

# THE LEGAL AID SOCIETY

Justice in Every Borough.

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## *Legal Aid Lauds City Council Resolution in Support of Statewide “Good Cause” Eviction Legislation*

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society lauded the City Council for [introducing a resolution](#) in support of “[Good Cause](#)” eviction, budget-neutral legislation that would equip tenants in unregulated units with basic protections to defend against unwarranted evictions and rent increases. The resolution is sponsored by City Council Members Gale Brewer and Sandy Nurse.

Rents in unregulated units continue to soar, according to a [recent report](#) released by Douglas Elliman, forcing families from their homes and communities. With “Good Cause” codified, rent increases would be capped at three percent or 1.5 percent of the consumer price index, whichever is higher, shielding tenants from displacement and allowing them to advocate for repairs without the fear of retaliation.

“Tenants need relief now, and ‘Good Cause’ eviction legislation would ensure that residents of unregulated units have basic rights to defend against unwarranted evictions and rent increases,” said **Judith Goldiner, attorney-in-charge of the Civil Law Reform Unit at The Legal Aid Society**. “We laud Council Members Gale Brewer and Sandy Nurse for introducing this resolution, and call on Albany lawmakers to answer the cries from their constituents, and pass this needed measure immediately.”

Last month, Legal Aid released an [analysis](#) of City data that revealed that since the statewide eviction moratorium lapsed last year, [executed evictions](#) in New York City have increased almost every month.

While it is unclear which of these evictions are related to non-payment or a holdover, which is an eviction proceeding unrelated to non-payment, it is safe to conclude that many of these tenants would have benefited if “Good Cause” were enacted statewide, given the depth and breadth of the legislation. Legal Aid Housing Court attorneys currently represent New Yorkers in hundreds of no-cause holdovers across the five boroughs, often involving the most vulnerable tenants, whose eviction would be avoided should “Good Cause” pass into law.

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”.

Other jurisdictions, including Oregon, Washington and New Jersey, have these protections codified as law, and Los Angeles [enacted](#) a similar measure last month.

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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 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)*