Int. No. 893

By Council Members Sanchez, Ayala, Cabán, Hanif, Louis, Stevens, Hudson, Restler, Abreu, Brannan, Velázquez, De La Rosa, Brewer, Ung, Ossé, Narcisse, Avilés, Williams, Marte, Richardson Jordan, Farías, Won, Schulman, Gutiérrez, Joseph, Nurse, Gennaro, Krishnan and Rivera

..Title

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to expanding eligibility for rental assistance

..Body

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. Chapter 1 of title 21 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 21-151 to read as follows:

§ 21-151 Expanding eligibility for rental assistance. a. Definitions. For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

Household. The term “household” means households who are not living in shelter or experiencing street homelessness.

Rental assistance voucher. The term “rental assistance voucher” means any city-initiated rental housing subsidy for homeless families and individuals.

Shelter. The term “shelter” means temporary emergency housing provided to homeless adults, adult families, and families with children by the department or a provider under contract or similar agreement with the department.

b. The department shall not base eligibility for a rental assistance voucher on the following:

1. whether a household resides in a rent-controlled apartment;

2. whether a member of a household receives adult protective services pursuant to section 472 of the social services law; or

3. whether a member of a household participates in a community guardianship program pursuant to section 472-d of the social services law.

c. For purposes of determining eligibility for a rental assistance voucher, the department shall accept documents demonstrating that a household is at risk of eviction. Such documents may include, but not be limited to, written demands for payment of past due rent.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

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1/10/2022