

Pass the COVID-19 Housing Equity bill now for a strong recovery!

Tenants & homeowners need immediate protections to preserve public health and mitigate the devastating toll COVID has taken on communities of color & low-income households.

Too many MA residents are being evicted during COVID-19!

- Over 24,000 eviction cases have been filed since the end of the state moratorium. Over 15,000 of these cases were filed for rent owed despite over \$700 million of available rental assistance
- Every tenant with an eviction case carries a permanent eviction court record no matter how the case ends, making it hard to find new housing
- Evictions have a particularly devastating impact on people of color; COVID has exacerbated this inequity in Massachusetts
- Over 28,000 homeowners are far behind on mortgages and at risk of foreclosure; many more are in forbearance plans that end soon, and over 200,000 are worried they can't make their next mortgage payment

The COVID-19 Housing Equity Bill (H.1434 / S.891) will:

- Keep needless eviction cases out of court by requiring that rental assistance is pursued BEFORE filing for eviction
- Temporarily pause filing for no-fault evictions
- Reinstate a pause on foreclosures and require forbearance based on federal standards
- Require the state to make rental assistance more accessible to vulnerable groups that have struggled to get help because of a difficult application process, ensuring timely and equitable distribution of funds
- Protect the most vulnerable tenants from forced removal for COVID-19 debts

Need help? Call **617-819-0188**.

Details on the bill & **resources** for tenants + homeowners: www.HomesForAllMass.org

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