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**Meeka D. Owens**  
Cincinnati City Council

June 13, 2023

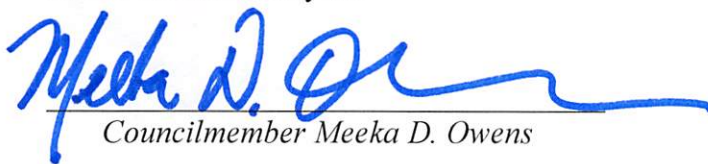
## MOTION

*“Tenants Bill of Rights” - Guide to Housing Providers’ Rights, Responsibilities, and Resources*

As part of the ongoing efforts to expand renter protections through the Cincinnati Tenants Bill of Rights, **WE MOVE** that City Administration create a short, concise, and simple document entitled “Guide to Housing Providers’ Rights, Responsibilities, and Resources” (“Guide”) to serve as a companion document to the “Tenants’ Guide.” The Rights and Responsibilities should include the information from Cincinnati Municipal Code Section 871-9 (Obligations of Landlords and Tenants) and any other relevant Federal, State, or Local laws. The Resources should include information and contact information for landlord resources, organizations, or programs offered through the City of Cincinnati or other local organizations, such as the Housing Provider Training, Buildings and Inspections information, etc.

**WE FURTHER MOVE** that the Administration provide a report on strategy for distributing to housing providers in the City of Cincinnati.

**WE FURTHER MOVE** that the Guide and report be submitted to Council for its review by the end of this calendar year.

  
Councilmember Meeka D. Owens

  
Councilmember Reggie Harris

## STATEMENT

In the City of Cincinnati, 61.1 percent of housing units are occupied by renters.<sup>1</sup> It is pivotal that landlords be aware of their responsibilities as housing providers, as well as their available rights and resources. Making sure that housing providers are aware of this information in a simple, straightforward presentation is critical not just for them, but also for tenants.

State law requires that housing providers “make all repairs and do whatever is reasonably necessary to put and keep the premises in a fit and habitable condition.”<sup>2</sup> Yet all too often, Council offices hear concerns from renters who are in dire circumstances because their landlord is unaware of what they are responsible for providing as part of the renter’s right to a livable unit. As part of the Cincinnati Tenants Bill of Rights, this Housing Provider Guide is being requested so as to achieve a broader understanding among the population of these requirements.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/cincinnati-ohio>

<sup>2</sup> O.R.C. 5321.04(A)(2).