CALIFORNIA 2017 Healthy Housing Fact Sheet

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 California’s 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 California, including:

- In California, 45% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 21% of children live in poverty.
- In 2013, 9,408 California children tested had an elevated blood lead level of 4.5 μg/dL or more; 1,288 of them had blood lead levels of 9.5 μg/dL or more.
- On average, 47 individuals die annually from carbon monoxide exposure in California (2011-2015).
- In 2015, there were over 191,000 emergency department visits due to asthma in California.
- California is home to more than 4.7 million adults over the age of 65, the largest older adult population in the nation.

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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