

Hi my name is Amit, I'm a student with NYPIRG at Queens College and I'm calling on the New York State Legislature to support the New York Public Banking Act.

Every New Yorker knows that housing costs are expensive and make it difficult to stay in your home.

I grew up very poor. My mom was a single mother and she raised me and my two siblings by herself. She was always working and even then it would be hard for her to afford a small apartment for us to live in. Throughout my life, we had to move eleven times until we finally were able to find someplace we can live for a long time. I did not know this at the time growing up, but we were very lucky and at any point we could have become homeless. It's scary to think about even now.

Housing is so expensive because Wall st. banks are using our money to invest in luxury housing that displaces New Yorkers and gentrifies our neighborhoods. My neighborhood, Jamaica, Queens, is seeing multiple high rise towers being built and priced at market rates that people like me can't afford and that drives up housing costs for everyone.

With Public Banking we could take back control of our money and invest in truly affordable housing instead. We could have more community land trusts, tenant owned co-ops and public housing projects. This would make sure that people like me could stay in our homes and our neighborhoods.

Our legislators have the power to pave the way for Public Banking in New York by passing the New York Public Banking Act. Please fill out our petition and join our campaign to find out how you can support the movement for public banking.