

1 **WHEREAS**, safe, decent housing must be considered a primal need of the citizens of Little Rock, and
2 a top priority of the Little Rock City Government.

3 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CITY**
4 **OF LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS:**

5 **Section 1.** In the strongest possible terms, the Board of Directors urges that landlords of residential
6 property within the City currently undergoing an eviction action voluntarily dismiss such action until the
7 unemployment percentage within the City falls to levels similar to the 3.5% unemployment figure in
8 February 2020, and definitely until the Arkansas and the Little Rock States of Emergency have been lifted.

9 **Section 2.** To the same end and in the strongest possible terms, the Board of Directors urges that
10 landlords of residential property within the City not pursue at this time an eviction action, nor charge or
11 assess any late payment fees against any residential renter until the unemployment percentage within the
12 City falls to levels similar to the 3.5% unemployment figure in February 2020, and definitely until the
13 Arkansas and the Little Rock States of Emergency have been lifted.

14 **Section 3.** To the extent that a landlord of residential property has any such discretion, that late, or
15 unpaid, rental payments and late fees incurred since the March 11, 2020, Declaration of a State Emergency
16 because of the COVID-19 Pandemic shall not be reported to any credit agency or debt collection agency in
17 order to avoid future economic hardship for renters of residential property adversely impacted by the
18 COVID-19 Pandemic.

19 **Section 4.** The Board of Directors urges Governor Hutchinson to reconsider the possibility of a
20 Statewide moratorium on eviction actions on residential rental property where the renters are still occupying
21 the property, and a moratorium on the charge of late fees on rental payments, as well as reporting such
22 situations to a credit bureau or debt collection agency of such a situation.

23 **Section 5.** The City should work with other entities, including but not limited to the State of Arkansas,
24 to provide supplemental emergency assistance funds to residential renters who, through no fault of their
25 own, have been unable to maintain rental payments as a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic.

26 **ADOPTED: July 21, 2020**

27 **ATTEST:**

APPROVED:

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30 **Susan Langley, City Clerk**

_____ **Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor**

31 **APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:**

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34 **Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney**

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