

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT BRENDA JONES:

RESOLUTION URGING RELIEF FOR RENTERS AND LANDLORDS AS A RESULT OF COVID-19 INCOME LOSS.

WHEREAS, On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization formally declared that the COVID-19 is an outbreak a global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, In response to this declaration, Governor Gretchen Whitmer has a issued a series of “Stay Home, Stay Safe” Executive Orders, the most recent, 2020-77, to expire on May 28, 2020, that has restricted activities to those that are necessary to sustain and protect life resulting in the temporary closure of many businesses throughout the state; and

WHEREAS, These orders have greatly impacted employment in industries that find it impractical or impossible to operate remotely during this pandemic; many workers in these sectors of the economy will lose or have already lost their jobs, including individuals in the hospitality, entertainment, travel, retail, and other service sectors, causing unemployment filings in Michigan and other states to skyrocket; and

WHEREAS, While these orders have been necessary to help slow the pandemic and to preserve the health and safety of the residents of Michigan, it has significantly impacted some residents’ ability to pay their rent; and

WHEREAS, It is critically important that Detroiters who currently have housing are not made homeless or destitute because of this public health crisis and that; and

WHEREAS, It is also critically important that steps are taken to support landlords that suffer an income loss as a result of the inability for tenants to pay rent; and

WHEREAS, The United States Legislature is currently considering is currently considering allocating additional funding to local municipalities to pay for essential services and offset lost revenues; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council strongly urges Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan State Legislature to enact emergency legislation that authorizes the courts to use payment plans in lieu of eviction during the COVID-19 pandemic which takes into consideration the ability of the renter to pay which includes a hardship verification process and a tiered payment plan based on the amount of rent and the income of renter; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT ADDITIONALLY**

RESOLVED, That if it is determined that the renter is not able to enter into a payment plan as a result of hardship, the Detroit City Council also strongly urges Governor Gretchen Whitmer and the Michigan State Legislature to enact a rental moratorium for households determined to be most in need of relief so that they would not be required to pay rent during this health emergency nor accumulate debt for unpaid rent; **NOW THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER**

RESOLVED, That the Detroit City Council strongly urges Mayor Mike Duggan to allocate and prioritize any additional funding specifically towards financial assistance for landlords to offset the costs of mortgage payments and property maintenance costs as required by property maintenance ordinance and review enforcement of the current property maintenance ordinance in order to provide relief to landlords that suffer a loss of revenue as a result of COVID-19 ; **BE IT FINALLY**

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to Mayor Mike Duggan, the Michigan House Committee of Intergovernmental and Regional Affairs, Michigan Senate Committee of Economic Development and Regulatory Reform and the State Court Administrative Office.

May 11, 2020