LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FROM NO NOTICE EVICTIONS TO PEOPLE LIVING IN HOTELS AND MOTELS

• When families can't rent an apartment or home because they lack funds for a security deposit, or because the landlord rejects their application because of an eviction on their record, they often move into budget hotel and motel rooms.

• People living in these hotels and motels pay weekly or monthly rent like other tenants. But they don't get the same protections as other tenants until they have lived there more than three months.

• For their first three months living there, the hotel or motel owner can evict these families with little or no notice. A family can return to their room after a trip to get groceries and find the lock changed and their belongings in the hall, and there is nothing they can do about it.

• This lack of basic notice makes it impossible for families who are evicted from hotels and motels to challenge the eviction or make arrangements to shelter somewhere else.

• Our homeless shelters are at capacity due to social distancing requirements.

• Do you know how homeless service providers are now providing shelter for people? They're paying to shelter them in hotels and motels.

• People living in hotels and motels are at higher risk of eviction for nonpayment. Since they aren't tenants under the law, they don’t qualify for the Rent Relief Program.

The legislation will protect people living in hotels and motels during this pandemic by giving them the rights enjoyed by all tenants. It is temporary – lasting only until the 90th day after the current state of emergency expires. It will give people living in hotels and motels access to more rent relief funds, as well as notice and a chance to tell their side of the story before they can be evicted. And it will make everyone safer by helping ensure people have somewhere to shelter and maintain good hygiene during this pandemic.