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Ahead of NYC Rent Guidelines Board Preliminary Vote, Legal Aid Calls for Rent Freeze to Protect Low-Income Tenants

(NEW YORK, NY) — **The Legal Aid Society** released the following statement ahead of the New York City Rent Guidelines Board (RGB) [Preliminary Vote](#) on proposed lease adjustments for rent stabilized dwellings:

“Tenants in rent stabilized apartments are in crisis. Too many are either rent burdened or severely rent burdened, and this hardship is compounded by inflation and New York City’s skyrocketing cost of living.

“Any rent increase for this vulnerable population is not only completely unnecessary, but punitive, and the Rent Guidelines Board must vote to freeze all rents for all rent stabilized tenants.

“The purpose of the Rent Guidelines Board is to responsibly weigh current data to establish reasonable rent adjustments. Based on the [reports](#) released over the last several weeks detailing [the hardships facing tenants](#), the historic [profits](#) reaped by landlords, and the [relatively steady costs](#) of operating these buildings, a third consecutive increase is entirely unjustified. If approved, this will only lead to evictions, displacement and homelessness.

“This is not an outcome the Board should strive for, and the Board must prioritize keeping all tenants safely housed in their communities above continuing to line the pockets of landlords.”

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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