

Introduced by House Committee on General, Housing and Military Affairs

Date:

Subject: Court procedure; commerce and trade; ejectment; property of tenant

remaining after eviction; discrimination; public accommodations;

rental and sale of real estate

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to permit a landlord to dispose of a tenant's property remaining in a leased premises when the landlord is legally restored to possession of the premises. This bill also proposes to protect a person with disabilities from coercion, threats, interference, or other discrimination while exercising his or her rights under Vermont's fair housing and public accommodations law.

An act relating to disposal of property following an eviction, and fair housing and public accommodations

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 12 V.S.A. § 4854a is amended to read:

§ 4854a. PROPERTY OF TENANT REMAINING ON PREMISES AFTER
EVICITION

(a) A landlord may dispose of any personal property remaining in a dwelling unit or leased premises without notice or liability to the tenant or owner of the personal property:

(e) Retaliation prohibited. A person shall not coerce, threaten, interfere, or
otherwise discriminate against any individual ~~because that individual:~~

1 (1) who has opposed any act or practice that is prohibited under section
2 4502 or 4503 of this title;

3 (2) who has lodged a complaint or has testified, assisted, or participated
4 in any manner with the Human Rights Commission in an investigation of acts
5 or practices prohibited by ~~chapter 139 of this title~~ this chapter;

6 (3) who is known by the person to be about to lodge a complaint, testify,
7 assist, or participate in any manner in an investigation of acts or practices
8 prohibited by ~~chapter 139 of this title~~ this chapter;

9 (4) who is exercising or enjoying a right granted or protected by this
10 chapter; or

11 ~~(4)~~(5) who is believed by the person to have acted as described in
12 subdivisions (1) through ~~(3)~~(4) of this subsection.

13 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATES

14 (a) Sec. 1 of this act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

15 (b) This section and Sec. 2 of this act shall take effect on passage.