

HOUSING INSECURITY AND HOMELESSNESS: AN <u>ADVOCACY</u> TOOLKIT



<u>What is this?</u> A non-exhaustive toolkit detailing advocacy organizations and bills they are supporting in the upcoming legislative cycle to address housing insecurity.



Who is this for? Christians and churches engaged in learning and service work who want to organize themselves to address housing injustice through structural means, like policy.



How do I use this? Churches can support advocacy efforts for affordable housing in their local communities: through writing to representatives to cosponsor the bill, attending legislative briefings, and organizing church members to offer testimony at bill hearings if relevant.



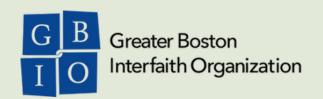
Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless have a database of housing-related bills they are supporting. You can inform yourself about each bill through a helpful one-pager, fill out a form to endorse the bill as an organization and get updates about the status of the bill.

Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless Bill Priorities, 2025-2026 Key Bill and Budget Priorities

Massachusetts Black and Latino Caucus is a group of state legislators committed to the flourishing of communities of color in the Commonwealth. One of their priorities is: Addressing the Housing Shortage through Equity and Removing Red Tape. They have identified three bills related to this legislative priority:

<u>H1572/S962</u>: An Act to promote Yes in My Back Yard <u>H1482/S969</u>: An Act to establish an accessory dwelling unit trust fund <u>H3194/S1973</u>: An Act relative to affordable housing and environmental adaptation dollars





From 2021 to 2024, Greater Boston Interfaith
Organization led a multi-coalition housing justice
campaign that resulted in the passing of the Affordable
Homes Act in Massachusetts.

You can read a fact sheet about the act <u>here</u>. To explore the possibility of your congregation becoming a member of GBIO, you can view their website <u>here</u>.



Abundant Housing MA is a pro-housing advocacy organization that builds local organizing power to create a statewide network pushing for affordable and abundant housing in the state. This legislative season (2025–26), they have identified several legislative priorities which you can find on their website. We encourage you to explore these legislative campaigns and call their senators and representatives to sponsor and support the bills.

Action Alert: Ask your legislators to co-sponsor our top priorities

Abundant Housing MA 2025-26 Legislative Priorities

MBTA Communities Act Toolkit



<u>Episcopal City Mission</u> works to bring about racial and economic justice in Massachusetts, focusing on organizing Episcopalians to be advocates and providing funding for BIPOC-led justice initiatives.

In the wake of their 25-26 Season of Advocacy, they developed toolkits mobilizing faithbased communities to advocate for policy to address systemic injustice. One toolkit was created to support An Act Enabling Cities and Towns to Stabilize Rents and Protect Tenants.

You can find the toolkit <u>here</u> and even <u>endorse the bill</u> as a church.