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

Legal Aid Statement in Response to Reporting on Housing Negotiations in New York State's FY25 Budget

(ALBANY, NY) - **The Legal Aid Society** released the following statement in response to reporting on housing negotiations in New York State's Fiscal Year 2025 budget:

“This package is a blank check to the real estate industry and a raw deal for the countless New Yorkers from all across the state who are facing housing insecurity.

“Governor Hochul and the Legislature have completely squandered a moment, one that has been years in the making, to finally equip our clients with meaningful tenant protections to defend against unwarranted evictions and exorbitant rent increases.

“Regardless of how Albany tries to spin this as a victory, it's far from it, and it will only exacerbate the affordability crisis and the continued displacement of New Yorkers from their homes and communities.

“Lawmakers have failed in their promise to serve their constituents by taking bold action to address the biggest emergency facing our state, and the public should hold their representatives accountable for this dereliction of duty.”

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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. <https://www.legalaidnyc.org>