

2024 -- S 2765

LC005341

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- CITY HOUSING AUTHORITIES

Introduced By: Senators Acosta, Mack, Kallman, and Zurier

Date Introduced: March 08, 2024

Referred To: Senate Housing & Municipal Government

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 45-25 of the General Laws entitled "City Housing Authorities" is  
2 hereby amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **45-25-10.7. City of Central Falls housing authority.**

4 Notwithstanding the provisions of § 45-25-10, the housing authority of the city of Central  
5 Falls shall consist of five (5) members, one of which shall be a resident under an existing lease of  
6 a public housing facility or resident under an existing lease who is being assisted under the Housing  
7 Choice Voucher (Section 8) tenant based program in the city of Central Falls and be at least  
8 eighteen (18) years of age. Said resident shall be appointed for a five (5) year term by the mayor  
9 who shall make the appointment from a list of persons submitted to the mayor by the executive  
10 director of the housing authority. The list shall contain no fewer than three (3) nominees. If fewer  
11 than three (3) nominees desire or express a willingness to be considered for appointment, the mayor  
12 may select one resident from the number of nominees who desire or express a willingness to be  
13 considered. The method of selection of the residents to the list shall be determined by the mayor.  
14 If the appointed resident member no longer lives in public housing, their office shall be deemed  
15 vacated. The commission members of the city housing authority of the city of Central Falls shall  
16 be approved by a majority of the members of the Central Falls city council and shall also be  
17 residents of the city of Central Falls during the term of their appointment to the housing authority.  
18 If any appointed member no longer lives in the city, their office shall be deemed vacated.

19 SECTION 2. Section 45-26-4 of the General Laws in Chapter 45-26 entitled "Town

1 Housing Authorities" is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 **45-26-4. Appointment, terms, and compensation of commissioner.**

3 (a)(1) When the town council adopts a resolution creating a town authority, the town  
4 council shall appoint five (5) persons as commissioners of the town authority; provided, however,  
5 that the town of Lincoln shall appoint seven (7) persons as commissioners of the town authority.  
6 The commissioners who are first appointed shall be designated to serve for terms of one, two (2),  
7 three (3), four (4), and five (5) years, respectively, from the date of their appointment, but,  
8 subsequently, commissioners shall be appointed for a term of office of five (5) years, except that  
9 all vacancies shall be filled for the unexpired term, those appointments to be made by the town  
10 council.

11 (2) Provided, however, that the commission members of the town authority of the town of  
12 Lincoln must be residents of the town of Lincoln during the term of their appointment. Provided,  
13 further, that at least one of the commission members of a town authority must be a resident as well  
14 as a resident of a public housing facility during the term of their appointment. A public housing  
15 resident commissioner shall be appointed by the appointing authority from a list of nominees  
16 chosen in open election by the occupants of public housing. Upon the failure of the election process,  
17 there shall be a provision for an application process. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed  
18 as preventing the appointing authority from appointing more than one resident of public housing to  
19 the commission.

20 ~~(3) Provided, however that the commission members of the city housing authority of the~~  
21 ~~city of Central Falls must be approved by a majority of the members of the Central Falls city council~~  
22 ~~and must also be residents of the city of Central Falls during the term of their appointment to the~~  
23 ~~housing authority.~~

24 (b) A commissioner of the town of North Providence shall receive twenty-five dollars  
25 (\$25.00) per meeting but not in excess of five hundred dollars (\$500) per year as compensation for  
26 his or her services; provided, that a commissioner of the town of Coventry shall only receive  
27 twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per attended meeting but not in excess of six hundred dollars (\$600)  
28 per year as compensation for his or her services, provided, further, that the chairperson of the  
29 Coventry housing authority shall receive thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) per attended meeting but not  
30 in excess of eight hundred forty dollars (\$840) per year as compensation for his or her services.

31 SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF  
A N A C T  
RELATING TO TOWNS AND CITIES -- CITY HOUSING AUTHORITIES

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- 1 This act would establish the composition of the housing authority for the city of Central
- 2 Falls.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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