Like many other parts of the country, Maine’s growth has resulted in significant housing affordability challenges. Combatting housing affordability issues in the state will require holistic solutions that address the needs of all Maine residents.

Maine has seen a sharp population increase, adding more than 10,000 new residents since 2010. 78,000 Mainers call an apartment home, with demand on the rise. 53% of low-income renters spend more than half of their income on housing. Between now and 2030, Maine will need to add 309 new apartment homes each year to keep up with demand.

Legal Landscape

The state of Maine does not have any legal framework surrounding rent control. The state neither preempts or promotes local municipalities from implementing rent control. It is imperative that preemption be introduced and passed to protect citizens from the ramifications of rent control.

ESTABLISH PREEMPTION

Rent control is an outdated concept. It benefits the very few—and not necessarily those in greatest need—at the expense of the larger society.

REJECT PRICE CONTROLS

Lawmakers should reject price controls and, instead, pursue alternatives such as voucher-based rental assistance for those in greatest need to better address housing affordability.

If you have questions about our efforts to promote holistic housing policies, please contact us at info@growinghomestogether.org