

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 4:20 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. [Do not](#) click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Tenant Bill of Rights
BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

I am urging you to support a strong Tenant Bill of Rights here in Pinellas county. It is important that a robust prohibition on income discrimination is passed without loopholes or exceptions, and that it does not allow individual cities to opt out. The objections raised by corporate interests like the Bay Area Apartment Association are completely disingenuous and should not be given precedence over the rights of working class tenants. The majority of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are extremely low income & non-white. Allowing landlords to unscrupulously deny voucher recipients is a tacit endorsement of class & racial discrimination by the Pinellas county government. Any risk or cost to landlords by prohibiting income discrimination pales in comparison to that of low income tenants, who currently face homelessness & material suffering due to an uneven playing field. In addition, I would like to see the notice of rent increase portion changed from 60 days to 6 months for all lease types, including month-to-month. Please vote yes and pass a strong countywide Tenant Bill of Rights tonight without any of the provisions demanded by the landlord lobby.

Citizen Name William Kilgore
Address St. Pete, FL 33713
Afghanistan | AF
Phone
Email williamskilgore@gmail.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 11:34 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Ordinance amending Chapter 42 of the Pinellas County Code adopting a Tenants Bill of Rights requiring the provision of information renters' rights under federal, state, and local law, prohibiting discrimination based on source of income, and requiring notice of late fees.

BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments As a St. Pete tenant who's rent was raised \$300 after the first year, I'm disturbed by the fact that landlords can reject certain payment sources. The ability for landlords to turn down tenants using vouchers is another unnecessary barrier to getting community members stably housed. St. Pete is lucky to have the amount of resources available to get and keep our community housed, and this bill would support that mission by breaking down the barrier some of us face when getting discriminated against by landlords who won't accept vouchers.

Citizen Name Thanh-Van Le

Address 305 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. St. S. Apt. 217
St. Petersburg, FL 33705
United States|US

Phone +14077180619

Email teaveex3@yahoo.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Monday, August 1, 2022 10:47 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Tenant Bill of Rights
BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments
I am urging you to support a strong Tenant Bill of Rights here in Pinellas county. It is important that a robust prohibition on income discrimination is passed without loopholes or exceptions, and that it does not allow individual cities to opt out. The objections raised by corporate interests like the Bay Area Apartment Association are completely disingenuous and should not be given precedence over the rights of working class tenants. The majority of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are extremely low income & non-white. Allowing landlords to unscrupulously deny voucher recipients is a tacit endorsement of class & racial discrimination by the Pinellas county government. Any risk or cost to landlords by prohibiting income discrimination pales in comparison to that of low income tenants, who currently face homelessness & material suffering due to an uneven playing field. In addition, I would like to see the notice of rent increase portion changed from 60 days to 6 months for all lease types, including month-to-month. Please vote yes and pass a strong countywide Tenant Bill of Rights tonight without any of the provisions demanded by the landlord lobby.

Citizen Name Dani Katz
Address 5849 30th Ave N
St Petersburg, Florida 33710
United States|US
Phone +12488608790
Email danika.dojo@gmail.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 7:20 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic tenants bill of rightd

BCC Agenda Date

Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments I support a tenants bill of rights in Pinellas county. Due to the fact that the landlord tenant balance of power in Florida is tilted very far in the direction of the landlord we need more protection for tenants. If a tenant who has a housing voucher can't find housing what good does that voucher do them? please do not allow the corporate money to interest to water down these protections for tenets. Elected officials should represent all of their constituents and this includes the working poor. Thank you.

Citizen Name davanna cimino

Address 1122 drew street
clearwater, fl 33755
Afghanistan|AF

Phone +17375434377

Email davannacimino@yahoo.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 3:20 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Pinellas Tenant Bill of Rights
BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments
I am urging you to support a strong Tenant Bill of Rights here in Pinellas county. It is important that a robust prohibition on income discrimination is passed without loopholes or exceptions, and that it does not allow individual cities to opt out. The objections raised by corporate interests like the Bay Area Apartment Association are completely disingenuous and should not be given precedence over the rights of working class tenants. The majority of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are extremely low income & non-white. Allowing landlords to unscrupulously deny voucher recipients is a tacit endorsement of class & racial discrimination by the Pinellas county government. Any risk or cost to landlords by prohibiting income discrimination pales in comparison to that of low income tenants, who currently face homelessness & material suffering due to an uneven playing field. In addition, I would like to see the notice of rent increase portion changed from 60 days to 6 months for all lease types, including month-to-month. Please vote yes and pass a strong countywide Tenant Bill of Rights tonight without any of the provisions demanded by the landlord lobby.

