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REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT
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November 23, 2021

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

On behalf of the thousands of New Yorkers who are currently at risk for eviction, housing insecurity, or face becoming unhoused, I write to you to urge you to extend the eviction moratorium significantly past the January 15, 2022 deadline. This request comes following the announcement made on November 12, 2021 that New York State would stop accepting applications under the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).

The Community Housing Improvement Society (CHIP) estimates that 100,000 renters who are in arrears statewide have not applied for help and that they still owe approximately \$1 billion. With ERAP currently closed and 100,000 renters still in arrears, it is imperative we extend the eviction moratorium so we can put the health and safety of all New Yorkers first and save lives during this deadly global pandemic.

If the State does not act, this will undoubtedly lead to the increased spread of COVID-19, more deaths, and community wide trauma, especially in Black, Latino, Asian, and Indigenous households. Data collected from the Census Bureau Household Pulse Survey shows that these demographics are at heightened risk of eviction without an eviction moratorium.

Thank you for your leadership and for your attention to this serious matter during this ongoing public health crisis and for doing everything in your power to prevent the displacement of thousands of families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca A. Seawright". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'R'.

REBECCA A. SEAWRIGHT