

2024 General Assembly Housing Priorities

The Coalition advocates for policies that create more affordable rental housing, help Kentuckians that are housing insecure, and support unsheltered Kentuckians. This includes legislation related to public benefits, landlord-tenant reforms, ID reforms, justice reforms, and anything that supports marginalized communities. These are our policy priorities for the 2024 General Assembly.

HB71: Eviction Expungement. Once an eviction is filed, it remains on a tenant's record their whole life—including for any children in the home—and landlords can deny future housing due to an old eviction. A prior financial crisis should not prevent a family from having a safe, affordable home. The General Assembly should create a pathway for evictions to be expunged and to prevent minors from being listed by name in eviction filings.

Budget Ask: Invest in Housing and Shelter. Kentucky needs 90,000 units of affordable rental housing for our poorest citizens. Western and eastern Kentucky experienced massive natural disasters that destroyed thousands of homes; in Louisville, we saw a 41% increase in homelessness over four years. The General Assembly should dedicate \$200 million for housing and shelter in the biannual budget.

Kentucky Housing Interim Task Force. Housing affordability impacts every county in Kentucky. Our state is facing rising rents, a lack of housing options for low and moderate incomes, and barriers to housing development. The General Assembly should create a Kentucky Housing Interim Task Force to hear testimony, study solutions, and adopt solutions for future legislation to meet Kentuckians' housing needs.

HB100: Free Birth Certificates. In 2019, the General Assembly passed HB 378, which allowed youth experiencing homelessness to obtain a birth certificate at no charge. The General Assembly should expand this for homeless adults who need a Kentucky birth certificate to gain secure housing, employment, and other supports.