



Official Statement from Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance Following Final Vote on Senate Bill 462

NEW ORLEANS - The Louisiana Legislature recently made the detrimental decision to pass a bill banning municipal and parish governments from establishing inclusionary zoning policies. Senator Martiny's bill, which replaces the phrase "inclusionary zoning" with "voluntary economic incentive policies," makes it so that affordable housing policies would be voluntary, rather than mandated as recommended by New Orleans' City Planning Commission and City Council. With this measure, the State Legislature will prevent municipalities from creating and enforcing policies that support affordable housing.

The wide ripple of effects that will undoubtedly occur from the implementation of this bill will be devastating for our state as New Orleans and many other cities throughout Louisiana are in the midst of an affordable housing crisis. The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance ([GNOHA](#)), alongside our many local and statewide affordable housing advocates and allies, are deeply disappointed in the decision of our state government to allow this bill to pass. It's nearly unfathomable to think that throughout our long and troubled history, our elected officials in the State Capitol have yet to realize that the market cannot and will not correct itself.

Without the powerful tool of mandatory inclusionary zoning, our City Council and others around the state will be rendered helpless in creating equitable, sustainable and affordable homes for all. [HousingNOLA](#) and GNOHA, in tandem with statewide affordable housing allies and partners, have spent years working within our communities to identify their unique needs and establish a process and plan to meet those needs moving forward.

At the mercy of state lawmakers, New Orleans will continue down its current path of displacement and disparity, straying further from the goals outlined in Housing NOLA's [10-Year Strategy Plan](#) and [Smart Housing](#)

Mix. For these reasons and so many more, GNOHA urges Governor John Bel Edwards to intervene, veto Senate Bill 462, and remedy this situation before it's too late.

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The Greater New Orleans Housing Alliance

(GNOHA) is a collaborative of non-profit housing builders and community development corporations working to rebuild the housing stock available in the city of New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina devastated the city's infrastructure. Since its creation in 2007, GNOHA has sought to create change in the Greater New Orleans community through public policy advocacy and public education. The collaborative advocates for the preservation and production of affordable housing for people within the Greater New Orleans metropolitan region and places a special emphasis on the needs of the most vulnerable in society - seniors, people with disabilities, veterans, low-wage workers and low-income families.