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

As Washington Debates Stimulus Package, Legal Aid Calls for Direct Rental Assistance for Struggling Tenants

(NEW YORK, NY) – The Legal Aid Society called on the Trump Administration and Congress to immediately enact measures to provide direct rental assistance for tenants who are struggling to pay rent, as Washington continues to debate a possible fourth round of stimulus relief. The Democratic-controlled House of Representatives recently passed a \$2.2 trillion package, which includes [\\$50 billion](#) in emergency rental assistance and extends a moratorium on evictions for an additional 12 months. However, this measure and others that include robust relief for tenants have failed to advance in the Republican-controlled Senate.

"Tens of thousands of New Yorkers, and many more millions of Americans, are on the cusp of eviction and in desperate need of immediate rent relief. Washington has so far failed these families by refusing to enact a stimulus package that includes direct rental assistance commensurate with the current crisis," said **Judith Goldiner, Attorney-in-Charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. "As more people lose their jobs and exhaust unemployment insurance and other benefits, the demand for immediate action to avert catastrophe will continue to mount. The Legal Aid Society calls on Washington to immediately enact a stimulus package that includes direct rental assistance to save the thousands of our clients and many more around the country from imminent eviction and homelessness."

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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. www.legalaidnyc.org