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## \*\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\*\*

## Legal Aid Lauds Passage of the FARE Act to Protect Tenants from Unfair Broker Fees

## Attorneys Call on Mayor Adams to Sign the Bill into Law Immediately

(NEW YORK, NY) - The Legal Aid Society released the following statement in response to the New York City Council passing the Fairness in Apartment Rental Expenses (FARE) Act, which will shift broker fees from tenants to whoever hires a broker — typically landlords:

"Today marks a welcomed step towards reforming New York City's long-standing system that has forced tenants to pay exorbitant broker fees that can cost as much as 20 percent of a year's rent. For our clients and all low-income New Yorkers, these fees often serve as financial barriers and limit tenant's housing options.

"The Legal Aid Society commends Council Member Chi Ossé for his sponsorship, and the City Council for passing this legislation today which will help reform an unfair and exploitative real estate practice that the overwhelming majority of New Yorkers abhor. Lastly, Mayor Adams must sign this bill into law without any delay."

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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 nearly 150 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