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Win President & CEO Christine Quinn on New York Supreme Court Ruling Against CityFHEPS Housing Vouchers

Ruling comes amidst record levels of homelessness and housing insecurity

NEW YORK, NY – Yesterday, the New York State Supreme Court announced that CityFHEPS reforms were invalid and determined that the City Council lacks the authority to legislate on social service programs, claiming that such matters are preempted by state social services law. This jeopardizes countless reforms that have enabled everyday New Yorkers the right to affordable housing.

In response, Christine Quinn, President & CEO of Win, released the following statement:

“Yesterday, the Supreme Court of the State of New York decided that not only is CityFHEPS reform to expand the voucher program invalid, but the City Council does not have the authority to legislate on social service programs.

At a time when the city is facing its worst affordability crisis in decades, this decision is devastating for thousands of vulnerable New Yorkers who are facing eviction, living in shelters, or otherwise homeless and would benefit from CityFHEPS expansion. For the advocates who have been working tirelessly for everyday New Yorkers, this is an unconscionable blow.

As this lawsuit carries on, New Yorkers grappling with housing insecurity on a daily basis continue to suffer. We should be doing everything in our power to clear a path to permanent housing for vulnerable New Yorkers – expanding housing vouchers is a common sense solution and a simple first step.”

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