

Communication from Public

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Date Submitted: 01/29/2025 08:24 AM

Council File No: 24-1031

Comments for Public Posting: RealPage who made a public comment to the Housing Committee, has been the target of lawsuits filed by the renters and prosecutors in Arizona, North Carolina and Washington D.C., to name a few, along with the Department of Justice from the previous administration having filed a suit against this organization. Below is the URL of the ProPublica article and a few excerpts for your review and consideration in this motion: ***** The DOJ complaint, which is more than 100 pages long, quotes RealPage executives and landlords speaking about the impact of the software. The lawsuit alleges that the company's software works by helping landlords realize that if they all raise prices, or fail to drop them during a downturn, "a rising tide raises all ships." ... "Americans should not have to pay more in rent because a company has found a new way to scheme with landlords to break the law," Attorney General Merrick Garland said at the news conference. ProPublica's story found that in one Seattle neighborhood, 70% of all multifamily apartments were overseen by just 10 property managers — every single one of whom used pricing software sold by RealPage. The company claimed its software could help landlords "outperform the market" by 3% to 7%. Justice officials alleged that RealPage "polices" landlords' compliance with its recommendations. Its software has an "auto-accept" setting, which allows landlords to automatically adopt its suggestions and "effectively permits RealPage to determine the price a renter will pay," Garland said. The states whose attorneys general have joined the federal lawsuit are North Carolina, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Minnesota, Oregon, Tennessee and Washington. Meanwhile, housing costs have emerged as a political issue in the presidential election, as the candidates travel the country making their cases. *****
<https://www.propublica.org/article/realpage-lawsuit-doj-antitrustdoj-files-antitrust-suit-against-maker-of-rent-setting-algorithm>