



Through Education, Advocacy, and Community Partnerships, the Utah Housing Coalition is dedicated to promoting equitable and sustainable communities to ensure all Utahans have a safe and affordable place to call home.

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Tara Rollins

*Executive Director*

[Trollins@utahhousing.org](mailto:Trollins@utahhousing.org)

Francisca Blanc

*Advocacy & Outreach*

*Coordinator*

[Fblanc@utahhousing.org](mailto:Fblanc@utahhousing.org)

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Tara Rollins [trollins@xmission.com](mailto:trollins@xmission.com)

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801-815-5014

### Utah Housing Coalition calls for a state-wide moratorium on evictions and foreclosures

We believe housing stability is crucial in a public health emergency in which containment and treatment rely on individuals staying indoors and not being forced to seek shelter or experience homelessness. Recent significant reductions in working hours, wages, or travel restrictions pose a hardship to Utahns who already struggle to make rent or mortgage payments.

Elected leaders in other states have already taken in enacting temporary moratoriums on evictions, residential foreclosures, tax liens on residential properties, and utility shut-offs in response to the COVID-19 health emergency.

**We ask Governor Gary H. Herbert, Lieutenant Governor Spencer J. Cox and the Utah COVID-19 Community Task Force to explore state-wide moratorium on evictions and residential foreclosures.** We also ask our leaders to seriously consider providing financial assistance to Utahns who cannot pay their rents or mortgages due to loss of jobs or reduction in working hours.

Utah Housing Coalition is a state-wide, membership-based organization that encompasses the affordable housing spectrum.

#### State Actions:

##### California

The State of California's Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency released [guidance](#) for homeless assistance providers for dealing with COVID-19.

##### Connecticut

The state of Connecticut moved to prevent any utility shutoffs for the duration of the public health emergency put in place by Connecticut Governor Ned Lamont.

##### Delaware

The Delaware Justice of the Peace has [postponed](#) all landlord/tenant proceedings until after May 1.

##### Kentucky

Kentucky Courts [cancelled](#) evictions proceedings until April 10.

##### Massachusetts

Lawmakers and officials in Massachusetts are [calling](#) for measures to prevent housing evictions as COVID-19 spreads in the region.

## **New York**

Lawmakers in New York have [introduced legislation](#) banning evictions and foreclosures during the pandemic and during future emergency declarations.

## **Oregon**

Pressure is [mounting](#) on the Oregon government to enact an eviction ban as COVID-19 continues to spread in the state.

## **Local News:**

### **Baltimore**

Baltimore City Mayor Bernard C. “Jack” Young [halted](#) all evictions until schools reopened. The move comes after the Baltimore City Council – led by Council President Brandon Scott – passed a resolution calling for the move.

### **Boston**

The Boston Housing Authority [notified](#) the state Housing Court Thursday that it will not pursue “non-essential eviction actions” for as long as Governor Charlie Baker’s declared state of emergency lasts.

### **Chicago**

Cook County [announced](#) that it would be halting evictions for the next 30 days.

### **Los Angeles**

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority released a [list](#) of actions it has taken in light of the pandemic.

### **Miami**

The Miami-Dade Police Department announced that it would be [halting](#) all evictions following an emergency declaration.

### **New Orleans**

Judges in New Orleans announced that they would be [halting](#) all pending evictions until the end of April.

### **New York City**

A coalition of New York City landlords [pledged](#) to halt evictions for three months amid the coronavirus outbreak.

### **Philadelphia**

Resolutions were [introduced](#) in the Philadelphia City Council calling for a halt on evictions as well as protections to prevent utility shutoffs during the outbreak. The Council does not have the power to perform these actions, but the resolution puts pressure on both the local Sheriff’s office and local utilities to comply.

### **Portland**

Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler said that he [supported](#) a ban on evictions and rent increases during the public health crisis. However, there have been no moves to push those ideas through the City Council.

### **San Francisco**

The City of San Francisco has created a [\\$5 million fund](#) focused on reducing the risk of exposure to the virus for marginally housed seniors, people with underlying health conditions, and individuals experiencing homelessness, living in shelters, single-room occupancy hotels (SROs), and Permanent Supportive Housing. Some of this funding has been used to provide RVs for individuals experiencing homelessness or who cannot otherwise quarantine safely.

San Francisco Supervisor Dean Preston will be introducing [legislation](#) placing a moratorium on evictions during the current public health emergency.

### **San Jose**

The San Jose City Council [approved](#) a [proposal](#) to prevent evictions while the Coronavirus emergency is occurring. The California Apartment Association said that they would support a commonsense

moratorium on evictions. The moratorium would take effect upon passage and remain in effect for 30 days with the possibility of extensions.

### **Seattle**

Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan is utilizing her public health emergency authority to expand shelter capacity for individuals experiencing homelessness. Over 100 [additional spaces](#) will be created at designated sites throughout the city. Seattle is also [halting](#) any power or water shut-off's due to nonpayment during the city's coronavirus emergency. In King County, one of the epicenters of the outbreak in the United States, a move by the county government to purchase a hotel to house patients in isolation is drawing legal and political [opposition](#) from a city government and a nearby car dealership.

### **Washington, D.C.**

DC City Council Chairman Phil Mendelson introduced a [measure](#) banning evictions in the city.

Please visit National Low Income Housing Coalition web site for the latest national updates

<https://nlihc.org/coronavirus-and-housing-homelessness>

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