

September 5, 2019

## MEMORANDUM

То:	Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts Committee
From:	Asha Venkataraman, Analyst
Subject:	Council Bill 119598: Tenant liability for damages caused due to domestic violence

On September 10, 2019, the Committee on Civil Rights, Utilities, Economic Development & Arts (CRUEDA) will discuss <u>Council Bill (CB) 119598</u>, which would address a tenant's liability for damage to a landlord's property when caused by a perpetrator of domestic violence. This memorandum: (1) provides a short summary of the legislation as introduced; and (2) describes proposed amendments to the legislation.

## CB 119598

As described in the <u>Central Staff memo dated August 8, 2019</u>, CB 119598 exempts tenants from liability for damages caused to a landlord's property if the person perpetrating domestic violence against the tenant or their household members causes the damage. Under the proposed legislation as introduced, the tenant would be required to notify the landlord that they or one of the members of their household is a survivor of domestic violence and that the damage to the property was caused by the perpetrator of the domestic violence. The tenant would also be required to provide the landlord with documentation substantiating the notice through a record of a written report to a qualified third party or through a protection order. The legislation is intended to mirror the <u>protections at the state level</u> that allow a tenant to terminate a rental agreement early without further obligation.

## **Proposed Amendments**

During the initial discussion of this bill at the August 13, 2019, CRUEDA meeting, Central Staff and Councilmembers identified several issues for further consideration and potential amendment. The seven amendments Councilmember Herbold is sponsoring are described below. Attachment A to this memo covers Amendment 1 in the form of a substitute bill because of a proposed title change. Attachment B contains language for the remaining amendments.

## <u>Amendment 1</u>: Aligning protections to cover crimes included in the <u>Revised Code of Washington</u> (<u>RCW) 59.18.575</u> by adding in sexual assault, stalking, and unlawful harassment (Attachment A)

CB 119598 as introduced provides a tenant experiencing domestic violence exemption from liability for property damage if the perpetrator of the violence and the property damage is the same person. That language was drafted assuming that the definition of domestic violence covered instances of sexual assault, stalking, and unlawful harassment. However, the RCW

narrowly defines "domestic violence" and more broadly defines sexual assault, stalking, and unlawful harassment as follows:

**RCW 70.125.030(7):** "Sexual assault" means one or more of the following: (a) Rape or rape of a child; (b) Assault with intent to commit rape or rape of a child; (c) Incest or indecent liberties; (d) Child molestation; (e) Sexual misconduct with a minor; (f) Custodial sexual misconduct; (g) Crimes with a sexual motivation; (h) Sexual exploitation or commercial sex abuse of a minor; (i) Promoting prostitution; or (j) An attempt to commit any of the aforementioned offenses.

**RCW 9A.46.110(1):** A person commits the crime of stalking if, without lawful authority and under circumstances not amounting to a felony attempt of another crime: (a) He or she intentionally and repeatedly harasses or repeatedly follows another person; and (b) The person being harassed or followed is placed in fear that the stalker intends to injure the person, another person, or property of the person or of another person. The feeling of fear must be one that a reasonable person in the same situation would experience under all the circumstances; and (c) The stalker either: (i) Intends to frighten, intimidate, or harass the person; or (ii) Knows or reasonably should know that the person is afraid, intimidated, or harassed even if the stalker did not intend to place the person in fear or intimidate or harass the person.

**RCW 59.18.570(9):** "Unlawful harassment" has the same meaning as in RCW 10.14.020 and also includes any request for sexual favors to a tenant or household member in return for a change in or performance of any or all terms of a lease or rental agreement.

**RCW 10.14.020:** "Unlawful harassment" means a knowing and willful course of conduct directed at a specific person which seriously alarms, annoys, harasses, or is detrimental to such person, and which serves no legitimate or lawful purpose. The course of conduct shall be such as would cause a reasonable person to suffer substantial emotional distress, and shall actually cause substantial emotional distress to the petitioner, or, when the course of conduct would cause a reasonable parent to fear for the well-being of their child.

