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*****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*****

Legal Aid Statement On Albany Enacting The NYS Tenant Safe Harbor Act Into Law

(New York, NY) – The Legal Aid Society issued the following statement lauding Albany for enacting the NYS Tenant Safe Harbor Act (S8192/A10290) into law:

“The signing of the NYS Tenant Safe Harbor Act marks a critical moment for hundreds of thousands of tenant households across New York that are struggling to get by during the COVID-19 crisis. Our clients and all low-income New Yorkers who were at the brink of losing their homes and facing homelessness will now have more time to recover and get back on their feet after experiencing the economic disaster brought on by the coronavirus outbreak.

We commend bill sponsors New York State Senator Brad Hoylman and Assembly Member Jeffrey Dinowitz for their staunch advocacy and for helping to prevent a widespread eviction crisis beyond anything our state has seen since the Great Depression. We also thank Governor Cuomo for enacting this critical bill and providing tenants with desperately needed rent relief.”

Background: The legislation will strengthen the 90-day moratorium on evictions by prohibiting landlords from evicting tenants for non-payment of accrued rent who have lost income during the current COVID-19 crisis, along with other critical protections.

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The Legal Aid Society exists for one simple yet powerful reason: to ensure that New Yorkers are not denied their right to equal justice because of poverty. For over 140 years, we have protected, defended, and advocated for those who have struggled in silence for far too long. Every day, in every borough, The Legal Aid Society changes the lives of our clients and helps improve our communities. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>