

ORDINANCE NO.

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 44 - 2018

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JULY 18, 2018

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AN ORDINANCE

Amending Part Seventeen, Building and Housing, Title Five – Property Rehabilitation and Maintenance Code, Article 1759.99, Fees/Penalties Section for Rental Unit Licensing by updating the date which the fee will be due and increasing the amount due after the due date from One Hundred (\$100) Dollars to One Hundred Twenty-Five (\$125) Dollars.

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

SECTION ONE: That City Council authorizes the following change to the due date for the Rental Unit Licensing registration and licensure and increases the amount due after the due date to One Hundred Twenty-Five (\$125) Dollars.

**1759.99 FEES/PENALTIES SECTION**

A. FEES

1. Registration:

The fee for a Residential Rental Registration shall be Seventy-five Dollars per residential rental unit per year due and payable by on or before ~~April 30<sup>th</sup>~~ December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year until a Residential Rental License is obtained. (14047 §1 12/10/02 14219 §1 10/21/04; 14436 §1 11/7/06; 14737 §1 8/24/2009; 14753 §1 11/18/09)

For all payments received after ~~April 30<sup>th</sup>~~ December 31<sup>st</sup> of any year, a late fee shall be assessed, such that the total fee shall be ~~One Hundred (\$100) Dollars~~ One Hundred Twenty-Five (\$125) Dollars per residential rental unit. (14219 §1 10/21/04; 14436 §1 11/7/06)

2. Licensure:

The fee for a Residential Rental License or License shall be Seventy-five (\$75.00) Dollars per residential rental unit per year due and payable on or before ~~April 30<sup>th</sup>~~ December 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. (14047 §1 12/10/02 14219 §1 10/21/04; 14436 §1 11/7/06)

For all payments received after ~~April 30<sup>th</sup>~~ December 31<sup>st</sup> of any year, a late fee shall be assessed, such that the total fee shall be ~~One Hundred (\$100) Dollars~~ One Hundred Twenty-Five (\$125) Dollars per residential rental unit. (14219 §1 10/21/04; 14436 §1 11/7/06; 14744 §1 10/20/09)

SECTION TWO: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION THREE: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

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

Community and Economic Development  
Building Standards & Safety Rental Office

- **Summary and Facts of the Bill**

Change the billing cycle of the Rental Registration/Licensee Fee. Currently Registration Fee is due April 30<sup>th</sup> of the billing year. Change to Registration Fee due December 31<sup>st</sup> for subsequent year. Also, the original bill is sent at \$75.00 per unit and if not paid by due date a late fee is assessed increasing the amount due from \$75 to \$100 per unit. We would like to increase the late fee on the Rental Registration/Licensure from \$25.00 per unit to \$50.00 per unit. Making the new total due after the due date \$125 per unit.

- **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**

Registration of all rental properties in the City of Allentown will ensure inspections are done to maintain a safe environment for our residents. Will reduce the number of inquires in regards to why the bills are sent and monies due when the registration covers a calendar year not a billing year. Creates a clearer vision on the effective dates for the Registration

By increasing the penalty from \$25.00 per unit to \$50.00 per unit it will reduce the number of delinquent accounts. Will reduce the cost of printing and mailing delinquent accounts and payroll expenditures by a reduction in man hours.

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

There are no additional costs in changing the billing cycle.

Will reduce the number of man hours required to answer questions in regards to why bills are sent and due after the Registration effective date saving payroll expenditure.

- **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**

HIGH PRIORITY - Need to make changes in the EDEN system for invoicing before the first billing, which will be scheduled for the end of September of each calendar year.

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

Would decrease payroll of manhours and less confusion of the part of the residents of the City of Allentown

- **Committee Action**

- **Public Comments**

- **Body/Text of the Bill**

- **Exhibits**

- **Vote**