



Metropolitan Nashville and Davidson County, TN

Legislation Text

File #: BL2022-1471, **Version:** 2

An ordinance to amend Sections 16.24.030 and 17.04.060 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws to amend the definitions of "dwelling unit" and "family". (Proposal No. 2022Z-017TX-001).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT OF NASHVILLE AND DAVIDSON COUNTY:

Section 1. That Section 16.24.030 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws is amended by deleting the definition of "Family" and replacing it with the following:

"Family" means for purposes of this chapter:

1. An individual; or
2. Two or more persons related by blood, marriage or law; or
3. A group of two or more unrelated persons living together in a dwelling unit, not to exceed the ~~limitations in 16.24.400-J~~ seven persons. Such group may include a combination of related and unrelated persons.

Section 2. That Section 17.04.060 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws is amended by deleting the definition of "Dwelling unit" and replacing it with the following:

"Dwelling unit" means a single unit providing complete, independent living facilities for one family including permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking and sanitation.

Section ~~2~~3. That Section 17.04.060 of the Metropolitan Code of Laws is amended by deleting the definition of "Family" and replacing it with the following:

"Family" means one of the following:

1. An individual, or
2. Two or more persons related by blood, marriage or law, or,
3. A group of two or more unrelated persons living together in a dwelling unit, not to exceed the ~~limitations in 16.24.400-J~~ seven persons. Such group may include a combination of related and unrelated persons.
4. A group of not more than eight unrelated persons with disabilities including three additional persons acting as support staff or guardians, who need not be related to each other or to any of the persons with disabilities, residing together in a home in accordance with Tennessee Code Annotated § 13-24-102. For purposes of this subsection, 'persons with disabilities' includes persons with a physical or mental impairment which substantially limits one or more of such person's major life activities, a record of having such an impairment, or being regarded as having such an impairment, but such term does not include current, illegal use of or addiction to a controlled substance (as defined in section 102 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 802)). For the purposes of this subsection, "persons with disabilities" does not include persons who pose a substantial likelihood of serious harm as defined in Tennessee Code Annotated § 33-6-501, or who have been convicted of serious criminal conduct

related to such disability.

5. A group of not more than eight unrelated persons over the age of sixty-five, including two additional persons acting as house parents or guardians, living together as a single housekeeping unit.

Section 34. The Metropolitan Clerk is directed to publish a notice announcing such change in a newspaper of general circulation within five days following final passage.

Section 45. This Ordinance shall take effect upon publication of above said notice announcing such change in a newspaper of general circulation, the welfare of The Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County requiring it.

Analysis

This ordinance, as substituted and amended, amends the definition of “Family” in Titles 16 and 17 of the Metropolitan Code to change the allowance of unrelated persons living together from three to four persons and provide that this group can include a combination of related and unrelated persons.

Additionally, this ordinance amends the portion of the “Family” definition in Title 17 related to group homes for persons with disabilities to update terminology to modern standards and to align with state law more closely. The ordinance also adds a definition of “dwelling unit” to clarify that it is a single unit for use by one family.

This has been approved with a substitute by the Planning Commission.