

March 17th, 2021

Chair Cheryl Youakim Members of the House Property Tax Division

Re: Support for HF 1735 (Youakim) - Renter's credit and homestead credit parameters modified to increase refunds.

Chair Youakim and Members of the House Property Tax Division,

I am writing on behalf of the Municipal Legislative Commission (MLC), a coalition of 19 suburban cities in the metro area. We are reaching out to voice our support for HF 1735 (Youakim).

This bill will provide property tax relief to renters, homeowners, and families in our cities in an equitable manner based on an individual's income and their ability to pay. The cities that make up MLC do not receive any LGA funds, so residents do not receive property tax relief from the state through the LGA program. Without state aid, property taxes create an inequitable burden for the low-income seniors, renters, and homeowners living in our cities. HF 1735 would increase the property tax refund to our low-income residents by basing the refunds on income, which will make the property tax burden more equitable for suburban homeowners.

We humbly ask members of the committee to support HF 1735 and to reach out to us if you have any further questions regarding this issue.

Thank you for your time,

James Hovland Chair, MLC

Mayor, City of Edina