

ACTION ALERT:

March 2, 2019

HEALTHY HOUSING ADVOCACY NEEDED TODAY: SUPPORT HEALTHY HOUSING, HOUSING STABILITY, AND FAIRNESS

We need your support for **two new bills** in the Georgia House of Representatives to protect children from the impact of unhealthy housing and housing instability.

Housing Stability - [HB 1022](#)

A new bill sponsored by [Rep. Sharon Cooper](#) (R-Marietta) and others would provide low-income tenants and their families 7 days to pay back-due rent before their landlord could file an eviction action. HB 1022 gives tenants another chance to pay what's due, allows landlords to be made whole, prevents tenants from facing several hundred dollars in additional administrative, processing, attorney's fees, and court costs, and avoids tenants carrying a record of an eviction filing that will make it difficult or impossible to rent habitable housing for decades to come. Forty other states already provide a notice period before a landlord can file for eviction proceedings.

ACTION NEEDED TODAY:

- Please contact Rep. Barry Fleming, Chair of [House Judiciary Committee](#), barry.fleming@house.ga.gov or (404) 656-5125, and urge him to place the bill on for a hearing and vote as soon as possible.
- Urge [Judiciary Committee members](#) to vote yes on HB 1022.

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Study Committee - [HR 1280](#)

[Rep. Katie Dempsey](#) (R-Rome) has introduced HR 1280 that will create a Joint House-Senate Study Committee to work on the issue of childhood lead poisoning prevention. Last year, 2,333 Georgia children under six years old had lead poisoning. These children can suffer irreversible brain damage and problems with growth, physical and mental development, and behavioral functioning. Although lead paint was banned for residential use in 1978, one-third of housing still contains lead paint that crumbles and flakes and ends up in the hands and mouths of infants and toddlers.

ACTION NEEDED TODAY:

- Please contact members of the [Health and Human Services Committee](#) and ask them to support HR 1280.

Advocacy partners in the Georgia Healthy Housing coalition include the Georgia Municipal Association, Children's Healthcare of Atlanta, Voices for Georgia's Children, United Way of Atlanta, Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta, Academy of Pediatricians, Georgians for a Healthy Future, Georgia Appleseed, Georgia ACT, Georgians for a Healthy Future, Presbyterians for a Better Georgia, Atlanta Volunteer Lawyers Foundation, Statewide Independent Living Council, and many others.

Thank you for raising your voice today!