Defining sexual assault, stalking, and unlawful harassment in the proposed legislation ensures that the protections will apply in these instances. Adding these protections to the bill will require a change in bill title, requiring introduction of a substitute bill. This amendment also includes some structural changes and editorial streamlining to provide more clarity, which are reflected in Attachment A. The substitute bill does not include amendments two through seven described below.

## <u>Amendment 2</u>: Adding and updating language and conventions to reflect legislation passed in the 2019 State legislative session (Attachment B, Pages 1-2)

CB 119598 as introduced contains definitions for "domestic violence" and "family or household members" used in the state RCW before passage of bills amending those definitions in the 2019 State legislative session. The Washington State Legislature passed <u>Engrossed Second Substitute</u> <u>House Bill (ESHB) 1517</u>, which amends RCW provisions relating to domestic violence, including both definitions. ESHB 1517 changes the definition of "domestic violence" and "family or household member" as follows:

**RCW 26.50.010:** "Domestic violence" means (a) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members; (b) sexual assault of one family or household member by another; or (c),or stalking as defined in RCW 9A.46.110 of one intimate partner by another intimate partner; or (b) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, or stalking as defined in RCW9A.46.110 of one family or household member by another intimate partner; or (b) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or stalking as defined in RCW9A.46.110 of one family or household member by another family or household member.

**RCW 26.50.010:** "Family or household members" means spouses, domestic partners, former spouses, former domestic partners, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, : (a) <u>A</u>adult persons related by blood or marriage, : (b) adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons 16 years of age or older who are presently residing relationship, persons 16 years of age or older who may a be or have had a dating relationship, persons 16 years of age or older who may have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren.

Because the intent of CB 119598 is to mirror the state provisions around early lease termination in instances of domestic violence as closely as possible, the amendment would remove the existing definitions in the legislation and instead reference the meanings defined in the RCW as amended (Attachment B, Page 1).

To align the convention used in the definitions section, the amendment would also change the form of the definition of tenant to specifically reference the sections of the RCW that define the term (Attachment B, Pages 1-2). This is not a substantive change.

Lastly, <u>Substitute Senate Bill 5333</u> amends RCW 59.18.575 to reflect changes made to referenced sections in the state law. To ensure CB 119598 also reflects these changes, some subsections referenced in the bill would be updated to match the language in the RCW (Attachment B, Page 2).

## <u>Amendment 3</u>: Clarifying the contents of required documentation (Attachment B, Page 3)

In CB 119598 as introduced, a tenant's exemption from liability required that the tenant submit documentation to the landlord that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence and that the perpetrator of the domestic violence was the person who caused damage to the landlord's property. The elements to be included in the report would be:

- That the tenant or the household member notified the qualified third party that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence;
- The time and date the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage occurred;
- The location where the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage occurred;
- A brief description of the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage; and
- That the tenant or household member informed the qualified third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage.

However, the language did not make clear that the property damage does not have to occur at the same time the act of domestic violence occurs. The intent of the legislation is to cover damage caused by a perpetrator of domestic violence. However, a perpetrator of domestic violence can cause damage as a part of a pattern of abuse, but not necessarily within the strict legal definition of an incident of "domestic violence." To ensure that property damage caused by a perpetrator of domestic violence but outside the strict definition of an incident of domestic violence is within the purview of the tenant's exemption from liability, the amendment would change the language of the elements required in the report to separate the description of the property damage from any act of domestic violence.

# <u>Amendment 4</u>: Aligning City regulations with the prohibition against sharing the name of the alleged perpetrator with the landlord in the RCW and clarifying a landlord's remedies (Attachment B, Pages 4-5)

The requirement to provide a record of a report made to a third party to the landlord is drawn from a similar requirement in RCW 59.18.575. However, the state law also prohibits the record provided to the tenant from containing the name of the alleged perpetrator of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking. Instead, the name is retained on the copy of the record of the report kept by the qualified third party. This prohibition was not included in CB 119598 as introduced in an effort to balance the landlord's ability to hold the perpetrator liable for damages caused and privacy concerns. However, after further research and discussion, Councilmember Herbold decided that the negative impacts of providing the alleged perpetrator's name on a record of a report outweighed the potential benefit of providing the name of the alleged perpetrator in this report to a landlord for the purpose of recovering damages. Survivors make reports to a qualified third party for a variety of purposes. Because those reports can be used to document abuse and criminal activity and allow government authorities to act to protect and support victims, there is high value in survivors reporting their experiences. But for the same reasons, reporting can be dangerous to survivors, because reporting can be seen as the survivor informing on or "ratting out" the alleged perpetrator to authorities who can hold the perpetrator responsible, which is on reason for confidentiality provisions.<sup>1</sup>

