

MOTION

In December 2020, H.R. 133, the COVID-19 Relief Package, was passed. The bill allocated \$25 billion dollars nationally for emergency rental assistance, of which the City's allocation was approximately \$260 million dollars.

The City's ERAP program allowed City of Los Angeles residents to apply for assistance until the application deadline of April 30, 2021. However, after the closure of the application period, the state of California approved changes to state legislation regarding eviction protections. Currently, under AB 832 subsection 1179.11, a tenant is protected from eviction until March 31, 2022 as long as they can provide proof of a pending rental assistance application.

As a result of the application period closure, no new tenants are able to apply for rental assistance, many of whom are working families and low-wage workers. Opening the application once more will allow these new tenants, in need of rental assistance to apply to be on the waitlist. As long as they are on the waitlist, they are guaranteed eviction protections until the March 31, 2022 deadline.

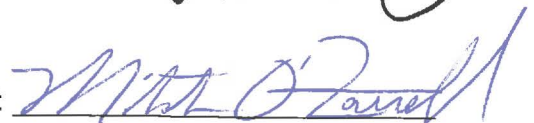
Additionally, the reopening of the ERAP rental assistance application provides the City and the State with a more comprehensive understanding of how much rental assistance is still needed for the residents of the City of Los Angeles. As the state of California looks to identify additional funding for rental assistance, money may become available to assist City of Los Angeles residents who are currently on the waitlist for rental subsidy.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Housing Department to re-open the ERAP rental assistance housing application portal. The opening of the application will allow low-income tenants and working families who are unable to pay their rent due to the COVID-19 pandemic to be placed on the ERAP waitlist.

PRESENTED BY:


NURY MARTINEZ
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SECONDED BY:




AUG 06 2021

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