

The Whole-Home Repairs Act (SB1135)

The Whole-Home Repairs Act is a bipartisan bill that creates a one-stop shop for home repairs and weatherization while building out Pennsylvania's workforce and creating new family-sustaining jobs in a growing field.



Across the Commonwealth, residents are struggling to hold on to aging homes that are unsafe to live in.

More than 280,000 occupied units in the Commonwealth have moderate to severe physical inadequacies, including leaky roofs or windows, blown fuses or exposed wiring, unreliable heat, or even the lack of a flushing toilet. This deferred maintenance endangers the health of the home's residents, including exposure to mold and lead. These homes are hard to keep warm in the winter and cool in the summer, putting residents at additional risk and burdening them with crushing utility bills.

The climate crisis, causing Pennsylvania to become hotter and wetter, exacerbates the deterioration of our homes by exposing them to conditions they were never intended to withstand. At the same time, emissions from our built environment are accelerating the pace of climate change.

Current demand for home repairs and weatherization far outpaces available funding, and a lack of coordination among existing programs means that many eligible households don't receive any funding at all. When Pennsylvanians forgo expensive repairs, many are forced to sell their homes, which worsens displacement and destabilizes communities. Our residents are falling through the cracks in our current system, and our communities, and our affordable housing stock, are suffering because of it.

Pennsylvania can be a leader in preserving affordable housing and training a local workforce to meet the growing demand. The Whole-Home Repairs Act fills in the gaps in our current system by taking a three-pronged approach:



1. It funds habitability repairs and energy efficiency updates for homes throughout Pennsylvania by providing grants to homeowners and forgivable loans to small landlords with affordability restrictions.
2. It allocates resources for support staff to help people access the right programs in the right order to meet their needs and maximize their access to holistic repairs.
3. It boosts retention in home repair and weatherization training programs and pre-apprenticeship programs, including by providing stipends to trainees, so that our state can build up the skilled workforce it needs.

By passing Whole-Home Repairs, Pennsylvania will be able to keep residents safely housed, stabilize communities, lower crushing utility bills, reduce energy use, prevent blight, and create new good-paying jobs in a growing industry.



The Whole-Home Repairs Act (SB1135), introduced by **Pennsylvania State Senator Nikil Saval** in March 2022, is the first bill of its kind in the nation. To learn more about this bill and add your support, visit www.PASenatorSaval.com/WholeHomeRepairs.