Though landlords cannot access the perpetrator's identity through this specific reporting mechanism, this legislation does not prohibit the landlord from accessing this information in other ways. If a survivor feels safe in providing the identity of the alleged perpetrator to the landlord, they are free to do so. It is also possible that the alleged perpetrator has been party to a lease agreement with the tenant in the past, or that the alleged perpetrator's identity is common knowledge amongst other tenants or known to the landlord in some other way. Though these sources of the perpetrator's identity could also pose a risk to a survivor tenant, they do not carry the additional negative consequences of decreased reporting to a third party. In addition, it is highly likely that a survivor will only take advantage of the exemption created in this legislation if they feel safe enough to do so. The prohibition contained in RCW 59.18.575 and proposed in this amendment serves dual purposes: (1) to help to ensure that survivors are not discouraged from reporting, and (2) to ensure that the third party to whom they are reporting is not put in the position of or forced into giving out information that could compromise the survivor's safety.

To make clear that landlords can hold those causing property damage responsible, Amendment 4 would add language stating that nothing precludes landlords from seeking compensation from perpetrators for property damage they cause.

There are two options for moving this potential amendment. If Amendment 1 has been adopted, Option 4a reflects the appropriate changes (Attachment B, Page 4). If Amendment 1 is not adopted, Option 4b reflects the appropriate changes (Attachment B, Page 5).

## <u>Amendment 5</u>: Adding in evidentiary protections for survivors (Attachment B, Page 6)

RCW 59.18.575 includes provisions that maintain the privileged nature of reporting between a survivor of domestic violence and the qualified third party to whom they report and makes clear that record provided for the purposes of early termination does not waive this privilege

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This concept is reflected in how child support cooperation is handled at the federal level. Federal law requires that applicants for public benefits such as Medicaid and Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) must cooperate with child support enforcement programs. However, research has shown that establishing, collecting, and enforcing child support orders are triggers for domestic violence. Because of this risk, the federal law contains a "family violence" option, which exempts TANF applicants from cooperation requirements if cooperating would increase risk of domestic violence. *See* "Child Support and Domestic Violence,"

http://www.ncsl.org/research/human-services/child-support-and-domestic-violence.aspx (last visited Aug. 30, 2019).

without waiver by the survivor. Amendment 5 would replicate this provision, reinforcing that provision of the verification for purposes of the exemption from liability for damages does not waive the privileged nature of the report without waiver by the survivor.

There are two options for moving this potential amendment. If Amendment 1 has been adopted, Option 5a reflects the appropriate changes. If Amendment 1 is not adopted, Option 5b reflects the appropriate changes.

## <u>Amendment 6:</u> Changing the effective date to January 1, 2020 (Attachment B, Page 7)

The Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections (SDCI) is the enforcement body for this section of the code. Because of the changes made at the state level during the 2019 State legislative session as well as other bills discussed in this committee that change landlord tenant law, postponing the effective date of this legislation will allow SDCI time to prepare accurate outreach materials and analyze enforcement capacity.

## Amendment 7: Removing the code reviser section (Attachment B, Page 8)

CB 119598 as introduced contained a section that would have allowed a code reviser to correct non-substantive inconsistencies if multiple ordinances amended the same section of the code without reference to amendments. Since introduction of this bill, the Council passed <u>Ordinance</u> <u>125890</u>, which applies this and other language to the entire code, removing the need for the code reviser section in this legislation.

## **Next Steps**

If Amendment 1 is adopted, the bill will require a change in bill title, requiring introduction of a substitute bill. The substitute bill could be introduced on September 16 and discussed for a vote at the next CRUEDA committee meeting on September 24. If Amendment 1 is not adopted, CB 119598 as amended will likely be considered again at the next CRUEDA committee meeting on September 24, and potentially voted out of committee for a Council vote on September 30.