Citizen Name Brianna Cortez
Address 550 2ND ST N
St Petersburg, FL 33701
United States|US
Phone +17276743175
Email cortez.briannaa97@gmail.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Sunday, July 31, 2022 5:27 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Pinellas Tenant Bill of Rights
BCC Agenda Date 8-02-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments I am urging you to support a strong Tenant Bill of Rights here in Pinellas county. It is important that a robust prohibition on income discrimination is passed without loopholes or exceptions, and that it does not allow individual cities to opt out. The objections raised by corporate interests like the Bay Area Apartment Association are completely disingenuous and should not be given precedence over the rights of working class tenants. The majority of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are extremely low income & non-white. Allowing landlords to unscrupulously deny voucher recipients is a tacit endorsement of class & racial discrimination by the Pinellas county government. Any risk or cost to landlords by prohibiting income discrimination pales in comparison to that of low income tenants, who currently face homelessness & material suffering due to an uneven playing field. In addition, I would like to see the notice of rent increase portion changed from 60 days to 6 months for all lease types, including month-to-month. Please vote yes and pass a strong countywide Tenant Bill of Rights tonight without any of the provisions demanded by the landlord lobby.

Citizen Name Jean McAllister
Address 707 27th Ave. N.
Saint Petersburg, Florida 33704
United States|US
Phone
Email jjmcalli@gmail.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Friday, July 29, 2022 11:06 AM
To: BCC Agenda Comments

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Pinellas Tenant Bill of Rights Call to Action
BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments
I am urging you to support a strong Tenant Bill of Rights here in Pinellas county. It is important that a robust prohibition on income discrimination is passed without loopholes or exceptions, and that it does not allow individual cities to opt out. The objections raised by corporate interests like the Bay Area Apartment Association are completely disingenuous and should not be given precedence over the rights of working class tenants. The majority of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are extremely low income & non-white. Allowing landlords to unscrupulously deny voucher recipients is a tacit endorsement of class & racial discrimination by the Pinellas county government. Any risk or cost to landlords by prohibiting income discrimination pales in comparison to that of low income tenants, who currently face homelessness & material suffering due to an uneven playing field. In addition, I would like to see the notice of rent increase portion changed from 60 days to 6 months for all lease types, including month-to-month. Please vote yes and pass a strong countywide Tenant Bill of Rights tonight without any of the provisions demanded by the landlord lobby.

Citizen Name courtney walczak
Address 2125 62nd place south #7
st petersburg, florida 33712
United States|US
Phone +17169970575
Email clw41289@gmail.com

Johnson, Krista

From: noreply@mypinellasclerk.org
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2022 2:48 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Live Form

Topic Tenant Bill of Rights
BCC Agenda Date 8-2-2022
Your Stand on the Issue Support

Comments

This bill of rights for Tenants is the least you can do for the working class of this area. When our incomes even at \$15/hr are only \$2600/mo and you want us to pay \$1800 for a 1 bedroom apt, how are single parents supposed to secure a home for their children? 1/3 of our income is only \$866/mo NOT \$1800. YES, there is a housing crisis and a huge gap between income and housing expenses. When people have vouchers a landlord should be required to take that as proof of payment. Having a voucher does no good if no one takes it. Just like qualifying for ERAP benefits and then not getting them because there is no more money. What good does it do??? You ask the most needy among us to wait years for a voucher, then only give them a few months to find a place to "accept" it and if they don't, they lose it. After waiting for 10+ years to even get the assistance. That is NO assistance. That is a bait and switch and should not be happening to our families and especially to our children here in Pinellas County and St Petersburg, FL. Please realize that without homes for the working class, basic services will not get done. Think of all those in food service, retail, healthcare, housekeeping, daycare and even teachers who are not earning enough to cover rent at \$1800. Three times that is \$5400/mo or \$64,800. If we are not earning that, then we have been priced out of the rental market in the area. And that's just for a 1 bedroom, not for a family home with 2 or 3 bedrooms, they are well over \$2K. Please do all you can to help us to secure truly affordable homes for our families and help those most in need.

Citizen Name Carolyn Ballenger
Address 13250 Ridge Rd., 1-6
Largo, FL 33778
United States|US

Phone

+16195188108

Email

misslinaoh@yahoo.com

Johnson, Krista

From: Mike Hughes <Mike.Hughes.562429787@actnow.io>
Sent: Thursday, July 28, 2022 12:48 PM
To: Justice, Charlie
Subject: [BULK] Support Tenant Rights!

