochester City Council, affirm the critical importance of supporting legislation to amend the Emergency Tenant Act of 1974 to determine the vacancy rate and for property owners to complete the vacancy rate survey; and, be it further

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, we shall forward copies of this resolution to the the Governor of New York State

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kim Smith", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kim Smith, Councilmember
At-Large

Attachment