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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

March 18, 2020

The Honorable Chief Justice Thomas G. Saylor
Pennsylvania Judicial Center
601 Commonwealth Ave.
P.O. Box 61260
Suite 1500
Harrisburg, PA 17106

Honorable Chief Justice Saylor:

In light of the unprecedented situation currently facing our nation and our state due to the novel coronavirus COVID-19, we the undersigned respectfully request that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court orders a halt to all evictions and foreclosures, ordered for financial purposes only, statewide until Gov. Tom Wolf's COVID-19 disaster declaration is terminated. Under the direction of President Donald Trump, the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has suspended all evictions and foreclosures until the end of April, but today we're asking to expand that directive in Pennsylvania to include all foreclosures and evictions, beyond those processed through HUD.

We are clearly at a critical juncture in our time as we face the COVID-19 pandemic. We have seen extraordinary measures, including the closures of all public schools statewide and the termination of all utility shut offs, in addition to other measures. We must ensure that Pennsylvanians have the safety and security of knowing that they are not in danger of losing their homes or apartments during a world-wide pandemic. Tens of thousands of Pennsylvanians are going without a paycheck as businesses temporarily shutter to slow the spread of COVID-19, and it would be inhumane to move forward with evictions and foreclosures at the same time as we're imploring Pennsylvanians to stay in their home for their own safety as well as the safety of our communities.

We trust that the Pennsylvania Supreme Court sees the severity of this issue, as we do, and understands the necessity of this action. In difficult times we must band together not only as Pennsylvanians but as human beings who simply want to secure the safety of our neighbors during difficult times. Please do not hesitate to reach out to us directly as we will gladly discuss this issue further with you. Given the gravity of this situation, together we, the House

Democratic Leader, House Democratic Whip, all House Democratic Regional Delegation chairs, the Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus chair, and state Reps. Summer Lee and Mary Isaacson, who have introduced legislation to halt evictions and foreclosures, urge your serious, quick and judicious consideration of this request.

Sincerely,



Rep. Jordan Harris
House Democratic Whip



Rep. Frank Dermody
House Democratic Leader



Rep. Dan Miller
Allegheny County Delegation Chair



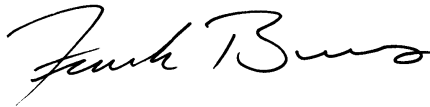
Rep. Pam Snyder
Southwest Delegation Chair



Rep. Mike Schlossberg
Northeast Delegation Chair



Rep. Stephen Kinsey
Pennsylvania Legislative Black Caucus
Chair



Rep. Frank Burns
Northwest Delegation Chair



Rep. Summer Lee



Rep. Jason Dawkins
Philadelphia County Delegation Chair



Rep. Mary Isaacson



Rep. Margo Davidson
Southeast Delegation Chair