Importance: Low

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Dear Commissioner Charlie Justice,

Dear Commissioner Charlie Justice,

My name is Mike Hughes. I am a resident of Dunedin. I am urging your support for the Tenant's Bill of Rights in Pinellas County. This bill is important in ensuring tenants' rights amid the housing emergency. I also ask that you consider adding a requirement of six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

It is essential that this strong prohibition on income discrimination is passed as it is currently written, without loopholes or exceptions.

Most of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are low-income & non-white. Allowing landlords to continue to deny voucher recipients a home ultimately results in many losing their vouchers altogether and is a form of class & racial discrimination. Tenants also need as much time as possible to make provisions for their housing.

Please vote yes, pass the countywide Tenant Bill of Rights, and add a provision requiring six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

Sincerely,
Mike Hughes

Johnson, Krista

From: Stricklin, Carol L
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 4:56 PM
To: BCC Agenda Comments
Subject: FW: [BULK] Tenant Bill of Rights
Attachments: PRO Tenants Bill of Rights Letter to BOCC.pdf

Importance: Low

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

Carol Stricklin, AICP
Director
Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department
310 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756
Phone 727-464-5698
clstricklin@pinellascounty.org

From: Stricklin, Carol L
Sent: Wednesday, July 27, 2022 8:36 AM
To: Clerk Board Records <BoardRecords@co.pinellas.fl.us>
Subject: FW: [BULK] Tenant Bill of Rights
Importance: Low

Please see the attached correspondence for Legistar Item 21-1219A on the August 2 agenda.

Carol Stricklin, AICP
Director
Pinellas County Housing and Community Development Department
310 Court Street
Clearwater, Florida 33756
Phone 727-464-5698
clstricklin@pinellascounty.org

From: Joe Farrell <jfarrell@pinellasrealtor.org>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 6:01 PM
Cc: Justice, Charlie <cjustice@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Long, Janet C <JanetCLong@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Peters, Kathleen <kpeters@pinellascounty.org>; Seel, Karen <kseel@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Eggers, Dave <deggers@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Gerard, Pat <pgerard@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Robinson-Flowers, Rene <rflowers@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Burton, Barry <bburton@co.pinellas.fl.us>; Stricklin, Carol L <clstricklin@co.pinellas.fl.us>; evjohnson@co.pinellas.us; talmonte@co.pinellas.us

Subject: [BULK] Tenant Bill of Rights

Importance: Low

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

On Tuesday, item 22-1219A comes before the commission. Attached is our position regarding this important issue before our community.

If you have any questions please let me know. My mobile number is below.

Thanks



Joe Farrell, RCE, C2EX, CMLX-1, QAS, GREEN

Vice President of Public Affairs

**Pinellas REALTOR® Organization &
Central Pasco REALTOR® Organization
Virgin Islands Territorial Association of REALTORS®**

(813) 731-8194

jfarrell@pinellasrealtor.org | PinellasRealtor.org

4590 Ulmerton Road, Clearwater, FL 33762

Connect with us on social media

Discover why *Your Home is Here*



2022 Leadership Team

Manuela Hendrickson
President

Michael Wyckoff
President-Elect

Cody Limberger
Treasurer

Corina Silva
Secretary

Glen Richardson
Past President

Robert Barnes
CPRO Chapter Chair

David B. Bennett
*RCE, CAE, CMLX1
Chief Executive Officer*

Directors:

Carolina Conner

Mark Middleton

Stephanie Joines

Xina Rim

Tom Steck

Linda Wilson

Debra McMillen

Fred Hintenberger

Alexander Jansen

James Schanz

PinellasRealtor.org
Follow us on social media at:
pinellasrealtor.org/connect

Hon. Charlie Justice
Chairman, Pinellas County Commission
315 Court Street
Clearwater, FL 33756

Dear Chairman Justice,

On behalf of over 10,000 members of the Pinellas REALTOR® Organization (PRO), we are writing you today regarding the “Tenant Bill of Rights” ordinance. We are thankful for the commission’s action to defer the issue until August 2nd and ask that the county adopt a program the same as City of St. Petersburg. After more than two years of advocacy, community outreach, and compromise the City of St. Petersburg enacted a “Tenants Bill of Rights” that works for both tenants and landlords. Expanding that ordinance across the county makes sense for continuity for all involved.

