



Lutheran Advocacy - Minnesota

In response to God's love in Jesus Christ, we advocate for wise and just public policies to overcome hunger and poverty, and steward God's creation!

2024 Legislative Agenda

Issue: Electronic Waste

Lutheran Advocacy-MN is joining other organizations to pass legislation that would...

- 1) **Change the definition of e-waste** to include any device covered by electricity (This is a broad and flexible definition, which covers any device into the future, including those not yet conceived of)
Exclusions:
 - Lead acid batteries (a car battery buyback program already exists, resulting in a 95% recovery rate)
 - Electronic Vehicles & Infrastructure (recycled by a different process and different stakeholders)
 - White Waste – Refrigerators, washers, dryers,
- 2) Provide **free accessible drop-off or collection** of e-waste statewide for residents AND businesses
- 3) Collect **fees at the point of sale** of electronic items (3-4% of item cost) **to cover collection costs** including disposal, shipping, up to two employees per collector, and an additional incentive per pound.

Issue: Affordable Housing

As part of the Homes for All Coalition, Lutheran Advocacy-MN continues to work for

- 1) Investments for **new housing production** and housing **rehabilitation**, whether through new direct funding or housing bonds (which can leverage \$3.00 to \$4.00 of private and other funds, for each dollar designated by the state),
- 2) More funding for **safe shelters**,
- 3) **Emergency Rental Assistance** (to keep people/households from losing current housing)

What is Needed for a Good Advocacy Letter?

As you try to get the attention of your legislators, you'll want to **use your own words** and **personalize** your letter as much as possible. They want to know what YOU think. **Notecards** or **stationary** can make the letter feel even more personal. A simple personalized letter, note, or email is usually worth more than hundreds of form letters. Contact Lutheran Advocacy-MN for updates and bill numbers (as available), or check the website for additional resources. ****[Who Represents Me? <https://www.gis.lcc.mn.gov/iMaps/districts/>]****

A good letter will also include the following elements:

- 1) **Your Name & Address on Envelope & Letter:** Legislators want to know that you are their constituent and where you live (or where you go to church, if you are writing to the legislator from that district).
- 2) **Who You Are:** Mention something about yourself, like what church you are from, and if you have first-hand experience with the issue.
- 3) **Ask for Specific Action:** "Please support..." If there is a bill number, this is the place to include it.
- 4) **Give a Reason or Say Something About Why You Care:** Speak from your heart, elaborate from the talking points, or tell a story.

Mail the letters to these addresses:

Sen. _____, Minnesota State Senate, MN Senate Building, 95 University Ave. W., St. Paul, MN 55155

Rep. _____, Minnesota House of Representatives, 100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., St. Paul, MN 55155