Tenant Declaration Form Overview

TAKE ACTION: Sign the <u>Tenant Declaration Form</u> to protect yourself and your household from eviction for nonpayment of rent. Under Governor Pritzker's <u>Executive Order 2020-72</u>, as amended by <u>Executive Order 2020-74</u>, eviction protections are now limited to specific households. If you owe rent, your landlord may not file an eviction action against you if you provide your landlord with a declaration stating that you meet the following 4 criteria:

- 1. INCOME: At least one of the following applies to me:
 - (i) I expect to earn no more than \$99,000 in annual income for Calendar Year 2020 (or no more than \$198,000 if filing a joint tax return), or
 - (ii) I was not required to report any income in 2019 to the U.S. Internal Revenue Service (IRS), or
 - (iii) I received an Economic Impact Payment (i.e., the stimulus check) pursuant to Section 2001 of the CARES Act.
- 2. INABILITY TO MAKE PAYMENT DUE TO COVID-19: I am unable to make a full rent or housing payment due to a COVID-19 related hardship including, but not limited to, substantial loss of income, loss of compensable hours of work or wages, or an increase in out-of-pocket expenses directly related to the COVID-19 pandemic; and
- 3. BEST EFFORTS: I am making my best efforts to make timely partial payments that are as close to the full payment as my circumstances permit, taking into account other expenses that I must pay (e.g., food, utilities, phone and internet access, school supplies, cold-weather clothing, medical expenses, child care, and transportation costs, including car payments, maintenance, and insurance); and
- **4. AT RISK:** If evicted, I would likely become homeless, or be forced to move into and live in close quarters in a new shared living setting because I have no other available housing options.

Anyone with a legal right to evict you, including your landlord, is required to provide a copy of this 2-page declaration form to every tenant on the lease at least 5 days before your landlord can give you a notice of termination of your tenancy. If you are a tenant who fits the criteria listed above, you must sign the declaration form under penalty of perjury and return it to your landlord to be protected under the Executive Order. You should also retain a copy of the signed declaration for yourself.

If a landlord has reason to believe that a tenant poses a direct threat to the health and safety of other tenants or an immediate and severe risk to property, they can file an eviction action against that person, even if they have completed a declaration.

Please note that, when Executive Order 2020-72 is no longer in effect, your landlord may require full payment of rent.

For any additional questions, view our FAQ or reach out to one of our Community Partners for additional support, <u>here</u>.