



# GENE WU

STATE REPRESENTATIVE ★ DISTRICT 137



Issue 55

## NEWSLETTER

April 2021

Friends,

Session is currently in full-swing and we will soon be approaching some important legislative dates.

Please join me for my legislative townhall on Saturday, April 17th at 10am to hear more about what is happening in Austin this session.

If you have been financially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program is currently taking applications for rent relief.

Furthermore, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a nation-wide, temporary eviction moratorium through June 30, 2021.

ALL Texans (18 years old and up) are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine.

The March on Crime Luncheon was last month and honored our command stations and their service to our district.

The expiration date waiver for Driver's Licenses and ID cards which was temporarily granted by the Governor's office in March due to the pandemic, ends April 14, 2021.

Sincerely,



Rep. Wu Speaking at a Stop Asian Hate press conference

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## Rental Assistance

If you are in need of rental or utility assistance due to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, apply for assistance from the [Houston-Harris County Emergency Rental Assistance Program](#) by clicking the image below or by calling 832-402-7568. Assistance will NOT be first-come, first-served.



**NEED RENTAL ASSISTANCE?**

Help is available for families struggling due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[HoustonHarrisHelp.org](https://HoustonHarrisHelp.org)

HOUSTON-HARRIS COUNTY  
**EMERGENCY RENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Administered by Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and BakerRipley

The flyer features a photograph of a smiling woman with two young girls. It includes the logos for the City of Houston and Harris County, Texas, and the Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston and BakerRipley.

## Eviction Moratorium

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has issued a nation-wide temporary eviction moratorium for certain tenants through **June 30, 2021**. Furthermore, the Texas Supreme Court has issued an order in support of the CDC's declared moratorium.

In order to review the qualifications as well as to fill out the form, please click on the image. When the form is completed, submit a copy to your landlord. For more information and translations to Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese, Arabic, and Urdu, click [here](#).



**COVID-19 EVICTION MORATORIUM**

The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a nation-wide temporary eviction moratorium for certain tenants through **June 30, 2021**. Additionally, the Texas Supreme Court has issued an order in support of the CDC's declared moratorium.

**DO YOU QUALIFY?**

If these five statements apply to you, you may qualify for this order.

- You have done your best to take advantage of government assistance for housing and rent
- You meet income requirements, meaning ONE of these is true:
  - You will earn less than \$99,000 (or \$198,000 when combined with your spouse) this year
  - You weren't required to pay taxes in 2019
  - You qualified for an income stimulus check earlier this year
- You are unable to make your full rent or housing payment because of a loss of income or large medical expense
- You are currently doing your best to make timely partial housing payments that are as close to the full payment as possible
- If evicted, you would either become homeless or enter a shared living space (like living with a family member or staying at a shelter).

**THIS FLYER DOES NOT CONSTITUTE LEGAL ADVICE.** Eligibility and qualification requirements described here are determined by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention. Individuals should contact the resources listed on this form for help determining their eligibility.

**YOUR NEXT STEPS:**

- Every adult listed on your lease should fill out the declaration on the back of this flyer.
- Take the declaration(s) to your landlord.
- Make sure to document that you delivered the declaration – by video, by getting a signature, or through certified mail.

Please note that this order only **delays** evictions. You are still required to pay rent and other housing payments, including late fees and penalties. You still need to follow the terms of your lease or other contract – this order does not prevent evictions for reasons other than delinquent payments.

**MORE QUESTIONS?**

You can read the full CDC Order at: <http://bit.ly/cdc-rent>

You can read the Texas Supreme Court order at: <http://bit.ly/cdc-housing>

Or look at additional resources:

- United Way: <https://www.unitedwayhouston.org/>
- HOUSTON LEGAL AID: <https://houstonlegalaid.org/covid-19-eviction-moratorium/>
- HOUSTON VOLUNTEER LAWYERS: <https://houstonvolunteerlawyers.org/eviction-assistance/>
- EVICTED DEFENSE COALITION: <https://evicteddefensecoalition.org/>

