

# SENATE COMMUNITY AND URBAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

## STATEMENT TO

### **SENATE, No. 858**

with committee amendments

# STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: DECEMBER 1, 2022

The Senate Community and Urban Affairs Committee reports favorably Senate Bill No. 858, with committee amendments.

The bill, as amended, directs the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency to establish, and make available on the Internet website of the New Jersey Housing Resource Center (center) or its successor, a single online application for individuals to pre-apply to multiple affordable and senior housing units and housing developments at one time. The bill also consolidates applications for housing and housing related subsidies into one application and incorporates this application into the online application to pre-apply for affordable housing.

Under the bill, the online application serves only as a pre-application to determine initial eligibility and standing on waitlists for the available housing and is not to serve as a final determination of eligibility. The application is to provide an individual with the ability to select specific municipalities, counties, and general regions of the State for housing they wish to pre-apply. The application is to be applicable to all housing listed on the center's website, which is to include, but is not to be limited to: rental housing, for-sale housing, temporary housing, and priority housing.

The bill also requires the consolidation of all applications for housing and housing related subsidies provided under any State or federal subsidy program into one application, which is to be incorporated into the single online application. The application consolidating housing and housing related subsidy applications is to have the capability to serve as a final determination of eligibility. The consolidated application is to include, but would not be limited to, several subsidy programs enumerated in the bill.

#### COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS:

The committee amended the bill to replace the word "singular" with "single."