



## **DRAFT ballot language: A constitutional amendment for housing**

*Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to dedicate funding to creating homes Minnesotans can afford; increasing opportunities for Minnesotans to own their own homes and reducing racial gaps in homeownership; improving housing conditions; and reducing and preventing homelessness; by increasing the \_\_\_\_\_ tax rate beginning July 1, 2025, by “x” percent, and specifying that the dedicated revenues shall not supplant existing appropriations for affordable housing programs?*

### **Summary of constitutional amendment for housing bill proposal:**

The amendment will raise revenue and dedicate the revenue to three funds; the Homeownership Opportunity Fund, Rental Opportunity Fund (including a minimum investment of \$100 million annually in universal rental assistance/Bring it Home), and Household and Community Stability Fund. The funds are broad and flexible, able to accommodate innovative new concepts as well as existing programs, funds, and financing. A council of up to 24 people will be appointed for each fund to make budget and policy recommendations to the Governor and Legislature, with seats reserved for those with lived experience and frontline and grassroots organizations, among others.

The exact percentage of revenues allocated to each fund will be determined in partnership with lawmakers including bill chief authors.

### **Detailed Description of Funds:**

#### ***Purpose:***

The funds are intended to:

- Reduce disparities in ownership, housing cost burden, housing instability, and homelessness;
- Support community-based solutions to address the affordable housing shortage, increase affordability, and preserve and strengthen community;
- Improve the condition of homes so that Minnesota renters and homeowners live in healthy, safe, and resilient homes and communities;
- Increase the accessibility of existing housing stock and create more homes that are physically and sensorily accessible;
- Decrease energy cost burden and improve the energy and water efficiency of homes

**Rental Opportunity Fund:**

To create more homes that Minnesotans can afford by increasing the supply of affordable rental housing, especially for very low- and extremely low-income households; reduce the number of low-income households experiencing housing cost burden by investing in universal rental assistance/ Bring it Home, MN; and improve quality of life by ensuring existing homes are safe, healthy, and resilient.

A minimum of \$100 million shall fund universal rental assistance, also called the Bring it Home program.

**Homeownership Opportunity Fund:**

To support Minnesotans and the communities in which they live, to eliminate racial disparities in homeownership, accumulate wealth and assets, and increase quality of life by helping more first-time homebuyers afford and access ownership. The fund's investments shall advance efforts to close the racial homeownership gap and alleviate the lasting impact of racist homeownership policies and practices.

**Household and Community Stability Fund**

To help Minnesotans improve the condition of home and community, prevent homelessness and displacement from homes, and create pathways to permanent housing.

To stabilize Minnesotans in their homes, funds may finance homeless prevention efforts, services and programs for people experiencing homelessness on their path to permanent housing, supportive housing services, emergency rental assistance, and foreclosure prevention. To improve the condition of home and community, funds may support the maintenance of existing homes so that they are safe, healthy, and resilient and funds may support households in seeking housing that is safer, healthier, and better meets the needs of the household. To stabilize households and communities, funds may be used to acquire and maintain the affordability of existing non-subsidized and subsidized homes, support eventual tenant ownership, and support mission driven and individual ownership. Funds may also be used to connect residents to their community to build strong and resilient communities.

**Want more details?**

You can read the full policy proposal [here](#).