

S.F. No. 222 – Nonresident tenant organizers; background checks

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S.F. 222 amends a 2024 law that permits tenants to organize and operate a tenant association. <u>Section 504B.212</u> requires landlords to permit tenant organizers to conduct activities related to the establishment and operation of tenant associations, including distributing information to individual units, initiating contact with tenants, and convening meetings in spaces at the residential building.

Under section 504B.001, subd. 13b, a tenant organizer may include a person who is not a tenant and does not reside in the residential building. This bill permits landlords to conduct criminal background checks on a nonresident tenant organizer before the organizer may exercise the rights under section 504B.212. The nonresident tenant organizer must complete a criminal history consent form and pay the background check fee. A landlord may prohibit a nonresident tenant organizer from exercising the rights of an organizer if the organizer was convicted of a crime of violence or refuses to consent to the background check.