

# The Metropolitan Organization (TMO) Call to Action

## Tell Senators Cornyn and Cruz and members of Congress to support Rent Assistance in the next stimulus bill

This week the US Congress is deciding what will be funded in a stimulus bill that will be more than \$1 Trillion. The House passed the \$3 Trillion HEROES Act two months ago (HR 6800) which set aside \$100 Billion for Rent Assistance and \$75 Billion for Mortgage Relief. The Senate is proposing a much smaller stimulus bill and they currently do not plan any rent assistance.

### Here are some reasons why TMO supports rent assistance:

- Its immoral and unhealthy to force families into homelessness during a global pandemic.
- More than half of Houston families are renters.
- In a recent survey, over 40% of Texas renters were unsure they could pay August rent.
- Each day hundreds of area families are being evicted or self-evicting and doubling up in apartments of family and friends—one reason why there is so much community spread of COVID in neighborhoods with many apartment complexes.
- The CARES Act has had a moratorium on evictions/foreclosures on rental properties with mortgages guaranteed by the federal government, but that moratorium ends July 25.

Contact Senators Cornyn and Cruz and your members of Congress and ask them to support funding for rent assistance for the most vulnerable families affected by COVID.

Member	DC Phone	DC Email	Twitter
<b>Ted Cruz</b>	(202) 224-5922	<a href="https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=form&amp;id=16">https://www.cruz.senate.gov/?p=form&amp;id=16</a>	@TedCruz
<b>John Cornyn</b>	202-224-2934	<a href="https://www.cornyn.senate.gov/content/get-touch">https://www.cornyn.senate.gov/content/get-touch</a>	@JohnCornyn
Dan Crenshaw	(202) 225-6565	<a href="mailto:dan.crenshaw@mail.house.gov">dan.crenshaw@mail.house.gov</a>	@RepDanCrenshaw
Lizzie Pannill Fletcher	(202) 225-2571	<a href="https://fletcher.house.gov/contact/">https://fletcher.house.gov/contact/</a>	@RepFletcher
Al Green	(202) 225-7508	<a href="mailto:al.green@mail.house.gov">al.green@mail.house.gov</a>	@RepAlGreen
Sheila Jackson Lee	(202) 225-3816	<a href="mailto:sheila.jackson.lee@mail.house.gov">sheila.jackson.lee@mail.house.gov</a>	@JacksonLeeTx18
Pete Olson	(202) 225-5951	<a href="mailto:pete.olson@mail.house.gov">pete.olson@mail.house.gov</a>	@RepPeteOlson
Sylvia Garcia	(202) 225-1688	<a href="mailto:sylvia.garcia@senate.texas.gov">sylvia.garcia@senate.texas.gov</a>	@RepSylviaGarcia
Brian Babin	(202) 225-1555	<a href="mailto:brian.babin@mail.house.gov">brian.babin@mail.house.gov</a>	@RepBrianBabin
Mike McCaul	(202)-225-2401	<a href="mailto:michael.mccaul@mail.house.gov">michael.mccaul@mail.house.gov</a>	@RepMcCaul

# The Metropolitan Organization (TMO) Call to Action

TMO supports the HEROES Act which the House passed because:

## **Rental Assistance**

Congress would allocate up to \$100 Billion. Existing grant rental assistance programs would verify a tenant's inability to pay rent and give vouchers to cover the cost of rent and utilities for up to a year. It would also extend the ban on evictions for nonpayment for a year following its enactment date.

## **Mortgage Relief**

The bill also provides \$75 billion for a homeowner assistance fund intended to prevent mortgage defaults and property foreclosures. It would amend the previous stimulus package so that borrowers of any "covered mortgage loan" (any secured by a mortgage or deed of trust on one-to-four unit dwelling) would be eligible for forbearance for up to a year if they affirm that the coronavirus has affected them financially.