

## **Journal of Legislation & Public Policy 2025 Annual Legislative Writing Competition**

The United States faces a dire housing shortage and affordability crisis. Experts estimate the nation is short four to seven million homes, and that shortages are particularly acute in major urban areas. This scarcity leaves tenants vulnerable—not just to rising costs, but also to displacement, poor maintenance, and weakened bargaining power with landlords. As a result, state and local governments are taking action, seeking legislative solutions that expand housing supply while safeguarding tenant’s rights.

This spring, the Journal of Legislation & Public Policy is hosting a symposium on these critical issues. In conjunction with this event, the Journal invites NYU Law students to propose state or local policies that address housing supply, tenant protections, and affordability challenges.

Students participating in this year’s competition are invited to develop legislative proposals aimed at addressing the housing crisis at the state or local level. Submissions should focus on strategies that expand housing supply, protect tenants from displacement, or ensure fair treatment in rental markets. Proposals should consider the practical challenges of policymaking, such as political feasibility, enforcement mechanisms, and coordination between different levels of government.

The word limit is 1,500 words. Feel free to draw from existing law and scholarship to develop and support your proposal. Please provide citations where appropriate.

All submissions should be emailed in PDF form to [Leg.Comp2025@gmail.com](mailto:Leg.Comp2025@gmail.com) with the subject line: “**State & Local Housing Solutions 2025**” by **April 5, 2025**. The winning submission will receive a \$200 prize, and the runner-up will receive \$100. The winner and the runner-up will be announced at the symposium.

Good Luck!

### **The Symposium**

On April 10, 2025, at 6:45 PM in the Lester Pollack Colloquium Room, the Journal of Legislation & Public Policy will host a symposium on legislative solutions to the nation’s housing crisis. Please join us for a panel discussion where policymakers and advocates will share insights on legislative strategies to expand housing supply and protect tenants.

Our panel will feature **Dani Isaacsohn**, an Ohio state senator focused on housing reform; **Tara Raghuv eer**, a leading advocate for tenant rights; and **RuthAnne Visnauskas**, Commissioner/CEO of NYS Homes and Community Renewal.

Food and drinks will be provided.