## Attachments:

- A. Amendment 1 to CB 119598
- B. Amendments 2-7 to CB 119598
- cc: Kirstan Arestad, Exec Director Aly Pennucci, Supervising Analyst

	Attachment A - Amendment 1 to CB 119598
	Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD
1	D5c
1	CITY OF SEATTLE
2	ORDINANCE
3	COUNCIL BILL
4	title
5	AN ORDINANCE relating to rental agreements-and tenant liability for damages; relieving a
6 7	tenant experiencing domestic violence <u>, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking</u> from liability for damage to the landlord's property caused by a perpetrator of domestic
8	violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking; and amending Sections
9	7.24.020, 7.24.030, and 22.206.170 of the Seattle Municipal Code.
10	body
11	WHEREAS, on February 4, 2019, Council adopted Resolution 31861, which outlined harms that
12	evictions from housing have on tenants and marginalized communities; and
13	WHEREAS, Resolution 31861 prioritized exploration of solutions for seven problems identified
14	in the Seattle Women's Commission and Housing Justice Project report "Losing Home:
15	The Human Cost of Eviction in Seattle"; and
16	WHEREAS, "Losing Home" identified domestic violence as a reason tenants fall behind on rent
17	and that domestic violence was a precursor to housing instability, especially for women;
18	and
19	WHEREAS, the first problem identified for Council to address in Resolution 31861 was the
20	"financial hardship for tenants experiencing domestic violence who are held liable for
21	damages caused by a perpetrator of domestic violence"; and
22	WHEREAS, costs arising from acts of domestic violence can force a person experiencing
23	domestic violence to go back to their abuser for financial reasons; NOW, THEREFORE,
24	BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY OF SEATTLE AS FOLLOWS:
25	Section 1. Section 7.24.020 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance
26	125840, is amended as follows:
27	7.24.020 Definitions

Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD D5c

1

2

3

## As used in this Chapter 7.24:

"Department" means the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections or its successor.

4	"Domestic violence" means (a) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of
5	fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household members;
6	(b) sexual assault of one family or household member by another; or (c) stalking as defined in
7	RCW 9A.46.110 of one family or household member by another family or household member.
8	"Director" means the Director of the Seattle Department of Construction and Inspections
9	or the Director's designee.
10	"Family or household members" means spouses, domestic partners, former spouses,
11	former domestic partners, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have
12	been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult
13	persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons 16
14	years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past
15	and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons 16 years of age or older with whom a
16	person 16 years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship, and persons who have a
17	biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and
18	grandparents and grandchildren.
19	* * *
20	"Pet damage deposit" means money that is paid by the tenant to the landlord at any time
21	as security to pay for damage to the landlord's property that is caused by a pet for which the
22	tenant is responsible.

## Attachment A - Amendment 1 to CB 119598

Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD D5c

1	<sup>D5c</sup> <u>"Qualified third party" means any of the following people acting in their official or</u>
2	employment capacity:
3	1. Law enforcement officers;
4	2. Persons subject to the provisions of chapter 18.120 RCW;
5	3. Employees of a court of the state;
6	4. Licensed mental health professionals or other licensed counselors;
7	5. Employees of crime victim/witness programs as defined in RCW 7.69.020 who
8	are trained advocates for the program;
9	6. Members of the clergy as defined in RCW 26.44.020; and
10	7. Persons performing case management employed at social service agencies.
11	* * *
12	"Security deposit" means any payment, fee, charge, or deposit of money paid to the
13	landlord by the tenant at the beginning of the tenancy as a deposit and security for performance
14	of the tenant's obligations in a written rental agreement, but does not include payment of a
15	reservation fee authorized by RCW 59.18.253(2) or a payment to assure the payment of rent,
16	provided that a security deposit may be applied to rent as provided in Section 7.24.030. Security
17	deposits include payments, charges, or deposits for the purpose of:
18	1. Repairing damage to the premises, exclusive of ordinary wear and tear, caused by the
19	
19	tenant, or by a guest or licensee of the tenant <u>unless the tenant is exempt from liability pursuant</u>
20	tenant, or by a guest or licensee of the tenant <u>unless the tenant is exempt from liability pursuant</u> to subsection 7.24.030.H.

