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

***Legal Aid Lauds Governor Hochul for Requesting \$1.6 Billion  
in Additional Federal Funding for New York State’s  
Emergency Rental Assistance Program***

***Attorneys Call on Biden Administration to Immediately Allocate these  
Funds to Support Tenants in Need of Relief***

**(NEW YORK, NY) – Judith Goldiner, Attorney-In-Charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society,** today issued the following statement in response to Governor Kathy Hochul [requesting](#) an additional \$1.6 billion from the United States Treasury Department for New York State’s Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP):

“Thousands of tenants have applied for rent relief since the ERAP portal reopened on January 11, underscoring the tremendous need for rental assistance that has yet to be met across New York State.

While our clients and all tenants who are susceptible to losing their home may be temporarily protected from eviction while they have a pending ERAP application, without additional federal funding, these families will eventually face the reality of being pushed out of their homes.

Previously, New York State received far less federal funding than what was needed. The Biden Administration must immediately allocate the full amount of funding requested by the Governor to help thwart the imminent tidal wave of evictions and to keep families in their homes.”

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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](http://www.legalaidnyc.org)*