Eliminate the Federal Eviction Notice to Vacate

ASK: Cosponsor and urge support for the Respect State Housing Laws Act (<u>H.R. 802</u>) which eliminates the CARES Act's 30-day notice to vacate requirement for federally-backed and federally-assisted housing and returns eviction policies back to the states.

General Talking Points

- The 2020 CARES Act established a temporary 120-day moratorium on evictions due to nonpayment of rent, which applied to federally backed and federally assisted housing.
- The law also instituted a temporary notice procedure, requiring housing providers to notify covered residents 30 days before filing for eviction after the moratorium ended on July 24, 2020.
- This requirement, however, remains contested in courts today, long after the moratorium itself ended.
- Evictions are costly and a difficult experience for all parties involved.
- The pandemic highlighted housing providers' efforts to utilize all available resources and be as flexible as their circumstances allow to help their residents avoid eviction and remain stably housed.
- Yet, the eviction process is critical for resolving landlord and tenant disputes and for housing providers to legally recover possession of their property when a renter violates the lease agreement.
- Post-pandemic, court backlogs are stretching the eviction process from a number of weeks or months to more than a year in some jurisdictions, while housing providers remain unpaid.
- Because of the continued enforcement of the CARES Act notice requirement, housing providers face even more lost rent while waiting for evictions to be processed in court.
- This adds up 91 cents of every dollar of rent goes to property operations and maintenance.
- This is particularly challenging for operators of subsidized housing and mom and pop landlords.
- When this federal requirement is removed, renters retain tenant protections in states' established landlord/tenant and eviction laws.

Senate Meetings

- We urge your support of legislation eliminating this requirement from federal law.
- Legislation to do this was introduced in the House as H.R. 802, the *Respect State Housing Laws Act*. We are hopeful similar legislation will be introduced in the Senate this year.

House Meetings

- We urge you to cosponsor <u>H.R. 802</u>, the Respect State Housing Laws Act, introduced by Congressman Barry Loudermilk (R-GA-11).
- The bill eliminates the federal notice to vacate requirement from the CARES Act and returns eviction policies back to the states.

PRO TIPS

Review the list of cosponsors for H.R. 802 and thank your Representative if they are on that list.

Reference the NAA infographic on the eviction process for nonpayment of rent. The eviction process varies widely by jurisdiction with some common elements.

Share the notice period for your home jurisdiction as a contrast to the 30-day requirement as well as tenant protections already in place.

Use the "Dollar of Rent" infographic to illustrate how lost rent can impact the stability of properties.