

**JON TESTER**

# **Fighting for Affordable Housing**

**From Bozeman to Broadus, Jon knows that skyrocketing housing costs are being driven up by rich out-of-staters who are pricing Montanans out of the communities they love. Montanans work hard to provide for their families and strengthen their communities, and Jon will always fight to ensure Montanans don't need to leave their hometown to get a good-paying job, or a million bucks to keep a good roof over their head.**

## **Expanding Montana's Housing Supply**

Jon is working to give Montanans a seat at the table and invest in community housing developments and repairs. Since 2019, Jon has secured over \$22 million to help bolster Montana's housing supply through his role on the Senate Appropriations Committee.

Housing shortages affect every corner of the state and hit Montana's rural communities hard. Jon is fighting for rural America by pushing Congress to pass his *Rural Housing Service Reform Act*, which would increase the supply of affordable housing across Montana.

Jon believes that everyone should have the opportunity to work hard and own a home. Manufactured housing is an affordable way to access home ownership, and Jon is working to boost Montana's housing supply by establishing a program to help create more manufactured housing through his *Preservation and Reinvestment Initiative for Community Enhancement Act*.

## **Making Montana Affordable**

When Montanans were in trouble, Jon stepped up. As a part of his American Rescue Plan, Jon secured funding for the Montana Homeowners Assistance Fund to keep Montanans in their homes by helping homeowners with rent, lien prevention, and utilities for those hit hardest by the pandemic.

Jon knows that an influx of rich out-of-staters buying second and third homes has driven up prices and

***"You shouldn't need to be a millionaire to afford to live in Montana. Wealthy out-of-staters are coming here and buying second and third homes, trying to turn Montana into their personal playground. But Montana isn't for sale..."***

**Jon Tester**

made it harder for everyone to afford living in Montana. Since 2019, Jon has secured an additional \$20 million in affordable housing assistance for Montanans so that working families can afford to live in the Last Best Place.

## **Fighting Sky-High Housing Costs For Every Montanan**

Out-of-staters scooping up Montana real estate are driving up housing costs for everyone. When property values go up, so do property taxes, and landlords

**JON TESTER FOR U.S. SENATE**

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pass on these increased costs to tenants. No one is spared from Montana's skyrocketing housing costs. Jon knows full well that out-of-state investors have been buying up Montana homes and renting them out at sky-high prices. That's why he's secured funding for rental assistance for Montanans facing eviction and repeatedly pressed housing experts for solutions.

### ***Cutting Red Tape for Homebuyers***

Finding affordable housing in Indian Country is difficult enough without burdensome red tape – so when Jon heard that the Bureau of Indian Affairs' mortgage approval process was slowing down home purchases, he fought for his bipartisan *Tribal Trust Land Ownership Act*, which would establish a timeline for the BIA to process and approve mortgages to help ensure Tribal members can achieve home ownership.

The home appraisal process is a critical part of Montanans receiving fair prices for housing, but for

too long the appraiser shortage has hit rural Montana communities hard. That's why Jon worked across the aisle to introduce his *Appraisal Industry Improvement Act* to boost the home appraisal workforce and get houses on the market quicker.

### ***Standing up for Montana***

Montana is growing fast, and Jon will stand up to anyone to ensure that folks receive a fair deal in exchange for their hard-earned tax dollars. When unelected bureaucrats threatened to strip Montana cities of "metropolitan status," jeopardizing federal funding for affordable housing, Jon successfully stopped the move, allowing him to continue securing additional dollars for Montana.



**JON TESTER** FOR U.S. SENATE

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