

**NEBRASKA TAXPAYERS FOR FREEDOM ISSUE PAPER:
ILLEGAL ALIEN SQUATTERS COMING THIS WAY.**

BACKGROUND. Thousands and thousands of illegal aliens continue to pour across our borders like a tidal wave. Indigent, criminal, and uneducated, they soak our health, welfare, and education systems. They burden our law enforcement and judicial systems. Yet, the Biden Regime welcomes them heartily, seeking additional Socialist Democrat voters from people whose home countries have no republican tradition of government. Biden believes squatting a local issue while simultaneously warning that immigration is a federal responsibility only. Illegal aliens are increasingly participating in this additional criminal conduct, squatting. They find vacant homes, owners on vacation or hospitalized, and move in with friends and relatives. Current state laws can hardly evict them, to the chagrin and anger of homeowners and landlords. If you leave your locked home for a weekend trip and come home, you may find illegal alien squatters living in your house, selling your furniture in a garage sale and trashing the premises.

WORD GETS AROUND. An illegal Venezuelan migrant offered his fellow illegals tips on how to move into unoccupied homes and invoke squatter rights to avoid eviction. Living openly in a Columbus, OH. suburb, he brags about how to seize real estate. He states that the only means for illegals to escape living on the streets is to take over unoccupied homes. This illegal entered the U.S. in April, 2022, through Eagle Pass, Texas, then entered the Alternatives to Detention (ATD) program, whereby illegal immigrants monitored by federal authorities via ankle monitors. However, he is now an absconder from the program, according to internal documents from Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE). He claimed in his videos that he and his family receive \$350 a week in federal government handouts. An ICE spokesperson stated, "Leonel Moreno is an unlawfully present Venezuelan non-citizen, who illegally entered the country April 23, 2022. Moreno was placed into the ATD program by Border Patrol and was told to report to Enforcement and Removal Operations office within 60 days of arriving at his destination." Moreno did not report as required. When illegal aliens enrolled in the ATD program do not follow its requirements, a judge may issue an order that ICE prioritize their arrest and deportation. Word spreads rapidly in the illegal alien community. Squatting by illegal aliens has become a serious problem in major cities like NYC and Atlanta. Squatters know when a house is vacant or vacant for sale. They watch a house. A day before they squat, they order an Amazon, UPS, or other delivery package with their name and the property address of the home they are targeting. If a homeowner later finds someone in his house, he calls the police. Squatters show the package with their name and the property address and tell the police they rented the house, and the police then say it is a civil matter. A resident now must file eviction paperwork. 6 to 18 months is typical for the eviction process. Or you trade cash for keys, usually \$2,000 to \$5,000, to recoup possession of your property from these squatters. Extortion.

UNHELPFUL LAW. American housing law loopholes are big enough for illegal immigrants to crawl through, according to 1 expert who warns that tenant rights laws make it hard to dislodge squatters. In many states, adverse possession laws, otherwise known as squatter rights, allow illegal squatters occupation rights over the property they occupy without owner



consent in several circumstances. These laws, in all 50 states, offer trespassers a number of protections, if they establish occupancy of a home.¹ A woman inherited a \$1 million house in NYC and put it up for sale. Then she found that squatters had moved in, so she called a locksmith to change the locks. The squatters called the cops, who told the woman that the squatters had the right to stay and advised the woman to seek legal advice. When she attempted to change door locks, police arrested her instead. In NYC, where 200,000 illegals now roam, squatters can claim rights to a house after only 30 days of living there, even if breaking in illegally.

Hundreds of illegal aliens are taking homes with impunity. If a legal citizen finds illegal squatters in his house, he must absorb legal costs of removing them and face arrest if trying to evict them. After eviction, homeowners face repair costs and bills for utility and other costs. Federal and state governments continue to afford more rights to illegals than their lawful victims. While the borders remain open, illegals will continue to search for places to live in the Midwest.² Squatters are smart at identifying legal loopholes and defy the law regardless. They understand that, after a specific time period, they do not have to leave. In NYC, liberal tenant rights laws actually benefit squatters. Under New York law, it is

¹ Snejana Farberov, *New York Post*. [TikToker tells illegal immigrants how to 'invade' American homes and invoke squatter's rights](#), March 21, 2024.

² FAIR., Joey Chester, [Migrant Tells Illegal Aliens How to "Invade" American Homes in Viral Video](#), March 22, 2024.

illegal to turn off utilities or change the locks of a home where someone claims that they are a tenant. In Ohio, a judge forced a landlord to install a new furnace, so that an illegal alien squatter could keep warm. It is almost impossible to evict an illegal alien, if you do not know his name to put on a court document.³ Squatters are not legal tenants, but they can take advantage of the same laws and the same lack of enforcement of laws that landlords face in trying to evict problem tenants. Owners and landlords face harassment charges and must attend court hearings to defend themselves. Most commonly in these scams illegal squatters will tell law enforcement that they are leasing the properties from the owners. Like the border crossers who claim asylum, the dispute becomes a civil matter rather than a criminal matter. Like renters protected under the law from greedy landlords. This procedure includes a formal eviction process in court. At the point when a property owner accuses illegals of unlawfully residing in the property, squatters say they are legally leasing the property. Owners told that they must continue to pay taxes and other costs for their property while squatters delay final orders through failures to appear in court, changes of counsel and other practices.

