Like many other parts of the country, Virginia’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 Virginia residents.

Virginia has seen a sharp population increase, with a 6.7% growth since 2010. 1 million Virginians call an apartment home, with demand on the rise. 69% of extremely low-income renters spend more than half of their income on housing. Between now and 2030, Virginia will need to build 10,000 new apartment homes each year to keep up with demand.

Legal Landscape

The state of Virginia does not have any legal framework surrounding rent control. The state has neither rent control nor preemption, giving local municipalities a lot of leeway.

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Rent control is an outdated concept.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
It is important for lawmakers to 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