## Attachment A - Amendment 1 to CB 119598

Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD

	LEG DV Damages ORD
1	3. Compensating the landlord for the tenant's failure to return keys to the premises,
2	except that a landlord shall not retain any portion of the deposit for keys for lock mechanisms
3	that must be changed upon a change of tenancy pursuant to subsection 22.206.140.A.7.
4	"Sexual assault" has the meaning defined in RCW 70.125.030 as amended.
5	"Stalking" has the meaning defined in RCW 9A.46.110 as amended.
6	"Tenant" means a "tenant" as defined in and within the scope of RCW 59.18.030 and
7	RCW 59.18.040 of the RLTA in effect at the time the rental agreement is executed. At the time
8	of passage of the ordinance codified in this chapter, the RLTA defined "tenant" as "any person
9	who is entitled to occupy a dwelling unit primarily for living or dwelling purposes under a rental
10	agreement."
11	"Unlawful harassment" has the meaning defined in RCW 59.18.570 as amended.
12	* * *
13	Section 2. Section 7.24.030 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance
14	125558, is amended as follows:
15	7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements
15 16	7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements <pre>* * *</pre>
16	* * *
16 17	* * * <u>H. Any rental agreement entered into after the effective date of the ordinance introduced</u>
16 17 18	* * * <u>H. Any rental agreement entered into after the effective date of the ordinance introduced</u> as Council Bill 119598 is subject to the requirements of this subsection 7.24.030.H.
16 17 18 19	<ul> <li>* * *</li> <li><u>H. Any rental agreement entered into after the effective date of the ordinance introduced</u></li> <li><u>as Council Bill 119598 is subject to the requirements of this subsection 7.24.030.H.</u></li> <li><u>1. A tenant is not liable for damage to the landlord's property that was caused by</u></li> </ul>
16 17 18 19 20	*** <u>H. Any rental agreement entered into after the effective date of the ordinance introduced</u> <u>as Council Bill 119598 is subject to the requirements of this subsection 7.24.030.H.</u> <u>1. A tenant is not liable for damage to the landlord's property that was caused by</u> <u>a perpetrator of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking if:</u>
16 17 18 19 20 21	<ul> <li>***</li> <li><u>H. Any rental agreement entered into after the effective date of the ordinance introduced</u></li> <li><u>as Council Bill 119598 is subject to the requirements of this subsection 7.24.030.H.</u></li> <li><u>1. A tenant is not liable for damage to the landlord's property that was caused by</u></li> <li><u>a perpetrator of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking if:</u></li> <li><u>1. A tenant notifies the landlord in writing that the tenant or a</u></li> </ul>

## Attachment A - Amendment 1 to CB 119598

Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD D5c

1	domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking regardless of whether the
2	property damage occurred during an act of domestic violence; and
3	<u>2b</u> . The tenant or the household member provides documentation to the
4	landlord that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault,
5	unlawful harassment, or stalking and that the perpetrator of the domestic violence, sexual assault,
6	unlawful harassment, or stalking caused the property damage. The documentation must include a
7	written report that describes the act of domestic violence and the damage to the landlord's
8	property. The written report-shall consist of a document signed and dated by thea qualified third
9	party stating:
10	ei. That the tenant or the household member notified the qualified
11	third party that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence, sexual
12	assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking;
13	bii. The time and date the act or acts of domestic violence and
14	property damage occurred;
15	eiii. The location where the act or acts of domestic violence and
16	property damage occurred;
17	div. A brief description of the act or acts of domestic violence and
18	property damage; and
19	ev. That the tenant or household member informed the qualified
20	third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence, sexual assault,
21	unlawful harassment, or stalking and property damage. The written record may be in the form of
22	a copy of a valid order of protection under one or more of the following: chapters 7.90, 26.26, or
23	26.50 RCW or RCW 9A.46.040, 9A.46.050, 10.14.080, 10.99.040(2) or 10.99.040(3), or

