

RESOLUTION NO. 049, SERIES 2020

**A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING EXISTENCE OF A LOCAL EMERGENCY AND REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO PROVIDE DIRECT RENTAL HOUSING ASSISTANCE FOR COVID-19 PANDEMIC.**

**SPONSOR: COUNCIL MEMBERS GREEN, SHANKLIN, SEXTON SMITH, PURVIS, MCCRANEY, COAN, MULVIHILL, FOX, FOWLER, TRIPLETT, REED, PARKER, FLOOD, YATES, AND PRESIDENT JAMES**

**WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization, the President of the United States, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and the Mayor of Louisville/Jefferson County Metro Government have all declared states of emergency as a result of the Coronavirus Disease (“COVID-19”); and

**WHEREAS**, COVID-19 has been deemed controllable via the implementation of precautionary measures such as stay-at-home orders and requiring “non-essential” businesses to either close or severely curtail contact for the purposes of stopping the spread of the disease; and

**WHEREAS**, the precautionary measure has severely disrupted the economy, limiting the productivity of businesses and the income of employees; and

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of this unprecedented public health crisis, the United States Congress has passed three stimulus bills to mitigate for losses due to COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the 2018 American Community Survey, of the 122 million U.S. households, 44 million were renter households with an annual median income of \$41,000; making the rental population more likely to be financially disrupted by COVID-19; and

**WHEREAS**, both the Commonwealth of Kentucky and Louisville Metro Government have taken various executive and legislative action in an effort to curtail the adverse impact of COVID-19 on rental population; and

**WHEREAS**, despite efforts to date by federal, state, and local officials, COVID-19 has the potential to create a crisis-level nonpayment of rent scenario that both negatively impacts the property owner’s ability to maintain management and upkeep of the property at a time when many are sheltered in their units, and contribute significant property tax revenue that fund vital community services.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OF THE LOUISVILLE/JEFFERSON COUNTY METRO GOVERNMENT (“THE COUNCIL”) AS FOLLOWS:**

**SECTION I:** The Council hereby finds that an emergency exists in the rental housing market.


**SECTION II:** In light of this emergency, the Council urges the United States Congress use its considerable financial resources to create a direct Rental Housing Assistance fund to assist residents and stabilize communities.

**SECTION III:** A copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Honorable Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, and the Honorable Senate Majority Leader, Mitch McConnell.

**SECTION IV:** This Resolution shall take effect upon its passage and approval.

  
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Sonya Harward  
Metro Council Clerk

  
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David James  
President of the Council

  
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Greg Fischer  
Mayor

6/3/2020  
Approval Date

**APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY:**

Michael J. O'Connell  
Jefferson County Attorney

**LOUISVILLE METRO COUNCIL  
ADOPTED  
May 28, 2020**

BY:   
R-067-20 RES Federal Rental Housing Fund - 5-1-20 - mhh