## City of Cincinnati



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## MOTION: LEGAL AND OTHER SUPPORTS TO ASSIST LOW-INCOME RESIDENTS

Cincinnatians continue to face extreme financial uncertainty. A staggering number of children and families are having to face legal issues, such as eviction, without the necessary funds for desperately needed legal services.

We are in a position to do more, and we should.

For example, the City has invested significantly in a first-ever Eviction Prevention Fund, which provides emergency rental assistance to children and families throughout Cincinnati. ProjectLift and CARES Act funding has also enabled many of our partners to provide emergency rental assistance. However, a critical component of meeting this need is that these tenants have legal services to offer a defense in an eviction suit and to work out settlements with landlords utilizing the eviction prevention dollars. Eviction defense is just one of the many legal needs that have increased because of the pandemic, all while our low-income families are facing increased financial challenges.

As such, **WE MOVE** that the Administration invest \$389,000 in remaining CARES ACT resources in an effort to provide increased access to legal services for low-income residents, including eviction prevention services.

This investment will allow us to ensure millions of dollars in eviction prevention funding gets to tenants as efficiently and effectively as possible, that more tenants that need legal support can access that support in order to keep children and families in their homes, and that low-income families will have the legal services they need to face these unprecedented times.

Councilmember Greg Landsman