## Attachment A - Amendment 1 to CB 119598 Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD D5c 1 26.09.050, if the protection order contains elements 7.24.030.H.<del>2.a</del>1.b.i through 2 7.24.030.H.<del>2.e</del>1.b.v. 3 Section 3. Section 22.206.170 of the Seattle Municipal Code, last amended by Ordinance 4 125343, is amended as follows: 5 22.206.170 Duties of tenants 6 It ((shall be)) is the duty of every tenant to: \* \* \* 7 8 E. Within a reasonable time, repair or pay for the reasonable cost of repair of all damage 9 to the building caused by the negligent or intentional act of the tenant or the invitees or licensees 10 of the tenant, unless the tenant is exempt from liability pursuant to subsection 7.24.030.H; \* \* \* 11 12 Section 4. If any section or subsection of the Seattle Municipal Code affected by this 13 ordinance is amended by ordinance without reference to amendments made by this ordinance, 14 each ordinance shall be given effect to the extent that the amendments do not conflict in purpose, 15 and the code reviser may publish the section or subsection in the official code with all 16 amendments incorporated therein.

	Asha Venkataraman LEG DV Damages ORD
1	D <sub>5c</sub> Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by
2	the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it
3	shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.
4	Passed by the City Council the day of, 2019,
5	and signed by me in open session in authentication of its passage this day of
6	, 2019.
7	
8	President of the City Council
0	
9	Approved by me this day of, 2019.
9	Approved by me tins day of, 2019.
10	
11	Jenny A. Durkan, Mayor
12	Filed by me this day of, 2019.
13	
14	Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk
15	(Seal)

**Amendment 2**: Adding and updating language and conventions to reflect legislation passed in the 2019 State legislative session.

In Section 1, amending 7.24.020 Definitions:

<u>"Domestic violence"</u> <u>means (a) physical harm, bodily injury, assault, or the infliction of</u> <u>fear of imminent physical harm, bodily injury or assault, between family or household</u> <u>members; (b) sexual assault of one family or household member by another; or (c) stalking as</u> <u>defined in RCW 9A.46.110 of one family or household member by another family or household</u> <u>member.</u> has the meaning defined in RCW 26.50.010 as amended.

"Family or household members" means spouses, domestic partners, former spouses, former domestic partners, persons who have a child in common regardless of whether they have been married or have lived together at any time, adult persons related by blood or marriage, adult persons who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past, persons 16 years of age or older who are presently residing together or who have resided together in the past and who have or have had a dating relationship, persons 16 years of age or older with whom a person 16 years of age or older has or has had a dating relationship, and persons who have a biological or legal parent-child relationship, including stepparents and stepchildren and grandparents and grandchildren. has the meaning defined in RCW 26.50.010 as amended.

"Tenant" ((means a "tenant" as defined in and within the scope of RCW 59.18.030 and RCW 59.18.040 of the RLTA in effect at the time the rental agreement is executed. At the time of passage of the ordinance codified in this chapter, the RLTA defined "tenant" as "any person who is entitled to occupy a dwelling unit primarily for living or dwelling purposes under a rental agreement.")) has the meaning defined in and within the scope of RCW 59.18.030 and RCW 59.18.040 as amended.

In Section 2, amending 7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements H.2:

e. That the tenant or household member informed the qualified third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage. The written record may be in the form of a copy of a valid order of protection under one or more of the following: chapters 7.90, <del>26.26, or</del> 26.50, 26.26A or 26.26B RCW or RCW 9A.46.040, 9A.46.050, 10.14.080, 10.99.040(2) or <del>10.99.040</del>(3), or 26.09.050, if the protection order contains elements 7.24.030.H.2.a through 7.24.030.H.2.e.

### Attachment B – Amendments 2-7 to CB 119598

**Amendment 3**: Clarifying the contents of required documentation.

In Section 2, amending 7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements

H:

2. The tenant or the household member provides documentation to the landlord that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence and that the perpetrator of the domestic violence caused the property damage. The documentation must include a written report that describes the act of domestic violence and the damage to the landlord's property. The written report shall consist of a document signed and dated by the qualified third party stating: a. That the tenant or the household member notified the qualified third party that the tenant or household member was a victim of domestic violence; b. The time and date the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage occurred; c. The location where the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage occurred; d. A brief description of the act or acts of <del>domestic violence and</del> property damage; and e. That the tenant or household member informed the qualified third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence and that the perpetrator is the person who caused the property damage.

