

January 25, 2023

Dear Chair Howard, Chair Lee, and Members of the Housing Finance and Policy Committee and the House Capital Investment Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports HF 302 (Howard), which authorizes \$750 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds, and \$250 million for General Obligation Bonds.

Housing Infrastructure Bonds leverage local, federal, and private investments and spur development in our communities. These are used to develop and preserve permanent and supportive housing, preserve federally assisted rental housing, provide affordable housing for our seniors, and support the acquisition and improvement of the infrastructure for manufactured home communities.

Metro Cities supports state housing programs that assist housing development, and the preservation and maintenance of existing housing stock that is affordable to residents throughout the low-to-moderate income range. Authorization of more bonds is crucial to supporting local efforts to provide additional affordable housing in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Ania McDonnell

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Government Relations Specialist

Metro Cities