

By: Representatives Love, Wardlaw, D. Garner, D. Whitaker

HOUSE RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION TO ENCOURAGE ARKANSANS TO UTILIZE THE
ARKANSAS RENT RELIEF PROGRAM.

Subtitle

TO ENCOURAGE ARKANSANS TO UTILIZE THE
ARKANSAS RENT RELIEF PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic shows no signs of slowing after the widespread exposure of the newly recognized Delta variant, a more infectious and deadly strain of coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19). Because of this, the rate of infection continues to rise daily; and

WHEREAS, many Arkansans are still struggling to make ends meet in an economy still recovering from the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Human Services has available to eligible Arkansans the Arkansas Rent Relief Program, which is a program that not only offers financial help to pay overdue and upcoming rent and utilities for Arkansas renters, but also provides assistance to landlords of tenants unable to pay their rent because of lost income due to the pandemic; and

WHEREAS, the following are covered under the program:

(1) Overdue rent plus up to five percent (5%) of late fees dating back to April 1, 2020;

(2) Overdue utility bills for gas, water, and electricity;

(3)(A) Future rent owed through December 31, 2021.

(B) Renters can apply for up to three (3) months of future rent at a time; and



(4) Rent may be covered for a period of up to fifteen (15) months between April 1, 2020 and December 31, 2021,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives raise awareness of the existence of the Arkansas Rent Relief Program in order to both ensure that vulnerable Arkansans are able to utilize all beneficial resources at their disposal and that landlords have the knowledge of, the encouragement to, and ability to participate in the program as well.