



July 16, 2020

Honorable Douglas Ducey
Office of the Governor, State of Arizona
1700 West Washington Street
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Re: Extend Arizona's Eviction Moratorium to Align with the C.A.R.E.S. Act Deadline

Dear Governor Ducey,

Thank you for issuing Executive Order 2020-14 in order to protect Arizonans affected by COVID from eviction during a very difficult time. Arizonans continue to be safer at home as we all work to contain the spread of COVID-19. Necessary steps were taken early in the crisis to prevent thousands of Arizonans from losing their homes. Your swift action in March to delay the enforcement of eviction action orders ensured that renters impacted by COVID-19 had a place to call home.

We now respectfully urge you extend E.O. 2020-14 so that more Arizonans continue to stay in their homes and benefit from additional housing assistance that has been made available to support families and landlords during this crisis. More time is needed to connect the renters with the support. Aligning Arizona's eviction moratorium with the C.A.R.E.S. Act deadline of December 30, 2020 provides agencies more time to get critical funding to those in need.

Data shows that as a result of COVID-19 over 20 percentⁱ of Arizonans are housing insecure because they missed last month's rent or mortgage payment. The Department of Housing has received over 16,000 requests for the COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program. As of July 6, only 1,136ⁱⁱ had been approved by Community Action Agencies throughout the state. The City of Phoenix has released \$20 million to aid families affected by the crisis, and Maricopa County has made \$30 million available to assist. Additional funds are also being released throughout the state. Agencies will need more time to prevent an avalanche of pending eviction notices. Allowing E.O. 2020-14 to expire will only result in more Arizonans becoming housing insecure.

Increases in housing assistance will not only provide relief to tenants, but also for landlords. Nationwide data shows that 72 percentⁱⁱⁱ of rental properties are owned by individual investors. These rental properties are more likely to own single-family and duplex rental homes, over large conglomerates that own apartment complexes. Small landlords are feeling the brunt of the COVID-19 crisis. Struggling to pay for maintenance expenses, other bills, and their own mortgage payments. Extending E.O. 2020-14 provides relief to these small landlords so that they may receive rent owed by their tenants.

In these uncertain times, tenants and landlords need assistance. The federal timeline for spending C.A.R.E.S. Act funding allows for assistance through December 30, 2020. Extending E.O. 2020-14 allows Community Action Agencies and nonprofits throughout Arizona to continue supporting Arizonans in dire need of housing assistance.

On behalf of those serving our community and those who will receive this support, thank you for considering this request to extend your Executive Order through the end of the year.

Sincerely,



Cynthia Zwick, Executive Director Wildfire

Organizations Supporting this Request:

Arizona Center for Economic Progress
Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence
Arizona Council of Human Service Providers
Arizona Family Health Partnership
Arizona Peer and Family Coalition
Campesinos Sin Fronteras
Community Action Human Resources Agency (CAHRA)
Central Arizonans for a Sustainable Economy
City of Flagstaff, The Office of the Mayor
City of Phoenix
City of Tolleson
City of Tucson
Children's Action Alliance
Community Food Bank of Southern Arizona
Community Renewal, Inc
Corazon de Latinos Unidos
Downtown Voices Coalition
Family Housing Resources
Garcia Family Foundation
Glendale Community Action Program
Human Services Campus
Innovation for Justice
Latino Familia Initiative
Living United for Change in Arizona (LUCHA)
Mayor Corey D. Woods, City of Tempe
Mi Familia Vota
NACOG
NAMI Yavapai
NASW Arizona
Pinal-Gila Council for Senior Citizens

Pinal Hispanic Council
Phoenix Community Alliance
Poder in Action
Primavera Foundation
Promise Arizona
Step Up to Justice
Tucson Mayor Regina Romero
United Food & Commercial Workers Local 99
UMOM New Day Centers
Vitalyst Health Foundation
WHEAT (World Hunger Education, Advocacy & Training)

ⁱ [U.S. Census Bureau, Household Pulse Survey](#)

ⁱⁱ [ADOH COVID-19 Rental Assistance Program Report – July 6, 2020](#)

ⁱⁱⁱ [U.S. Census Bureau, Rental Housing Finance Survey 2018](#)