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July 21, 2021

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
NYS State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

I am writing to urge you to take whatever steps are necessary to protect renters and to quickly process emergency rental assistance to avoid further hardship for our constituents. If necessary, I believe New York should extend its eviction moratorium until such time as the Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) is able to process and disburse funds to the thousands of applications that have been submitted, removing the risk of mass evictions or further confusion.

Through the December 2020 Coronavirus relief package and the American Rescue Plan (ARP), Congress provided approximately \$2.3 billion in rental assistance funds to New York. It is my understanding that New York opened its application for ERAP funds on June 1, 2021 and received 120,000 applications in the first 30 days. I understand that, to date, no funds have been disbursed to help renters with rental and utility arrears payments. As you know, the New York State eviction moratorium expires on August 31, 2021. With the rental assistance program still accepting new applications and not having processed any of the pending applications, I am not confident that funds will be distributed in time to protect the hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers who are at risk of eviction, causing additional stress for these households.

Accordingly, I urge you to take whatever steps are necessary to protect renters from eviction and to expedite the disbursement of ERAP funds. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. I stand ready to work with you to protect our constituents.

Sincerely,

Carolyn B. Maloney
CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress