

ORDINANCE NO.

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 85 - 2017

NOVEMBER 15, 2017

AN ORDINANCE

Amending Article 1741.99 – Property Rehabilitation and Maintenance Code Penalty, by increasing violation ticket fines and penalties from \$25 to \$100.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That the Fees portion of Section 1741.99, Allentown Codified Ordinances, be amended as follows:

1741.99 PENALTY

E. Violation Ticket Fines

1. Violation tickets shall be issued in the amount of ~~Twenty-five (\$25)~~ One Hundred (\$100) Dollars.
2. Any person who receives a violation ticket for any violation of this Article, may, within ten (10) days, admit the violation, waive a hearing and pay the fine in full satisfaction of ~~Twenty-five (\$25) dollars~~ One Hundred (\$100) Dollars as indicated on the violation ticket.

F. Violation Ticket Penalties

1. If the person in receipt of a ~~Twenty-five (\$25)~~ One Hundred (\$100) Dollar violation ticket does not pay the fine or request a hearing within ten (10) days, the person will be subject to a ten (\$10) dollar penalty for days eleven (11) through twenty (20).
2. Failure of the person to make payment within twenty (20) days shall make the person subject to a citation.

SECTION TWO: That this Ordinance takes effect on January 1, 2018.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances or parts of Ordinances conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed.

LEGISLATIVE TEMPLATE

- **What Department or bureau is Bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?**

Department of Community and Economic Development, Bureau of Building Standards and Safety – Rental Code Enforcement

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

The Department is requesting to amend Ordinance 14561, at Article 1741.99 – Penalty.

Currently a violation ticket is issued with a cost of \$25.00. The owner receives the ticket, has ten (10) days to comply with the violation, waive the hearing and pay the \$25.00 fine in full.

The amendment is to propose an increase from \$25.00 to \$100.00 for a violation ticket.

The current requirements would remain the same that is the violation ticket is not paid within ten (10) days of receipt, a penalty of \$10.00 will be added to the ticket.

Failure of the owner to make payment within twenty (20) days will result in a citation being filed.

- **Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **What does the Bill do – what are the specific goals/tasks the bill seek to accomplish**
 - **What are the Benefits of doing this/Down-side of doing this**
 - **How does this Bill related to the City's Vision/Mission/Priorities**

This increase is necessary to motivate property owners to comply within a timely manner.

- **Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **Cost (Initial and ongoing)**
 - **Benefits (initial and ongoing)**

There is no additional cost to the city.

- **Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:**
 - **If transferring funds, please make sure bill gives specific accounts; if appropriating funds from a grant list the agency awarding the grant.**

N/A

- **Priority status/Deadlines, if any**

We wish to have this fee increase in place for the 2018 year.

- **Why should Council unanimously support this bill?**

Rapid compliance is the City's ultimate goal. The public safety, health and welfare of City residents are negatively impacted if a property is not up to code.

- **Committee Action**
- **Public Comments**
- **Body/Text of the Bill**
- **Exhibits**
- **Vote**