

March 21, 2021

Chair Youakim and Members of the House Property Tax Division:

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony regarding the proposed division report (the delete everything amendment to HF 1735, the A21-0106).

Minnesota Realtors® was founded in 1919 and is a statewide business trade association with a membership of over 21,000 real estate professionals working with buyers and sellers of all types of property in every corner of the state.

On March 17th, I testified before the Division in support of Rep. Youakim's HF 1735 and the support that bill would provide homeowners by increasing homestead credit refunds.

Minnesota Realtors® supports Article 6, Sec. 2. of the proposed division report, which increases the maximum homestead credit refund by \$250 for claimants at most income levels.

The Homestead Credit Refund Program makes housing more affordable. Saving money for a down-payment and purchasing a home is just the first step in becoming a homeowner and the Homestead Credit Refund Program assists homeowners whose property taxes are high relative to their income.

Minnesota Realtors® would also like to encourage the Division, when attempting to provide property tax relief for certain classes of property, to minimize the shifting of the property tax burden onto other classes of property, particularly residential homesteads.

Thank you again for the opportunity to provide this written testimony. Minnesota Realtors® looks forward to working with you during the 2021 Session.

Sincerely,



Paul Eger
Vice President, Governmental Affairs,
Minnesota Realtors®