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

Legal Aid Statement on Governor Hochul’s Costly and Ineffective “Reform” Budget Proposal to 421-A

(New York, NY) – **The Legal Aid Society** today issued the following statement in response to Governor Hochul’s proposed “reform” to 421-A:

“Simply put, Governor Hochul’s proposal to ‘reform’ 421-A is in name only.

This tax credit has long served as a handout to New York’s real estate industry, only generating a finite amount of truly affordable housing for New Yorkers in need.

We urge the Legislature to reject this proposal outright so that the City can reallocate these tens of millions of dollars to expand already proven housing programs - including CityFHEPS, a highly successful voucher program that has already connected thousands of New Yorkers to safe and affordable housing.

Continuing 421-A is bad policy, a colossal waste of tax dollars and a missed opportunity to invest in what actually works for our clients and the communities we serve.”

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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 145 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