

BILL NO. _____

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUSPEND LANDLORD
BUSINESS LICENSE FEES CONCURRENT WITH THE FEDERAL EVICTION
MORATORIUM OR ANY STATE OF MISSOURI OR JACKSON COUNTY MORATORIUM.

WHEREAS, the City of Independence has over 3,000 registered landlords and over 18,000 rental units; and,

WHEREAS, under Independence City Code Section 4.15.004, "No person shall allow to be occupied, offer for rent, rent to another for occupancy or let for occupancy any rental dwelling unless the owner has first obtained a valid business license issued in accordance with Chapter 5 of the City Code"; and,

WHEREAS, these business license fees start at \$50 for the first \$25,000 of gross receipts and then increase by \$0.29 per \$1,000 above \$25,000; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Independence collects approximately \$190,000 annually in landlord business license revenues; and,

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic has had an immense impact on both landlords and tenants as tenants struggle to pay monthly rents; and,

WHEREAS, the US is currently under a national eviction moratorium that stops landlords from evicting tenants who don't pay rent until at least December 31, 2020; and,

WHEREAS, this lack of predictable income presents a hardship for landlords;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. That the City Council of Independence, Missouri hereby directs the City Manager to suspend the imposition of business license fees for landlords through at least December 31, 2020.

SECTION 2. That should the national moratorium, or any State of Missouri or Jackson County moratorium on evictions be continued beyond December 31, 2020, the City Manager is hereby directed to extend the suspension of business license fees for landlords to run concurrent with a national, state, or local eviction moratorium.

PASSED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2020, BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

Presiding Officer of the City Council
of the City of Independence, Missouri

ATTEST:

City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

City Counselor

REVIEWED BY:

City Manager