TRUMP SPEAKS. Pres. Trump issued warning to illegals squatting in American homes, threatening to automatically deport them after re-election.⁴

THE HORROR. A woman traveled to NYC to prepare the apartment of her mother for a party. She discovered that 2 illegals had taken over this residence and beat granny to death. This horror is happening nationwide. 475 homes trashed by illegals in Dallas-Ft. Worth, 125 homes ruined in Orange County, CA. 1,200 houses occupied by illegals in Atlanta, according to the National Rental Home Council trade group. The crisis is so bad in Atlanta that folks fear leaving on vacation. Some residences have become hotbeds for drug use and prostitution. The Dept. of Homeland Security arrested 8 illegals squatting in a Bronx residence on weapons and drug charges, 6 released with no bail. ICE arrested them previously at the Texas border, but Biden rules required their release into the U.S. with pledges to later report to immigration authorities, which they failed to do. Their release because of overcrowded detention facilities. Later, cops arrested 1 of the ones released for murder in Yonkers, N.Y. and merely ordered him to return to NYC for adjudication. This illegal failed to appear for this ICE appointment, naturally.⁵ Another pair of squatters found fraudulently living in an abandoned home on Long Island earlier this year after forging the name of the deceased owner on a lease. In Maryland, a woman returned from vacation to find 2 squatters in her bed. They were not only living in her house but also sold \$50,000 of her furniture.

THE RESULT. The more that squatters successfully squat, the more motivation for additional illegals to follow. This lawlessness and sense of entitlement decreases property values and compromises stability and standards in residential neighborhoods.⁶ The U.S. lacks sufficient housing units to hold thousands of illegal aliens arriving daily. They are penniless and cannot rent apartments. James Burling, VP of legal affairs at the Pacific Legal Foundation, said there are 3 critical factors that have brought the U.S. to a tipping point regarding squatting issues: pandemic era eviction moratoriums, housing shortages in specific states, and illegal immigration. "It's the culmination of years and years of the inability to build enough housing to meet demand. And you combine those three things together, and it's an impetus to squat," Burling said.⁷ The lack of housing also has led to state officials in Massachusetts and Michigan asking residents to house illegal aliens during the border crisis. Flash Shelton got involved in the squatter business, helping his mother, whose home squatters invaded. He started his own squatter removal company called Squatter Hunters and says the sheer number of illegal immigrants crossing the borders of California, Arizona, and Texas is going to cause an influx of squatters sooner than later. "It's only a matter of time before they figure out they can break into someone's house while on vacation and claim squatter's rights. Squatting is a viral thing right now in the United States and something not considered with the masses of people coming in undocumented without going through a legal system."⁸ Shelton used innovative tactics to dislodge squatters from his mother's house in 2019 and has become an advocate to help others facing the difficult task of ridding a property of illegal squatters. He noted that squatters already



³ NY GUN FORUM. Expert on Squatters Warns Nation: We're in for a 'Nightmare' Once Illegal Immigrants Discover Housing Law Loopholes, Feb. 24, 2024.

⁴ Newsweek. Donald Trump Issues Ominous Warning to Squatters, Apr. 3, 2024.

⁵ Charlie Kirk, Illegal Immigrant Squatters Previously Apprehended at Border Arrested in NYC with Drugs, Guns, Apr. 4, 2024.

⁶ Federation for American Immigration Reform, Squatting is a lot like Something Else, Apr. 5, 2024.

⁷ Fox News. Emma Colton, Squatting trend at tipping point as migrants coach others how to exploit laws; experts warn, 'Damage is done', April 4, 2024.

⁸ Mark Gilman, The Epoch Times, Nationwide Squatter Problem May Be Worsened by Illegal Immigrants: Experts, March 28, 2024.

seem emboldened by local laws, adding, “What are we going to do later when we have a million people squatting in this country?” Shelton said the housing picture will grow worse “when, not only do we have a border issue that we can’t even figure out, but now we have people that are being mentally, financially, physically messed with because they’ve lost their home to all of these people?” He predicted a nightmare scenario without laws that dispose of squatters⁹ “I’m spending all this time trying to bring awareness to squatting and bring awareness to how the law needs to change,” Shelton said, “Is it going to get worse before it gets better? I think it’s already there.”¹⁰

