

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

## Raised Bill No. 1383

Referred to Committee on HOUSING

Introduced by: (HSG)

## AN ACT CONCERNING UTILITY CHARGES FOR RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNITS.

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

Section 1. Section 47a-4 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2025*):

3 (a) A rental agreement shall not provide that the tenant: (1) Agrees to 4 waive or forfeit rights or remedies under this chapter and sections 47a-5 21, 47a-23 to 47a-23b, inclusive, 47a-26 to 47a-26g, inclusive, 47a-35 to 6 47a-35b, inclusive, 47a-41a, 47a-43 and 47a-46, or under any section of 7 the general statutes or any municipal ordinance unless such section or 8 ordinance expressly states that such rights may be waived; (2) 9 authorizes the landlord to confess judgment on a claim arising out of the 10 rental agreement; (3) agrees to the exculpation or limitation of any 11 liability of the landlord arising under law or to indemnify the landlord 12 for that liability or the costs connected therewith; (4) agrees to waive 13 [his] <u>such tenant's</u> right to the interest on the security deposit pursuant 14 to section 47a-21; (5) agrees to permit the landlord to dispossess [him] 15 such tenant without resort to court order; (6) consents to the distraint of

16 [his] such tenant's property for rent; (7) agrees to pay the landlord's 17 attorney's fees in excess of fifteen per cent of any judgment against the 18 tenant in any action in which money damages are awarded; (8) agrees 19 to pay a late charge prior to the expiration of the grace period set forth 20 in section 47a-15a or to pay rent in a reduced amount if such rent is paid 21 prior to the expiration of such grace period; (9) agrees to pay a late 22 charge on rent payments made subsequent to such grace period in an 23 amount exceeding the amounts set forth in section 47a-15a; [or] (10) 24 agrees to pay a heat or utilities surcharge if heat or utilities is included 25 in the rental agreement; or (11) agrees to pay for utilities if no separate meter for such utilities exists for such tenant's dwelling unit. 26

(b) A provision prohibited by subsection (a) of this section includedin a rental agreement is unenforceable.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following<br/>sections:Section 1July 1, 202547a-4

## Statement of Purpose:

To require that a tenant only be charged for utilities if such tenant's dwelling unit has an individual meter.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]