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 how much more difficult it is to live in our state as opposed to most others. However, that does not to be the case.

Currently all of our tax money are being held in Wall Street Banks. These banks are supposed to use the money to support our communities. One way can do it is by creating houses for our communities. Unfortunately, they do not build houses that help us like permanently affordable housing. They often build luxury houses which does not help anyone who is middle class or lower.

With a public bank, our communities will thrive and most importantly, it will be easier to live here in New York.

If the Public Banking Act is signed, the cost of living will decrease. Houses will be more easily attainable and rent will be lower. Public banks will build more permanently affordable houses. That will make it cheaper for everyone to live because there will be more houses at a reasonable price.

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.

If we have a public bank here in New York there will be constant efforts to prevent situations like this. So please support the New York Public Banking Act.