

On behalf of the Mississippi Apartment Association (MAA), thank you for your timely and effective measures during this unprecedented COVID-19 outbreak. In the event of a “shelter-in-place” policy, I write to respectfully request that you consider “essential” elements of the multi-family housing industry.

As rental housing providers, MAA understands the importance of stable, reliable, quality housing especially during this public health crisis. Now more than ever, residents need a home in which to isolate and an ability to rely on the important functions of the multi-family industry to make sure that it is in good repair. For instance, maintenance workers and maintenance employees, either contractual or in house must continue to respond to life and safety maintenance requests, such as clogged toilets or broken refrigerators. Management office personnel must house new residents in need, and businesses that support the industry such as cleaning services and restoration companies must work to perform enhanced cleanings in multifamily communities to protect residents. Property management companies must continue to maintain their properties.

We encourage you to prioritize the health and safety of residents in rental homes that the multi-family housing industry serves by deeming housing providers, their employees, including maintenance technicians, suppliers and servicers to the industry to be deemed as “essential” in the event that shelter in place actions are initiated statewide.

MAA offers its assistance to you during this process. Thank you for your leadership during these challenging times. Please do not hesitate to contact us in the event we can help.

Sincerely,

Meghan Elder
Association Executive



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