

Sample E-mail to Legislators: *Workforce Housing Sales Tax Exemption (LRB-5204)*

E-mail Subject Line: Please Co-Sponsor LRB-5204 – *Workforce Housing Sales Tax Exemption*

Dear Senator/Representative _____:

As your constituent and an economic development professional, I am writing to ask you to co-sponsor LRB-5204. This important legislative proposal would help drive down the cost of housing construction by creating a sales tax exemption on materials, supplies and equipment used in the development of workforce housing.

Wisconsin is facing a statewide workforce and talent shortage, and not having an adequate supply of affordable housing is making the situation worse. Housing affordability and quality is an extremely important factor for individuals and their families when they decide where they want to live and work.

Unfortunately, rising construction costs have played a significant role in Wisconsin's current workforce housing shortage and slow pace of new development. These escalating construction costs are driven in large part by price spikes for a wide range of building materials, which has led to an overall increase in housing costs and a decline in homeownership.

To help improve Wisconsin's housing stock and provide communities and employers with a meaningful talent development tool, I fully support LRB-5204 to reduce housing costs and spur much-needed development of workforce housing.

As noted above, LRB-5204 would create a sales tax exemption for building materials, supplies and equipment purchased for the construction of workforce housing. The bill defines workforce housing as: 1.) Housing intended for initial occupancy by individuals whose household income does not exceed 120% of the county's gross median income; and 2.) Housing that costs the occupants no more than 30% of the county's median income. Under the bill, the exemption does not apply to materials purchased for the development of property for public use.

In closing, I would again urge you to co-sponsor LRB-5204. The bill is being authored by Representatives Bob Kulp and Romaine Quinn and Senator Pat Testin. The co-sponsorship period ends on Wednesday, January 29.

Thank you for your consideration. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Name

Title

Home Address

Phone #