

Department of Environmental Resources indicated that Landlord-Tenant calls would be referred to the Attorney General's Office and Baltimore Neighborhoods, Inc., a private organization which offers assistance on a statewide basis. The Committee discussed alternatives, including volunteer mediation boards and increasing multifamily licensing fees to fund full time positions. No consensus was reached on an alternative, but CB-79-1992 as amended by DER received a favorable recommendation.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION/FISCAL IMPACT

(Includes reason for proposal, as well as any unique statutory requirements)

The current Landlord-Tenant Code places responsibility for enforcement of this legislation on the Department of Environmental Resources. Implementation of the FY93 budget reductions has necessitated the abolishment of the three positions assigned to the Landlord-Tenant Office. This revision leaves the Landlord-Tenant Commission in place and requires that DER provide secretarial support to the Commission during its deliberations. The enforcement provisions performed by DER are, for the most part, also contained in State law and are enforceable through the Attorney General's Office.

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