

THE RENTERS AGENDA

The first-ever Congressional Renters Caucus was founded in 2023 by Rep. Jimmy Gomez (CA-34) to serve as a platform for legislators to collaborate, propose legislation and engage in constructive dialogue on critical issues impacting renters.

With nearly 44 million renter households in the U.S., the caucus will focus on finding policy solutions to lower costs, expand support, increase supply and remove barriers for the millions of Americans who rent.



THE NEED FOR ACTION

For the first time in recent history, the average national rent-to-income ratio reached 30%, meaning that renters are spending a whopping 30% of their earnings on housing and the average American renter is now considered rent-burdened. The U.S. Census estimates that more than 19 million renter households meet the threshold for being classified as rent-burdened.

As the cost of home ownership continues to rise, far outpacing the increase in wages, more Americans have opted to rent. However, with a shortage of affordable housing, inadequate federal rental assistance and insufficient federal renter/fair housing protections, many Americans are forced to spend more and more just to have a place to live. While local and state governments have worked to address this growing crisis, a comprehensive, federal approach is needed.

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The Renters Caucus is establishing the first-ever Renters Agenda in Congress—a comprehensive set of bills to protect and uplift renters—focused on these three pillars:



LOWER COSTS:

Significantly expand the value and availability of rental assistance and public housing while reducing costs for eligible cost-burdened renters.



INCREASE SUPPLY:

Drastically increase the supply of affordable/high quality public and private rental housing.



REMOVE BARRIERS:

Eliminate administrative, bureaucratic, and discriminatory barriers renters face when accessing fair and affordable rental housing.

LEGISLATION

RENTER-FOCUSED PACKAGES

HR 7325: Community Housing Act—Rep. Balint

HR 5254: Housing for All Act—Rep. Lieu

HR 2974: Interagency Council on Affordable Housing Act—Rep. Schiff

LOWER COSTS:

HR 418: Affordable Housing Equity Act—Rep. Gomez

HR 4233: Housing Crisis Response Act—Rep. Waters

HR 3238: Affordable Housing Credit Improvement Act—Rep. DelBene and Rep. LaHood

HR 307: Public Housing Emergency Response Act—Rep. Velazquez

HR 7075: HOME Investment Partnerships Reauthorization and Improvement Act—Rep. Beatty



INCREASE SUPPLY:

HR 6721: Rent Relief Act—Rep. Davis

HR 4232: Ending Homelessness Act—Rep. Waters

HR 3776: Family Stability and Opportunity Vouchers Act—Rep. Neguse

HR 4606: Choice in Affordable Housing Act—Rep. Cleaver

HR 8327: Stable Families Act—Rep. Torres

REMOVE BARRIERS:

HR 4560: Housing FIRST Act—Rep. Pressley

HR 5827: Tenants' Right to Organize Act—Rep. Ramirez

HR 4907: End Junk Fees for Renters Act—Rep. Frost

HR 6696: Eviction Prevention Act—Rep. DeLauro

HR 2846: Fair Housing Improvement Act—Rep. Peters

