

# New York Housing Rights for Foreign-Born Tenants

In New York State, *regardless of your immigration status*, you have the right to live in your home free from fear and retaliation. It is illegal for your landlord to discriminate against or harass you.

## HOUSING DISCRIMINATION IS ILLEGAL

In New York State, regardless of your immigration status, it is illegal for a landlord to discriminate based on your race, your religion or creed, skin color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, military status, age, sex, marital status or familial status (presence of children in the household).

In New York City, it is also illegal for a landlord to discriminate against you based on your alienage or citizenship status.

## SEEK HELP IF YOUR LANDLORD IS HARASSING YOU

State law protects the rights of all tenants, including immigrants. In every city, town and village across New York State, it is illegal for a landlord to harass a tenant. A landlord may not cut off your heating or water, lock you out of your apartment or refuse to maintain your apartment.

If you live in a rent-regulated apartment you have additional protections, including the right to renew your lease.

## RETALIATION IS ILLEGAL

It is also illegal for a landlord to threaten or otherwise retaliate against you for reporting housing discrimination or harassment.

## YOU HAVE RIGHTS!

If you think you have been a victim of discrimination or tenant harassment, you can find more information at the New York State Division of Human Rights. ***New York State and City laws protect you regardless of your immigration status.***

Contact the New York State Division of Human Rights by telephone, toll-free at (888) 392-3644 or TDD/TTY (718) 741-3800, or visit the website at [WWW.DHR.NY.GOV](http://WWW.DHR.NY.GOV).

**For additional information, visit the following websites:**

<http://www.nyshcr.org/Rent/>

<https://www.newamericans.ny.gov/>

Neither the Division of Human Rights nor the Division of Housing and Community Renewal will ask you about your immigration status when addressing your questions or complaints.



**Division of  
Human Rights**

**Homes and  
Community Renewal**



**Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor**