

BUILDERS ASSOCIATION OF MINNESOTA



30 April 2021

Honorable Members of the Jobs Conference Committee

Chair Pratt; Senators Rarick, Housley, Draheim, Eken
Chair Noor; Representatives Ecklund, Olson L, Berg, Hamilton

Re: BAM Written Testimony; SF1098

On behalf of the **Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)**, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to share written testimony. Our membership of nearly 1600 builders, remodelers, subcontractors, and industry partners are joined together through twelve local associations across Minnesota, and we are proud to be the statewide voice of the Minnesota Home Building Industry.

BAM is grateful to its members who have worked tirelessly and safely through the pandemic to provide housing opportunities to Minnesotans. Thank you for your public service, and the work you do to move Minnesota forward. Following are issues we'd like to highlight for your consideration:

BAM Supports:

- Contractor Recovery Fund Protection** (Senate) — by underscoring that this homeowner warranty protection mechanism can be used only for its intended purposes, you are helping to secure safety and stability for homeowners while being good stewards of this licensed contractor-paid fund.
- Removing Dedicated Anchorages Requirement** (Senate) — BAM members' focus is on providing safe & affordable housing for all Minnesotans. It is especially important to eliminate additional cost drivers that raise prices for consumers and push more out of home ownership. The provision to remove the dedicated window anchorage provision from code is an example of fee reduction that promotes affordability.
- Construction-Related Fee Reductions** (TBD) — BAM's members strive to make every dollar count for homeowners, so we appreciate DLI's stewardship that enables continued reductions to fees applied to the construction industry.

BAM Opposes:

- Employer Mandates** (House) — BAM joins the *United for Jobs Coalition* in opposing one-size-fits-all employer mandates, especially at a time when employers are doing their best to support employees under challenging circumstances.
- Frost Footings Code Changes in Border City Enterprise Zones** (Senate) — while our members sympathize with efforts to tackle the many cost drivers in the building code, we oppose efforts that diminish the uniformity in code administration.

Thank you again for the opportunity to share our input on this legislation. Please let me know if the Builders Association of Minnesota can provide any additional information or be a resource for this committee.

Sincerely,

Grace Keliher
Executive Vice President

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