Unhealthy conditions found in hazardous housing can lead to lead poisoning, asthma, respiratory illness, cancer, and unintentional injuries, resulting in missed school days and poor school performance for children, as well as missed work days for parents. To protect the health of Arkansas’ families and prevent continued increases in associated healthcare costs and societal consequences, full federal funding is needed for critical programs and services:

- CDC’s Healthy Homes and Lead Poisoning Prevention Program
- CDC’s National Asthma Control Program
- CDC’s Environmental Health Tracking Network
- HUD’s Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes
- HUD’s Community Development Block Grants (CDBG)
- HUD’s HOME Investment Partnerships Program
- EPA’s Lead Categorical Grants
- EPA’s Drinking Water Revolving Fund
- HHS’ Maternal and Child Health Block Grants
- HHS’ Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- DOE’s Weatherization Assistance Program

Full funding to federal programs such as these will help to address many of the risks and burdens facing the residents and families of Arkansas, including:

- In Arkansas, **29% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 27% of children live in poverty.
- **44% of Arkansas housing was built before 1978** and is likely to contain lead-based paint.
- **Approximately 9% of adults have current asthma** in Arkansas; over 13% have been diagnosed with asthma during their lifetime (2014).
- On average, **8 individuals die annually from carbon monoxide exposure in Arkansas** (2011-2015).
- Unintentional falls were responsible for **226 deaths among people above the age of 65** in Arkansas in 2015.
- Arkansas has **no state statutes regarding carbon monoxide detectors, radon, or bedbugs**.
- **Asthma is the third leading cause of hospitalization for children** between one and 17 in Arkansas (2014).
- **15% of Arkansas households face severe housing problems**, such as overcrowding or lack of kitchen or plumbing facilities.

For references, additional state-specific healthy homes information, and to learn how you can engage your members of Congress on these vital issues...

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