

THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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Contact:

Redmond Haskins
Director of Media Relations
The Legal Aid Society
929.441.2384
rhaskins@legal-aid.org

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In Response to City of Los Angeles Codifying “Good Cause” Eviction Protections, Legal Aid Calls on Albany Lawmakers to Follow Suit

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society called on Albany lawmakers to sign into law “Good Cause” eviction legislation following the City of Los Angeles [codifying](#) a similar measure last week.

According to [reporting](#) on the legislation, “landlords will no longer be allowed to evict tenants in any rental property, including single-family homes, unless there was unpaid rent, documented lease violations, owner move-ins or other specific reasons.” Los Angeles is the largest city in the country to implement such a bill in response to widespread homelessness and evictions.

The “Good Cause” eviction bill ([S2892B/A5030B](#)) would require landlords to demonstrate a justification for evicting tenants in unregulated units, and would protect tenants from exorbitant rent hikes – which is tantamount to an eviction for low-income households – restricting rent increases to either three percent or 1.5 times the inflation rate, whichever is higher. The budget-neutral legislation would prevent landlords from denying lease renewals to tenants who have consistently abided by the terms of their leases, allowing tenants to advocate for repairs without the fear of retaliation.

“Good Cause is a common sense bill that would protect tenants in unregulated units and slow the rate of evictions and homelessness at a time when both are reaching unprecedented levels across the state,” said **Judith Goldiner, attorney-in-charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. “We applaud the City of Los Angeles for prioritizing this measure, and call on Albany lawmakers to do the same. Our clients, low-income New Yorkers, cannot wait any longer for this needed relief.”

The legislation has robust support across the state, with nearly [70 percent of New Yorkers, including policy and political science experts](#) from all levels of government, in favor of passing Good Cause. [Leaders of New York’s largest labor unions](#) and [New York State Attorney General Letitia James](#) also support Good Cause, joining the voices calling on leadership in Albany to pass the bill immediately.

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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