# Improving Housing Affordability

Key bills reform land use to increase supply and lower housing prices



## Texas risks losing one of its greatest competitive advantages: housing affordability. In 2025, the Legislature acted to address this challenge.

Between the summers of 2019 and 2024, the median home price in Texas rose nearly 40%.



From January 2020 to January 2024, the **income needed** to afford the median priced home in Texas **rose** over **30% to \$100,629**.

Home ownership is a driver of financial success. The **net worth of the median homeowner is nearly forty times that of the median renter**, but the costs of homeownership are the highest they've been in decades.

## The 2025 Texas Legislative Session passed a comprehensive slate of bills to build more homes and meet the demands of a growing state

With these reforms, Texas has taken key steps to improve housing affordability and ensure that home ownership remains an achievable goal for middle class families across our state.

## Improving the Rezoning Process to Allow More Homes

### HB 24 by Rep. Orr & Sen. Hughes

Reforms a 100-year-old statute – the "tyrant's veto" – which allowed a minority of property owners to create procedural barriers to zoning changes. After HB 24, neighbors will be protected and city councils will be empowered to develop their communities.

### **Converting Commercial Property** to Residential

#### SB 840 by Sen. Hughes & Rep. Hefner

Allows for the development of housing in areas zoned for commercial, office, retail and warehouse uses in large cities.

## Allowing Single-Stair Apartments

#### SB 2835 by Sen. Johnson & Rep. Talarico

Creates a framework for cities to allow the construction of single stair buildings for apartments of up to 24-units.

### Meeting Market Demands for Smaller Lot Sizes

#### SB 15 by Sen. Bettencourt & Rep. Gates

Allows developers of newly-platted neighborhoods in larger cities to respond to market demands for smaller lot sizes. This added density allows for more homes to be built with lower land-related costs for interested buyers.

## **Converting Offices to Houses** SB 2477 by Sen. Bettencourt & Rep. Patterson

Reduces regulatory barriers for underutilized office space to be converted to housing, with guidelines and limitations related to parking, infrastructure and traffic studies.

## Allowing Lower-Cost Homes in Designated Areas

#### SB 785 By Sen. Flores & Rep. Guillen

Requires municipalities to allow the installation of HUD code compliant manufactured housing in at least one area of the city.



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