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

Legal Aid Statement on Assembly Housing Committee Passage of the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP)

(New York, NY) – The Legal Aid Society today released the following statement in response to the New York State Assembly Housing Committee passing the Housing Access Voucher Program (HAVP), [legislation](#) that would create a state-level initiative similar to federal Section 8 rental subsidies to help low-income families, the disabled, and the elderly afford apartments in market-rate housing:

“Tens of thousands of families across New York State are currently experiencing homelessness or are on the brink of losing their homes.

The pandemic has already exacerbated this crisis, and we need long-term solutions, including passage of the Housing Access Voucher Program, to stem evictions and homelessness by providing families the means to secure affordable, safe and long-term housing.

We applaud Assembly Housing Committee Chair Cymbrowitz and the Housing Committee for standing up for tenants across the state by passing HAVP, and urge Legislature leaders to advance this needed measure to a floor vote in both houses at once.”

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