



OUR FUTURE STARTS AT HOME



Frequently Asked Questions

Why is a constitutional amendment the best way to reach our goals?

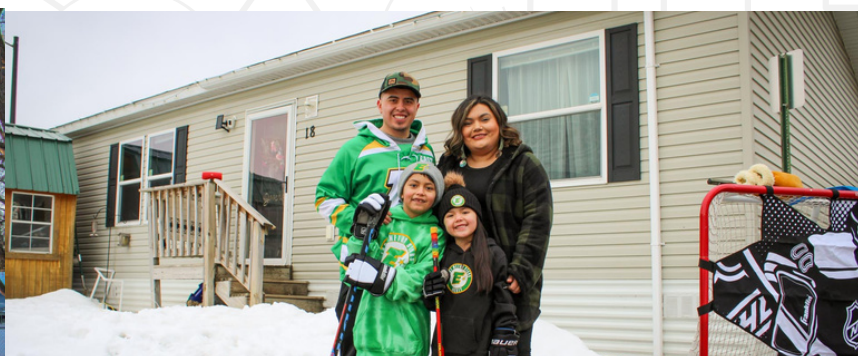
Minnesota is a place where everyone - young and old, Black and white, rural and city dwellers - should have a safe and healthy home. We have an opportunity to change the future of generations of Minnesotans, and to do so we need bold investments in housing now, and each year for years to come. The amendment will generate dedicated funding for housing, much like we dedicate funding for education, health care, infrastructure, and transportation. We propose a sales tax of 3/8 of 1%.

- For decades, the state has underinvested in homes-with too many Minnesota families left without a safe home and shut out from homeownership opportunities. Housing that people can afford is becoming harder to find, pushing out not only families, but also good-paying employers.
- An amendment will provide stable funding, regardless of the budget or who holds power at the Capitol.
- This constitutional amendment will ensure that communities have a powerful voice in where the funding goes. Minnesotans with diverse housing expertise and experiences will guide the funds to eliminate homeownership disparities, provide emergency rental protections, and build climate resilient and sustainable housing. That's community-led change.
- It includes a commitment to allocate funding with an eye toward reducing disparities, supporting community-based solutions, improving the conditions of homes, increasing accessibility, decreasing energy costs and improving energy efficiency.

Minnesota's constitution says that the people of Minnesota can change the constitution to make it work for us.

How do you pass a constitutional amendment?

A majority of the Senate and a majority of the House of Representatives must agree to put a proposed constitutional amendment on the ballot for the next statewide election. A majority of all Minnesotans who vote in the election must vote to approve the constitutional amendment.





Is this amendment the same as yearly legislative appropriations for housing?

No. The Our Future Starts at Home constitutional amendment would guarantee ongoing funding, whereas historically, appropriations are mostly one-time funding. We're celebrating a significant investment that creates new housing options for thousands of Minnesota families. We need to build on this momentum to ensure that funding towards housing continues for years to come and so that every Minnesotan can afford a safe place to live.

Will a constitutional amendment take care of all our housing needs?

A constitutional amendment is one part of a larger housing vision that also includes biennial legislative allocation, bonding and policy changes. We need to build on the momentum of the historic investments in the legislature passed in 2023 with a long-term strategy to solve a long-term problem.

The amendment will help ensure we address the housing needs of every Minnesotan, no matter their age, race, income or gender. It would dedicate statewide funding to housing, much like that for infrastructure or healthcare, to make sure families and future generations of Minnesotans can live and thrive here by making stable housing affordable.

Has anything like this been passed before?

Yes! In 2008, Minnesotans voted for and passed the Legacy Amendment to the Minnesota Constitution which increased the sales tax by three-eighths of one percent from 2009 until 2034 and distributes those funds towards protecting clean water and land. It has been done before and we can do it again!

What are the next steps?

We're working with our chief authors (Rep. Mike Howard and Sen. Zaynab Mohamed) and more than two dozen other lawmaker authors to build momentum for the amendment. We're also collaborating with a coalition of individual and organizational partners to build energy in communities across the entire state, and to lift up voices and stories about housing.