Our association is concerned with the aspects of the ordinance referencing financial regulations and how that would affect “mom and pop” owners, as well as potential tenants. For decades both renters and landlords have operated under the same guidelines whether the property was in Lealman or Disston Heights. While we understand that system has changed in many municipalities, we hope that our county can keep consistency, so all parties involved have a reasonable expectation when entering into a lease. Housing is a necessity, and often renters are on the brink of homelessness or owners are weeks from defaulting on their property. We do not have an ideal system but adding two separate bureaucracies to an already stressful process is unnecessary.

The opt-in option for municipalities is an excellent option for the Pinellas County ordinance, but we are not confident St. Petersburg would opt-in to a different Pinellas ordinance. That is why we ask that the Pinellas County ordinance mirror the St. Petersburg ordinance with the addition of the opt-in option. The county would have reforms to the system and uniformity for both renters and owners.

Thank you for your consideration on this issue. Our recommendation comes with the utmost respect for your service to our community. If you have any questions about our position, please contact our Vice President of Public Affairs Joe Farrell.

Sincerely,

Manuela Hendrickson
2022 President of the Board

Sincerely,

David B. Bennett
Chief Executive Officer

Cc: Hon. Janet Long, Hon. Dave Eggers, Hon. Pat Gerard, Hon. Rene Flowers, Hon. Kathleen Peters, Hon. Karen Seel, Barry Burton, Carol Stricklin, Evan Johnson, Tom Almonte

PRO Office: 4590 Ulmerton Road | Clearwater, FL 33762 **PRO Phone:** (727) 347-7655
CPRO Office: 2009 Osprey Lane | Lutz, FL,33549 **CPRO Phone:** (813) 948 -6966

Johnson, Krista

From: Kelly Moore <Kelly.Moore.562257346@actnow.io>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 4:28 PM
To: Seel, Karen
Subject: Support Tenant Rights!

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

My name is Kelly Moore. I am a resident of St. Petersburg. I am urging your support for the Tenant's Bill of Rights in Pinellas County. This bill is important in ensuring tenants' rights amid the housing emergency. I also ask that you consider adding a requirement of six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

It is essential that this strong prohibition on income discrimination is passed as it is currently written, without loopholes or exceptions.

Most of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are low-income & non-white. Allowing landlords to continue to deny voucher recipients a home ultimately results in many losing their vouchers altogether and is a form of class & racial discrimination. Tenants also need as much time as possible to make provisions for their housing.

Please vote yes, pass the countywide Tenant Bill of Rights, and add a provision requiring six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

Sincerely,
Kelly Moore

Johnson, Krista

From: Karen Berman <Karen.Berman.471267021@actnow.io>
Sent: Tuesday, July 26, 2022 1:06 PM
To: Seel, Karen
Subject: Support Tenant Rights!

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

My name is Karen Berman. I am a resident of St. Petersburg. I am urging your support for the Tenant's Bill of Rights in Pinellas County. This bill is important in ensuring tenants' rights amid the housing emergency. I also ask that you consider adding a requirement of six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

It is essential that this strong prohibition on income discrimination is passed as it is currently written, without loopholes or exceptions.

Most of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are low-income & non-white. Allowing landlords to continue to deny voucher recipients a home ultimately results in many losing their vouchers altogether and is a form of class & racial discrimination. Tenants also need as much time as possible to make provisions for their housing.

Please vote yes, pass the countywide Tenant Bill of Rights, and add a provision requiring six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

Sincerely,
Karen Berman

Johnson, Krista

From: Steven Sorrells <Steven.Sorrells.561718606@actnow.io>
Sent: Friday, July 22, 2022 12:20 PM
To: Seel, Karen
Subject: Support Tenant Rights!

Categories: SENT TO BOARD REPORTERS

CAUTION: *This message has originated from outside of the organization. Do not click on links or open attachments unless you are expecting the correspondence from the sender and know the content is safe.*

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

Dear Commissioner Karen Williams Seel,

My name is Steven Sorrells. I am a resident of Seminole. I am urging your support for the Tenant's Bill of Rights in Pinellas County. This bill is important in ensuring tenants' rights amid the housing emergency. I also ask that you consider adding a requirement of six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

It is essential that this strong prohibition on income discrimination is passed as it is currently written, without loopholes or exceptions.

Most of those who receive vouchers through the Pinellas County Housing Authority are low-income & non-white. Allowing landlords to continue to deny voucher recipients a home ultimately results in many losing their vouchers altogether and is a form of class & racial discrimination. Tenants also need as much time as possible to make provisions for their housing.

Please vote yes, pass the countywide Tenant Bill of Rights, and add a provision requiring six-month notice for rent increases and termination of month-to-month rentals.

Sincerely,
Steven Sorrells