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WHEREAS, eviction from residential properties during this particular time would create great difficulties not only for these individuals, but for the City, other government assistance groups, and non-

1 governmental assistance groups including faith-based entities; and,

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

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

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

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

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

20 **Section 4.** The Board of Directors urges Governor Hutchinson to reconsider the possibility of a
21 Statewide moratorium on eviction actions on residential rental property where the renters are still occupying
22 the property, and a moratorium on the charge of late fees on rental payments, as well as reporting such
23 situations to the extent the property owner has the discretion not to do so.

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

27 **Section 6. *Severability.*** In the event any title, section, paragraph, item, sentence, clause, phrase, or
28 word of this resolution is declared or adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional, such declaration or
29 adjudication shall not affect the remaining portions of the resolution which shall remain in full force and
30 effect as if the portion so declared or adjudged invalid or unconstitutional were not originally a part of the
31 resolution.

32 **Section 7. *Repealer.*** All laws, ordinances, resolutions, or parts of the same, that are inconsistent with
33 the provisions of this resolution, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

34 **ADOPTED: August 4, 2020**

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Susan Langley, City Clerk

Frank Scott, Jr., Mayor

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

Thomas M. Carpenter, City Attorney

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