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 Pennsylvania’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 families and residents of Pennsylvania, including:

- In Pennsylvania, **30% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 19% of children live in poverty.
- In 2014, **11,983 Pennsylvania children tested had an elevated blood lead level (5 μg/dL or more); 1,808 of them had blood lead levels of 10 μg/dL or more.**
- Unintentional falls were responsible for **1,493 deaths among adults over the age of 65** in 2015 in Pennsylvania.
- Medical costs of asthma totaled **$1.9 billion** in Pennsylvania in 2013; this includes costs from **over 18,000 hospitalizations.**
- On average, **75 individuals die annually from carbon monoxide exposure in Pennsylvania** (2011-2015), the highest average for any state during this period.

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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