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 Alaska 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 State Indoor Radon 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 Alaska, including:

- In Alaska, **31% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 15% of children live in poverty.
- 41% of Alaska housing was built **before 1978** and is likely to contain lead-based paint.
- Approximately **47,000 Alaskan adults have current asthma**, over 8% of the adult population (2017).
- Unintentional falls were responsible for **43 deaths** in Alaska in 2017. **Total charges billed to older Alaskan adults for fall-related injuries was $135 million** in 2016 – triple that of 2012.
- Between 2001 and 2004, known **asthma hospitalization charges in Alaska totaled almost $17 million**, approximately **$9,200 per hospitalization**.
- **In Alaska, 21% of collected radon tests had levels above the EPA action level** for indoor air (1990-2014).
- **On average, 9 Alaskans die annually from carbon monoxide exposure** (2012-2016).
- **Less than 8% of Alaskan children under 6 years of age were tested for elevated blood lead** in 2018; the percentage of elevated blood lead levels among children tested under the age of 6 was highest in the southwest region of the state.
- **In Alaska, 31% of children live in households with a high housing cost burden**, and 15% of children live in poverty.

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

**National Center for Healthy Housing**

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