

SENATE BILL NO. 1039 91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

2002

4256L.04T

AN ACT

To repeal sections 99.050 and 99.134, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof two new sections relating to municipal housing authority commissioners.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Sections 99.050 and 99.134, RSMo, are repealed and two new sections enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as sections 99.050 and 99.134, to read as follows:

99.050. When the governing body of a city adopts a resolution or other declaration as aforesaid, it shall promptly notify the mayor of such adoption. Upon receiving such notice, the mayor shall appoint five persons who shall be taxpayers who have resided in said city for [five years] **one year** prior to such appointment as commissioners of the authority created for said city. When the governing body of a county adopts a resolution or other declaration as aforesaid, said body shall appoint five persons as commissioners of the authority created for said county. Three of the commissioners who are first appointed shall be designated to serve for terms of one, two, and three years, respectively, from the date of their appointment. Thereafter commissioners shall be appointed as aforesaid for a term of office of four years except that all vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term. No commissioner of an authority may be an officer or employee of the city or county for which the authority is created. A commissioner shall

EXPLANATION--Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in this bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

hold office until his successor has been appointed and has qualified, unless sooner removed according to sections 99.010 to 99.230. A certificate of the appointment or reappointment of any commissioner shall be filed with the clerk and such certificate shall be conclusive evidence of the due and proper appointment of such commissioner. A commissioner shall receive no compensation for his services for the authority, in any capacity, but he shall be entitled to the necessary expenses, including traveling expenses, incurred in the discharge of his duties. The powers of each authority shall be vested in the commissioners thereof in office from time to time. One more than one-half of all commissioners shall constitute a quorum of the authority for the purpose of conducting its business and exercising its powers and for all other purposes. Action may be taken by the authority upon a vote of a majority of a quorum, unless in any case the bylaws of the authority shall require a larger number. The mayor (or in the case of an authority for a county, the governing body of the county) shall designate which of the commissioners shall be the first chairman and he shall serve in the capacity of chairman until the expiration of his term of office as commissioner. When the office of the chairman of the authority thereafter becomes vacant, the authority shall select a chairman from among its commissioners. An authority shall select from among its commissioners a vice chairman, and it may employ a secretary (who shall be executive director), technical experts and such other officers, agents and employees, permanent and temporary, as it may require, and shall determine their qualifications, duties and compensation. For such legal services as it may require, an authority may call upon the chief law officer of the city or the county or may employ its own counsel and legal staff. An authority may delegate to one or more of its agents or employees such powers or duties as it may deem proper.

99.134. [Beginning April 1, 1991, the provisions of this section shall apply to housing authorities of any city with a population of more than three hundred fifty thousand inhabitants which is located in more than one county. The authority shall consist of seven commissioners, appointed by the mayor of the city, with the advice and consent of the city council. One commissioner shall be appointed from each city council district and the seventh commissioner shall be a tenant of any housing project owned or operated by the housing authority. The tenant commissioner shall serve for three years, but only if he remains a tenant of any housing project owned or operated by the authority. Notwithstanding the provisions of this chapter to the contrary, a new authority shall be established under this section. The commissioners of the authority in office on April 1, 1991, shall be deemed members of the authority and shall serve the remaining portion of their terms. The new members of the authority which bring the total number of members to seven shall serve for four years. Upon the completion of the term of any commissioner, except the tenant commissioner, his replacement shall be appointed for a period of four years. The mayor shall make appointments within ninety days of the vacancy occurring. If no appointment has been made within ninety days by the mayor, the vacancy shall

be filled by a majority of the city council present and voting at a regular meeting.] This section shall apply to housing authorities of any home rule city with more than four hundred thousand inhabitants and located in more than one county. The provisions of this section shall apply to such housing authorities and the following provisions shall govern the composition of the housing authority and the selection of the members thereof:

(1) There shall be seven members of the housing authority commission, six shall be appointed and one shall be elected by the tenants of the housing authority;

(2) The appointive members of the housing authority commission shall be nominated by a nominating committee and appointed by the mayor. The nominating committee shall consist of five members, consisting of two disinterested persons selected by the jurisdiction wide resident organization of which one must be a public housing resident and the other a person receiving Section 8 housing assistance, the remaining three members of the nominating committee shall be selected by the housing authority commissioners. At least one appointive member must be a resident in good standing receiving Section 8 housing assistance and participating in a selfsufficiency program or successfully completed a self-sufficiency program, and at least one appointive member must be an owner of rental property located within the limits of the city who is a resident of such city, but shall not own any property containing public housing;

(3) The election of the tenant commissioner shall be conducted by the jurisdiction wide resident organization and overseen by an independent third party. The election shall be by written ballot and each tenant of the housing authority who has attained the age of eighteen years shall be entitled to one vote. In addition to the qualifications required for the office by the provisions of section 99.010 to 99.230, the elected member of the commission shall be a tenant in good standing;

(4) Commissioners of the housing authority required by this section to be tenants of the housing authority or tenants receiving Section 8 housing assistance shall not be employed in any capacity by the housing authority and shall not be construed, because of such tenancy or receipt of housing assistance, to have direct or indirect interest in any housing authority project or in any property included or planned to be included in any project, or in proposed contract for materials or services within the meaning of section 99.060;

(5) Each elective commissioner shall serve a term of four years. Of the six appointive members of the commissioners first appointed pursuant to this section, two shall serve a term of one year, two commissioners shall serve a term of two years, and two commissioners shall serve a term of three years. Thereafter all commissioners shall serve a term of office of four years except that all vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term;

(6) The commissioners shall select from among its members a chairperson and a vice chairperson;

(7) Each commissioner shall receive a stipend of two hundred dollars per month for his or her services to the housing authority in any capacity in addition to reimbursement for expenses incurred for special travel or conference expenses incurred in the discharge of the commissioner's duties. The board of commissioners shall have the power to adjust the stipend amount annually to reflect changes in the Consumer Price Index or similar prudent and object pre-escalator method;

(8) A quorum shall consist of at least four commissioners; and

(9) All commissioners shall be residents of the jurisdiction of the housing authority.

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