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 Florida’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 Florida, including:

- In Florida, 40% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 23% of children live in poverty.
- 39% of Florida housing was built before 1978 and is likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Approximately 8% of adults (2014) and 10% of children (2011) have current asthma in Florida.
- Unintentional falls are the leading cause of injury for Floridians above the age of 65 and in 2015 were responsible for 2,603 deaths.

In 2012, 3,640 Florida children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 306 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more.

On average, 40 individuals die annually from carbon monoxide exposure in Florida (2011-2015).

There were over 103,000 emergency department visits due to asthma in Florida in 2012, a 28% increase from 2008. Total costs for asthma emergency department visits and hospitalizations were $1.1 billion.

One in five Florida homes has levels of radon in their indoor air above the EPA action level.

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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