

meet certain benchmarks to promptly resolve utility outages; and

Whereas, However, according to media reports, tenants are still struggling with outages stemming from damages that occurred during Superstorm Sandy back in 2012, as well as, reoccurring utility outages throughout the NYCHA portfolio; and

Whereas, Tenants pay rent to NYCHA with a reasonable expectation for habitability and the provision of basic utility services, and NYCHA should be accountable to tenants when it fails to make repairs or perform the necessary maintenance to prevent utility outages; and

Whereas, A.1866, sponsored by Assembly Member Khaleel Anderson in the New York State Assembly and companion bill S.1603, sponsored by State Senator Michael Gianaris in the New York State Senate, would require NYCHA to give a prorated rent reduction to tenants who suffer interruptions to their utility services; and

Whereas, NYCHA has a legal and moral obligation to keep the utility systems functioning properly, the passage of A.1866/S.1603 would hold NYCHA accountable when it fails to deliver on its commitments; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls on the New York State legislature to pass and the Governor to sign A.1866/S.1603, in relation to enacting the NYCHA Utility Accountability Act.

JLC
LS 7404
03/15/2022