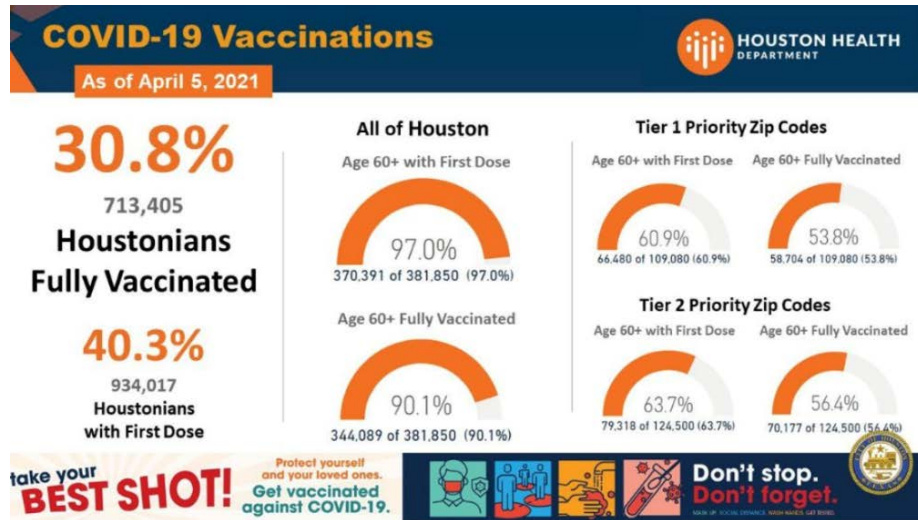
If you need help, call the Eviction Defense Coalition Hotline: **713-982-7340**

04/03/21

The flyer includes logos for the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas, and the Eviction Defense Coalition. It also features a small graphic of a house with a checkmark inside.

## Updated Vaccine Information

**ALL** Texans (18 years old and up) are now eligible for the COVID-19 vaccine. Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 is **FREE**, and does not require proof of residency, citizenship or insurance. To schedule an appointment to receive the vaccine from Harris County Public Health, you can click [here](#) or call 832-927-8787. To receive a vaccine from the City of Houston, you can click [here](#) or call 832-393-4220.



## March on Crime

Last month was March on Crime, a law enforcement appreciation luncheon hosted by HBU and sponsored by the Southwest Management District. Our office provided certificates to the officer of the year from each station: Senior Officer Dean Nguyen, Midwest Patrol Station; Senior Officer Thomas Conner, South Gessner Patrol Station and; Officer Ana Bertens, Westside Patrol Station.

Thank you to Southwest Management District and law enforcement for their service to HD 137!



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## Driver's License and Vehicle Registration Grace Period Ends

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The waiver on expiration dates for Driver's Licenses and ID cards ends **April 14, 2021**. The waiver was temporarily granted by the Governor's office in March due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

DPS encourages customers who need to renew, to schedule an appointment at their local driver license office online. If your driver's license has expired, and your scheduled appointment is on or after April 15, 2021, you may request a temporary license to operate a motor vehicle until your appointment date. Click [here](#) or the image below for more information.



**Texas Department of Motor Vehicles**  
HELPING TEXANS GO. HELPING TEXAS GROW.

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## Legislative Update

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As you may know, we are currently in session for the 87th Texas Legislature.

The bill filing deadline passed on March 12th, so committees are now in full swing. This session, I am a member of the Appropriations - S/C on Art III committee as well as the Juvenile Justice and Family Justice committee. The budget will be debated on the House floor, next week.

If there are any specific bills you would like to track or if you would like to see my filed bills, click [here](#) for the Texas Legislature Online. If you would like to watch a committee hearing or the 87th Legislative Session, click [here](#) for live broadcasts. You can also contact our office for any legislative questions or concerns.

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## April Legislative Townhall

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On Saturday, **April 17th at 10am**, I will be hosting a virtual legislative townhall. This townhall will discuss the current status of my filed bills as well as some overall important bills going through different committees this session. If you have any questions/concerns that you'd like me to address during the townhall, please submit them to [District137.Wu@house.texas.gov](mailto:District137.Wu@house.texas.gov). Tune in by clicking the link [here](#), clicking the image below or by typing the case-sensitive link on the flyer onto your browser.



**REP. WU  
TOWNHALL**

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR  
LEGISLATIVE TOWNHALL**

Join at: [bit.ly/RepWuTownhall](https://bit.ly/RepWuTownhall)  
Saturday, April 17th  
10:00AM

**SUBMIT YOUR QUESTIONS AND CONCERNS TO  
DISTRICT137.WU@HOUSE.TEXAS.GOV**