

## **AFFORDABLE HOUSING**

The lack of affordable housing for very low, low- and moderate-income individuals and families has many causes. Land acquisition, infrastructure costs, zoning requirements, NIMBY issues, fees & permits, interest on construction loans, mortgage interest, cost of building materials, labor costs, marketing, profit, lack of available/affordable units to rent or purchase. The list goes on.

The League of Women Voters of Indiana believes that all Hoosiers should have access to clean, safe, sanitary and affordable housing whether it be rental or owner occupied.

2023 General Assembly Housing Bills:

HB 1005 – Housing, creates a state revolving loan fund that local units of government may access to fund the costs of public infrastructure associated with housing preservation and development. Priority for loans is placed on units that have acted to study community housing needs, encourage higher density housing, address aging in place, leveraged other sources of funding for housing projects, and revises local regulations that add to costs of housing development. It has been assigned to the Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 202 – Study Committee, requires legislative study of rent escrow programs, rental unit habitability, tenant protections and local habitability enforcement options. It has been assigned to the House Rules and Legislative Procedures Committee.

There are several bills still moving that seek to address expected sky-rocketing residential property tax assessments, including HB 1499 – Property Tax Matters, SB 46-County Option Circuit Breaker Tax Credit and SB 325 – Homestead Standard Deduction.

HB 1157 – Residential Housing Development Program, which gives Marion County more tools to incentivize the development of affordable housing. It has been assigned to the Senate Local Government Committee.

SB 339 – Attainable Home Ownership Tax Credit, which creates a state tax credit for charitable contributions to Habitat for Humanity and like organizations. It has been assigned to the House Ways and Means Committee.  
A bill worth keeping an eye on:

HB 1575 – Residential Building Commission would give the new commission exclusive jurisdiction for the review and adoption of building codes and standards that regulate the construction of dwellings