

from the receipt by him of the certified copy of the resolution; and such special census may be used for such purpose within the year it is taken or at any time thereafter. The expense of taking such census shall be paid by the city, village, borough, or school district, as the case may be, in which the same is taken.

The term "council," as used in sections 275.11 to 275.16, means any board or body, whether composed of one or more branches, authorized to make ordinances for the government of a village, city, or borough within this state.

Approved June 4, 1971.

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## CHAPTER 784—H.F.No.761

[Coded]

*An act relating to landlords and tenants; providing damages and attorney's fees in actions to recover security deposits withheld by a landlord.*

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Minnesota:

**Section 1. [504.19] LANDLORDS AND TENANTS; REFUND OF SECURITY DEPOSIT; DAMAGES; ATTORNEY'S FEES. Subdivision 1.** Any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation which requires a damage deposit, or any other type of security deposit, in connection with the renting of real property for residential purposes, shall refund said deposit or furnish to the renter vacating such property a written statement showing the reason for the withholding of the deposit, or any portion thereof, within 31 days after the renter vacates the property.

**Sec. 2. [504.19] Subd. 2.** Any person entitled to a refund of the deposit, or any portion thereof, who is not furnished a written statement as required herein and who is required to start legal proceedings for the recovery thereof, shall be entitled on a verdict to the total amount of the deposit, or portion thereof which is withheld, plus reasonable attorney's fees.

Approved June 4, 1971.

**Changes or additions indicated by underline, deletions by ~~strikeout~~.**