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 Missouri 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 families and residents of Missouri, including:

- In Missouri, 26% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden, and 20% of children live in poverty.
- In 2015, 3,309 Missouri children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 563 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more.
- On average, 33 individuals die annually from carbon monoxide exposure in Missouri (2011-2015).
- Asthma was responsible for over 30,000 emergency department visits in Missouri in 2014; hospitalization charges for these visits totaled over $114 million.
- Between 2005 and 2015, over 30% (6,619 of 20,803) of the homes tested in Missouri had test results above the EPA action level for radon.

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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