

February 8, 2022

## **TESTIMONY FOR INFORMATIONAL HEARING ON THE CONTINUATION OF EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS AND LIMITED EXECUTIVE ORDERS**

### **Testimony on Executive Order 12D & Extension of Public Health Emergency**

Dear Governor Lamont and leaders of the Connecticut General Assembly:

Today I am writing on behalf of the Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness to express our concerns about the expiration of Executive Order 12 D on February 15<sup>th</sup> and ask you to take the following actions to ensure the value and intent of UniteCT is maintained and new, landlords and pending applicants are not evicted while the pending funds are distributed into the summer.

We ask that you take the following actions:

- **Please modify the order to stay evictions of tenants with pending UniteCT completed applications until the landlord is paid (or the application is denied).**

Once the landlord is paid, the eviction process is halted, thus protecting those individuals and families from facing a housing crisis and becoming homeless. The Department of Housing has stated that the payout process is expected to continue into the summer, so the individuals and families in that que should be protected from losing their housing.

- **Please preserve, for the duration of the payout period, the 30-day notice to quit with a right to cure.**

A 30-day cure period gives tenants a chance to get caught up. Housing during the pandemic has been extremely difficult to secure and for those individuals and families who may face evictions even harder. Extending 30-day notice to quit gives tenants the opportunity to cure their debts with their landlords and will keep them out of homelessness.

- **Please ensure that 12D requirements related to new applications not be terminated, because UniteCT could receive further federal funding.**

These protections should automatically spring back if/when additional funding comes into UniteCT and new applications are being accepted.

- **Please support the Governor's recommendation regarding FEMA funding for non-congregate housing and continue the declaration of the public health and civil preparedness emergencies as several federal funding sources are contingent on this continuation.**

This includes FEMA coverage of 100% of non-congregate housing sources. These resources have been critical in ensuring that our residents experiencing housing instability are able to remain safely housed during the ongoing public health crisis.

Thank you for consideration of my comments.

Sincerely



Evonne Klein  
Chief Executive Officer