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## **NEWS RELEASE**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** September 15, 2020

## New App Helps Inform Tenants and Landlords of Rights Under New Relief Law

Interactive Guide Provides Personalized Report

SACRAMENTO – A new <u>web-based app</u> is now available to help Californians understand their rights and options under <u>The Tenant</u>, <u>Homeowner and Small Landlord</u> <u>Relief and Stabilization Act of 2020</u> (Act).

This interactive tool asks a series of questions and, based on the responses, provides a report tailored to the specific circumstances of the tenant or landlord who completed it. It takes about two minutes to complete.

"People who have been unable to pay some or all of their rent because of COVID-19 need to know that there are protections available to them, and landlords need to know the new steps they must take before beginning eviction proceedings as well as what resource are available to them," said Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency Secretary Lourdes Castro Ramírez. "This tool will provide the information tenants and landlords need to know about California's new law."

For tenants who were unable to pay all or some of their rent between March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2020 and who receive a "pay or quit" notice, the Act requires landlords to provide a notification that explains tenants' rights and obligations. For tenants unable to pay all or some of their rent between September 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, the Act provides the same rights, but also requires that tenants pay at least 25 percent of the rent due during that period by January 31, 2021.

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The App was developed because the Act has differing requirements for different situations. It is not intended to be legal advice, but instead to help tenants and landlords know which portions of the new law apply to their individual situations. The App was developed in partnership with University of California Irvine School of Law (UCI Law) and technology company Neota Logic.

"We're very grateful to UCI Law and Neota Logic for helping develop the App," said Department of Real Estate Commissioner Doug McCauley. "Being able to quickly create interactive tools like this one enables us to provide a new level of support to Californians during this emergency."

Landlords and tenants who wish to use the tool should visit the <u>Housing Is Key</u> website and click on the orange button at the top of the page.

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