

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

## Substitute Bill No. 1266

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## AN ACT REQUIRING THE POSTING OF FAIR RENT COMMISSION BYLAWS AND THAT THE HEARINGS OF SUCH COMMISSIONS BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

Section 1. Section 7-148b of the general statutes is repealed and the
 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

(a) For purposes of this section and sections 7-148c to 7-148f,
inclusive, "seasonal basis" means housing accommodations rented for a
period or periods aggregating not more than one hundred twenty days
in any one calendar year and "rental charge" includes any fee or charge
in addition to rent that is imposed or sought to be imposed upon a
tenant by a landlord.

9 (b) Any town, city or borough may, and any town, city or borough 10 with a population of twenty-five thousand or more, as determined by 11 the most recent decennial census, shall, through its legislative body, 12 adopt an ordinance that creates a fair rent commission. Any such 13 commission shall make studies and investigations, conduct hearings 14 and receive complaints relative to rental charges on housing 15 accommodations, except those accommodations rented on a seasonal 16 basis, within its jurisdiction, which term shall include mobile 17 manufactured homes and mobile manufactured home park lots, in

18 order to control and eliminate excessive rental charges on such 19 accommodations, and to carry out the provisions of sections 7-148b to 20 7-148f, inclusive, section 47a-20 and subsection (b) of section 47a-23c. 21 The commission, for such purposes, may compel the attendance of 22 persons at hearings, issue subpoenas and administer oaths, issue orders 23 and continue, review, amend, terminate or suspend any of its orders and 24 decisions. The commission may be empowered to retain legal counsel 25 to advise it. All hearings conducted pursuant to this section shall be 26 open to the public.

27 (c) Any town, city or borough required to create a fair rent 28 commission pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall adopt an 29 ordinance creating such commission on or before July 1, 2023. Not later 30 than thirty days after the adoption of such ordinance, the chief executive 31 officer of such town, city or borough shall (1) notify the Commissioner 32 of Housing that such commission has been created, and (2) transmit a 33 copy of the ordinance adopted by the town, city or borough to the 34 commissioner.

(d) Any two or more towns, cities or boroughs not subject to the
requirements of subsection (b) of this section may, through their
legislative bodies, create a joint fair rent commission.

(e) Any town, city or borough that creates a fair rent commission
 pursuant to this section shall make any bylaws adopted by such fair rent
 commission publicly available on the Internet web site of such town, city
 or borough.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	July 1, 2025	7-148b

## **HSG** Joint Favorable Subst.