

Re-building Connecticut into a state of strong, vibrant communities, with a range of homes for all residents.

Continue Necessary Strategic Capital Investments in Affordable Housing

Authorize \$100 million each year for the Affordable Housing FLEX Fund, and \$50 million each year for the state Housing Trust Fund.

Helping rent-burdened and homeless families obtain permanent, affordable housing as quickly as possible is critical to stabilization of families and the economic growth of the state. The economic benefits of affordable housing development are clear. Building affordable homes generates millions of dollars in new economic activity, creates jobs, and broadens the state's tax base. We must continue making critical capital investments in affordable housing to expand housing choices for low and moderate income households across Connecticut, preserve existing affordable rental homes at risk of loss, and support the state's economy.

Reorganize the Zoning Enabling Act and Promote Housing Planning

Reorganize CGS Section 8-2 to make it more readable. Develop guidelines for municipal compliance with existing affordable housing planning requirement and require municipal compliance.

Reorganize CGS Section 8-2, the statute that grants land use authorities to local governments, to make it more easily readable to land use commissions and the general public. Require municipalities comply with the existing law's affordable housing planning requirement by January 1, 2022 and require a working group convene to study municipal zoning and affordable housing planning requirements related to housing choice. The study would include recommendations concerning guidelines for municipal compliance, how compliance should be determined, and possible incentives for such compliance.

Develop Training on Housing Issues for Local Planning & Zoning Commissions

Develop a training curriculum for local planning & zoning commissioners to include education on housing alternatives. By 2022, require planning & zoning commissioners meet a minimum standard of four hours of training per year.

Planning & Zoning commissions make important land use decisions that affect the function of their communities for many years. Connecticut does not offer a training curriculum, or require training, for commissioners. In order to ensure commissioners are provided with the educational resources needed to make important land use decisions, we must develop and offer a training curriculum to commissioners. By January 1, 2022, municipalities should require all new commissioners meet the minimum standard available through the state training curriculum of four hours of training per year, two of which must relate to housing.

HOMEConnecticut is a statewide campaign with broad, cross-sector representation, working to ensure that all Connecticut residents have access to a range of affordable housing choices in all communities in the state. For more information contact HOMEECT@pschousing.org.

February 3, 2020