**Amendment 4**: Aligning with the RCW the prohibition against sharing the name of the alleged perpetrator with the landlord and clarifying a landlord's remedies.

In Section 2, amending 7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements H.2:

Option A: If Amendment 1 is adopted:

e. That the tenant or household member informed the qualified third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage. The record of the report provided to the tenant or household member shall not include the name of the alleged perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking. The qualified third party shall keep a copy of the record of the report and shall note on the retained copy the name of the alleged perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking. The written record may be in the form of a copy of a valid order of protection under one or more of the following: chapters 7.90, 26.26, or 26.50 RCW or RCW 9A.46.040, 9A.46.050, 10.14.080, 10.99.040(2) or 10.99.040(3), or 26.09.050, if the protection order contains elements 7.24.030.H.2.a through 7.24.030.H.2.e.

<u>3. Nothing in this legislation precludes a landlord from seeking compensation</u> <u>from the perpetrator of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment, or stalking for</u> <u>damage to the landlord's property caused by the perpetrator.</u> Option B: If Amendment 1 is rejected:

e. That the tenant or household member informed the qualified third party of the name of the perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence and property damage. The record of the report provided to the tenant or household member shall not include the name of the alleged perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence. The qualified third party shall keep a copy of the record of the report and shall note on the retained copy the name of the alleged perpetrator of the act or acts of domestic violence. The written record may be in the form of a copy of a valid order of protection under one or more of the following: chapters 7.90, 26.26, or 26.50 RCW or RCW 9A.46.040, 9A.46.050, 10.14.080, 10.99.040(2) or 10.99.040(3), or 26.09.050, if the protection order contains elements 7.24.030.H.2.a through 7.24.030.H.2.e.

<u>3. Nothing in this legislation precludes a landlord from seeking compensation</u> <u>from the perpetrator of domestic violence for damage to the landlord's property caused by the</u> <u>perpetrator.</u>

#### Attachment B – Amendments 2-7 to CB 119598

Amendment 5: Adding in evidentiary protections for survivors.

In Section 2, amending 7.24.030 Rental agreement requirements H:

Option A: If Amendment 1 is adopted:

2. The provision of verification of a report under subsection 7.24.030.H.2 does not waive the confidential or privileged nature of the communication between a victim of domestic violence, sexual assault, unlawful harassment or stalking with a qualified third party pursuant to RCW 5.60.060, 70.123.075, or 70.125.065. No record or evidence obtained from such disclosure may be used in any civil, administrative, or criminal proceeding against the victim unless a written waiver of applicable evidentiary privilege is obtained, except that the verification itself, and no other privileged information, under subsection 7.24.030.H.2 may be used in civil proceedings brought under this Section 7.24.030.

Option B: If Amendment 1 is rejected:

2. The provision of verification of a report under subsection 7.24.030.H.2 does not waive the confidential or privileged nature of the communication between a victim of domestic violence with a qualified third party pursuant to RCW 5.60.060, 70.123.075, or 70.125.065. No record or evidence obtained from such disclosure may be used in any civil, administrative, or criminal proceeding against the victim unless a written waiver of applicable evidentiary privilege is obtained, except that the verification itself, and no other privileged information, under subsection 7.24.030.H.2 may be used in civil proceedings brought under this Section 7.24.030.

## Attachment B – Amendments 2-7 to CB 119598

**Amendment 6**: Changing the effective date to January 1, 2020.

## Section 4. Sections 1, 2, and 3 of this ordinance shall take effect and be in force on

## <u>January 1, 2020.</u>

Section 5. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force 30 days after its approval by the Mayor, but if not approved and returned by the Mayor within ten days after presentation, it shall take effect as provided by Seattle Municipal Code Section 1.04.020.

Amendment 7: Removing the code reviser section

Section 4. If any section or subsection of the Seattle Municipal Code affected by this ordinance is amended by ordinance without reference to amendments made by this ordinance, each ordinance shall be given effect to the extent that the amendments do not conflict in purpose, and the code reviser may publish the section or subsection in the official code with all amendments incorporated therein.