

A tax credit to help more families keep a roof over their heads.

Paychecks aren't keeping up with rents. That forces millions of people in the U.S. to choose between a place to live and their other basic needs. And for some, it means not having a place to live at all.

Over the last several decades, renters' median earnings went up 5 percent while cost of rent went up *more than 60 percent*. And now there's no place in the country where someone making minimum wage can reasonably afford a two-bedroom apartment.

A renters' tax credit could help change this.

we need a renters' tax credit.

A renters' tax credit would limit the amount low-income families pay for rent, so they aren't forced into impossible choices between housing and other basics like food and healthcare.



VS



A renters' tax credit would limit the amount low-income families pay for rent, so they aren't forced into impossible choices between housing and other basics like food and healthcare. The idea has bipartisan support, and researchers at Columbia University say it could lift over 9 million Americans above the poverty line.

We already subsidize housing via our tax code by giving mortgage interest and property tax deductions to wealthier homeowners. So why not renters? Ignoring them has only let wealth inequality and the racial wealth divide get worse.

As many presidential candidates are campaigning with housing proposals and community leaders grapple with housing, RESULTS volunteers are making sure Congress takes action too. A renters' tax credit would mean millions more Americans can afford the safe housing they deserve.

What this means for RESULTS advocates in 2020:

Congress already hears from lots of corporations and lobbyists about taxes. What they hear less about is how they can use the tax code to tackle poverty. As an advocate, that's where you can come in.

We'll be working to get members of Congress on the record publicly about the renters' tax credit – whether in speeches on the floor of Congress, in the media, or in their hometowns.

In an election year like this, it's rare to see big pieces of federal legislation pass. But the work that happens behind-the-scenes during election years determines what happens when a new Congress arrives in Washington. By getting our representatives publicly supporting the renters' tax credit **now**, we can make sure it's a top priority when the next Congress is sworn in next year.

[WATCH: More from our policy team about the Renters' Tax Credit.](#)