



## 2021 HOUSING JUSTICE PACKAGE

### 5 Critical Bills before the Maryland General Assembly

**R**enters United Maryland, a coalition of renters, legal advocates, and grassroots organizations are calling on the Maryland General Assembly to pass the **2021 Housing Justice Package** to address emergency needs of renters and homeowners during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and to overhaul Maryland's massive eviction system. This package includes 5 bills:

- **Emergency Renter Protections** (Del. Wilkins and Sen. Smith)
- **Eviction Process Overhaul:**
  - **Eviction Diversion and Defense** (Del. Wells and Sen. Sydnor)
  - **Right to Counsel** (Delegate Fisher and Senator Hettleman)
  - **Court fee reform** (Office of the Attorney General)
- **Emergency Homeowner Protections** (Del. Stewart and Sen. Carter)

As the COVID-19 pandemic surges, Maryland enters the 2021 legislative session amid a housing crisis, with the worst of evictions and foreclosures yet to come. Hundreds of thousands of Maryland families could lose their homes without the General Assembly's swift action to protect renters and homeowners alike.

Now is the time for our elected leaders to:

- Stop displacement by eviction and foreclosure so Maryland households have a home in which to social-distance, work from home, and school from home during this emergency.
- Reform the eviction process to prioritize early steps to obtain rental assistance, to provide renters and landlords alternatives to eviction, and to achieve fair hearings.
- Eliminate predatory mortgage repayment terms as Maryland households recover.

**Maryland builds back better only if we keep our families housed – in a pandemic, in a recovery, always.**

**The Housing Justice Package meets this moment.**



**Tell your legislators to pass the 2021 Housing Justice Package**

**Sign on to endorse the Package**