

GOP Housing Plan Takes Shape From Rep. Mike Lawler

The bill includes proposal from top Republicans that would boost affordability.

By Eleanor Mueller and Zachary Warmbrodt, POLITICOPro, October 17, 2024

New York Republican Rep. [Mike Lawler](#) is set to introduce a sweeping affordable housing plan Friday, as the GOP looks to address one of the most pressing economic policy concerns of this year's elections.

The [209-page bill](#) from Lawler, a member of the House Financial Services Committee, includes his own proposals as well as ideas from other Hill Republicans, including Sen. [Tim Scott](#), the top GOP member of Senate Banking, and Reps. [Warren Davidson](#), [Mike Flood](#) and [Andrew Garbarino](#).

Lawler, who is in a competitive re-election contest, is set to announce the bill Friday at an event in New City, New York.

The legislation has virtually no chance of becoming law this year but is a new window into housing policy battles to come in the next session of Congress. Vice President Kamala Harris has made housing affordability one of the marquee elements of her White House bid, including plans to spend billions on a housing innovation fund, expand down payment assistance and target "corporate" landlords.

Lawler's plan, per [a section-by-section breakdown](#), includes measures that would create a pilot program to use federal property for affordable housing development, expand the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit, expand housing discounts for first responders and roll back clean energy requirements on new homes.

Lawler teased the package at the RNC in July, [saying on stage at a CNN-POLITICO event](#) that addressing the housing shortage is "one of the most fundamental issues we need to deal with as a country."

"Everywhere I've gone in the 17th Congressional District, I've heard about the affordability crisis facing New Yorkers - and at the heart of it is the lack of housing options for many residents," Lawler said in a statement Thursday. "The Revitalizing America's Housing Act will help fill the 6 million unit shortage we're

facing nationwide and provides a roadmap for Republicans and Democrats on how we can work towards bipartisan solutions on housing for the future.”