



PROJECT FOR PRIDE IN LIVING

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May 7, 2021

Representative Tina Liebling, Chair
Representative Jennifer Schultz
Representative Aisha Gomez
Representative Dave Pinto
Representative Joe Schomacker

Senator Michelle Benson, Chair
Senator Jim Abeler
Senator Paul Utke
Senator Mark Koran
Senator John Hoffman

Re: HF2128/SF2360 (HHS Omnibus Budget Bill) – Housing and Homelessness

Chair Liebling, Chair Benson and Members of the HHS Conference Committee,

Project for Pride in Living (PPL) supports increasing the base rate funding for Housing Support by \$100 per month for recipients living in community settings –places where individuals have their own lease – allowing providers to work directly with landlords across Minnesota. An increase of \$100/month would create pathways to housing stability for the nearly 5,000 Minnesotans at risk of homelessness, as well as landlords and housing support providers working to prevent and end homelessness.

PPL builds, manages, and services 1,600 units of affordable housing throughout the Twin Cities serving individuals and families who are low-income and formerly homeless. We know that the most effective way to promote long-term self-reliance is by stabilizing the economics of a household and providing affordable housing. Last year, PPL’s Housing Support program served 177 individuals and 96% of individuals maintained stable housing for 24 months or more.

We appreciate that the Human Services Omnibus bill includes language that will update Housing Support absence requirements so that individuals can access needed healthcare without fear of losing their housing. This bill has strong bipartisan support and will allow housing support providers to work directly with landlords across the state to help individuals achieve housing stability in the community. DHS has said it will take a year to implement a rate change, making legislative action this session even more important.

As our state works to address the current housing and homelessness crisis, HF2128/SF2360 provides the tools and resources to promote greater stability for tenants as well as landlords. We ask for your support.

Sincerely,

Paul Williams
President and CEO
Project for Pride in Living

Cc:
Patrick McQuillan
Yingya Vang
Bailey Strand
Brittany Johnson
Hali Kolkind
Kristy Graume