STATE LAWS. Florida passed a state law that empowers property owners with the legal means to immediately remove illegal alien squatters from their property. Previously treated as a civil matter, homeowners then had to use a formal eviction process for law officers to take action. Under the new law, each county sheriff office empowered to immediately verify the identity of the lawful property owner and carry out the immediate removal of those unlawfully living in the property. This flips the law in favor of property owners, the burden being on those living within the property to prove their legitimacy in the legal system.¹¹ Under the new law, property owners request that law enforcement remove a squatter, if that person entered unlawfully and remains on the property despite a request to leave. The squatter must not be a tenant in a dispute with a landlord. The measure further imposes stiff punishments for squatters and individuals encouraging the practice. “We are putting an end to the squatter scam in Florida. While other states are siding with the squatters, we are protecting property owners and punishing criminals looking to game the system,” stated Gov. DeSantis. New York State Sen. Mario Mattera, who introduced a bill that would allow police to immediately remove suspected squatters based on a homeowner sworn complaint, warned that the migrant crisis would fan the flames of a squatting trend. Mattera blamed Gov. Hochul and NYC Mayor Eric Adams for not rescinding sanctuary city and state policies in their respective jurisdictions, saying the Democratic leaders have encouraged illegals. “The [migrants] don't want to go to work. They're like, ‘You brought me here. Now you take care of me.’ The governor and the mayor could have signed an executive order ... rescinding the sanctuary state and the sanctuary city [policies]. Please, all New Yorkers understand that, and call the governor, call the mayor of New York, and ask them: What are you doing to fix this disaster that they both created?” he



said. A Georgia bill gives suspected squatters 3 days to provide documentation proving they can legally live in a house. If they fail to provide the documents, they become evicted from the home and face misdemeanor trespassing charges. The legislation easily passed, as illegal squatters have caused squatting issues across the Atlanta metropolitan area. Republican Georgia State Sen. Ed Setzler, who sponsored the bill, explained that squatters were taking advantage of a civil eviction process. “They are weaponizing procedural processes to keep from having accountability,” he said, “This just streamlines both the landlord’s rights and the ability of the accused to get clarity and justice so it can be adjudicated actively and not be drug out over the course of months in the courts.”¹² The Alabama House of Representatives passed legislation that gives property owners and law enforcement tools to throw out individuals who illegally occupy homes. House Bill 182 increases penalties for individuals who enter a residence not theirs. It also increases the penalty for anyone who presents a falsified document

that they claim as a lease, deed, or other instrument authorizing ownership or occupancy. The bill sponsor brought it to the House floor, stating that, while squatting was not a pervasive issue in Alabama as it is in other states, he wanted to act proactive, not reactive. “This (squatting) has become even more evident as we had even illegal aliens within the nation who would be TikTok influencers, explaining to millions of followers how they can illegally squat upon the premises of rightful property owners,” the sponsor stated. The bill also added a definition to the state classification of 3rd-degree burglary, if an individual remains unlawfully in a dwelling and intentionally causes \$1,000 or more in damage. The legislation received bipartisan support in the Alabama House.¹³

TAKE ACTION NOW. Illegals involved are committing crimes, from breaking and entering to fraud to forgery yet rarely prosecuted. Increasing numbers of illegal aliens crossing our borders are gravitating to NE because of our permissible state laws that actually encourage illegal immigration here, e.g., welfare, free health care, drivers licenses. It is definite that illegal alien squatters soon will become a problem not only in our metropolitan areas but also in rural areas.

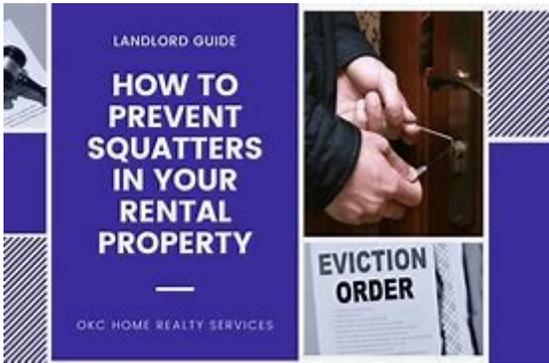
⁹ Jack Davis, [The Western Journal](#). [Expert on Squatters Warns Nation: We're in for a 'Nightmare' Once Illegal Immigrants Discover Housing Law Loopholes](#), Feb. 24, 2024.

¹⁰ Ibid.

¹¹ The Brian Mudd Show, [What Squatting Has in Common with Illegal Immigration](#), March 26, 2024.

¹² JUST THE NEWS. [States focus on squatting as TikToker encourages illegal immigrants to 'invade' homes](#), undated.

¹³ Craig Monger, [House passes anti-squatting bill — 'We are closing the door to squatting scammers before they cross the state line'](#), April 6, 2024.



NE currently faces a severe housing shortage, especially in areas where the economy is booming. Legal citizens can barely buy homes in this expensive housing market. This housing shortage and the machinations by which illegal aliens sneak into citizen homes certainly will cause a legal and law enforcement crisis. Therefore, it is imperative that our state legislature pass preventive legislation quickly to avoid squatters ruining homes and neighborhoods of lawful Nebraska taxpayers. Using the information above, lobby your state senator to pass a bill similar to that in Florida or Georgia. Email netaxpayers@gmail.com for state senator contact information.

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