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

Maybeth Morales-Davis 02/07/2022

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

My name is Maybeth Morales-Davis. I am a resident of Waterbury, CT.

Executive Order 12D: Extension of Certain Eviction Protections

Executive Order 12D has protected tenants at risk of eviction by requiring that eligible tenants and their landlords seek relief for arrearages through the UniteCT program prior to moving forward with eviction AND extended the notice to quit from a 3 to 30-day period. **I am requesting you to:**

• Please modify the order to stay evictions of tenants with pending UniteCT completed applications until the landlord is paid (or the application is denied). A paid landlord is required by UniteCT to withdraw the eviction. Although UniteCT has expended nearly all available resources, many tenants and landlords are in que for payment and that payout process is expected to extend into the summer.

• Please preserve, for the duration of the payout period, the 30-day notice to quit with a right to cure. Even without UniteCT, a 30-day cure period gives tenants with a small arrearage a chance to get caught up. For tenants who must vacate, whether the State of Emergency is formally extended or not, the reality is that the pandemic has made it extremely difficult for such evicted tenants to find a new apartment in a very short period of time. Early return to a 3-day notice to quit will be damaging to tenants.

• Please ensure that 12D requirements related to new applications should not be terminated, because UniteCT could receive further funding. These protections should be suspended during periods when new applications are not being accepted and automatically spring back if/when additional funding comes into UniteCT and new applications are being accepted.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

- Maybeth Morales-Davis