



**SALLIE ALCORN**  
HOUSTON CITY COUNCIL MEMBER  
AT-LARGE, POSITION 5

July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020

The Honorable Ted Cruz  
404 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Cruz,

As we near the end of July, several of the aid programs included in the CARES Act will expire. Houstonians need your help and your voice to advocate for rental relief in the HEROES Act.

Many Houstonians were integral parts of our hospitality, airline, and energy industries, all of which have been hit especially hard in the past months. We know the need for assistance is immense. When the city created a \$15 million rental relief fund, the response was so overwhelming the application portal had to be closed within two hours of its launch.

The CARES Act created a moratorium on evictions in multifamily units backed by federal mortgages, but this moratorium is set to expire on July 24. Additionally, the moratorium didn't forgive unpaid rent, and many families are facing thousands in back payments they can't afford and have no way to earn during this continued economic slump.

The Federal Pandemic Unemployment Compensation and stimulus payment included in the CARES Act provided temporary relief. However, it is now clear that this pandemic and its economic effects will be lasting well past July. Cities across the country are facing the same cliff-edge Houston is peering down. Our communities need rental assistance and they need it passed before Congress leaves for August recess.

Thank you for all you do for Texas and for lending your voice to this critical effort.

Sincerely,

  
Sallie Alcorn