



Thank you to SEABA for hosting the “Affordable Housing Roundtable.” This is an important topic for our Vermont communities.

When I speak to Vermonters around the state, I frequently hear how brutal it is to find affordable housing. It’s been a long-term problem that has been made worse by an unprecedented pandemic.

My job as your representative is to advocate for policies that help you be successful in your communities. A critical component to that success is to have an affordable place to live, and that is becoming harder and harder to find throughout our state. This means that a young family trying to start a life in Vermont struggles to do so because of housing pressures. It can also mean an elderly person on a fixed income can’t afford their skyrocketing rent, which is totally out of their control. It’s a problem that all of us must acknowledge and commit to helping solve.

This is why I have been a strong supporter of the massive investment in affordable housing which was included in the House-passed Build Back Better Act. The bill would provide funding to build over one million affordable housing units across the country. It would also provide billions of dollars in rental and homeownership assistance. This legislation has stalled in the Senate, but we won’t stop fighting to get it across the finish line. This issue is too important for the health of our communities and the future of all Vermonters.

I’m committed to continuing to work on this issue and look forward to doing so alongside all of you. Thank you.

Peter Welch  
Welch for Vermont