



Promoting affordable housing is essential to ensuring every family has the freedom and opportunity to thrive. Abrams worked as a City Attorney and understands the relationship between income inequality and gentrification and the importance of developing partnerships with local governments to address housing issues. As House Democratic Leader, she traveled across the state and knows that communities are changing right before our eyes and many residents can no longer afford to live in urban areas.

### **Future Plans**

- Georgia is a large state, and the challenges impacting access to affordable housing are different across communities. We need state assistance that recognizes, respects, and encourages local solutions.
- Georgia needs a state affordable housing trust fund because we know every community does not have the resources to meet this challenge.
- We need to ensure local governments have as many tools as possible to increase affordable housing. In Georgia, that means we need a governor that will veto preemption legislation, which would thwart local efforts.
- Abrams supports the technical assistance that the UGA Initiative for Community Housing provides to local communities - where teams from local communities participate in a three-year program to assess housing challenges and map out comprehensive approaches to solving their affordability challenges. This technical assistance is a great example of state, local, nonprofit, and community partnership to craft local solutions. It has led to the City of Pembroke increasing affordable rental housing to meet the needs of job growth around Fort Stewart Army Base. The City of Valdosta recognized the need among seniors and developed affordable housing units for them. For other local governments this has meant code revisions, counseling programs for homebuyers, mortgage finance opportunities, land banks, and helping low-income residents clear titles.

- Circuit breakers are an option to addressing gentrification. These programs make it clear that when taxes increase above a certain level of your income, the “circuit breaker” kicks in and stops the tax increase.
- Abrams has also released a plan to support veterans and military families that seeks to end veteran homelessness in Georgia during her first term.
- Abrams will also address housing for those leaving our prisons and jails so they can successfully re-enter society.
- In some areas of the state, the growing affordability issue isn’t one of rapidly increasing prices, but, instead, it’s the falling work hours, the loss of jobs, the stagnating wages. We need rising incomes and wages. Abrams’ plans on economic mobility, higher education access, and access to affordable child care are critical to this effort.