

Letter of Support for HF 2492

3/22/2023

Dear Chair, Rep Cheryl Youakim, Vice Chair, Rep Mary Frances Clardy, and Members of the Mn House School Finance Committee:

I am pleased to write in support of HF 2492. As former President of the American Indian Policy Center I have researched and advocated for many social issues in the American Indian community in Minnesota and the surrounding region, including affordable and permanent housing. Housing issues, of course hit our young populations with severe impact.

I am encouraged that this legislation will directly involve young people in their own future. Many times, we talk about providing young people the opportunity to be involved in their own destiny. This legislation is an opportunity for that to occur. In addition, they may learn construction skills and will see the results of their labor; this is real-life character-building.

Results of this legislation will increase the number of owner-occupied homes for low-income families; young people develop marketable skills for middle-income jobs and fill the need for young people in construction jobs across the state.

Thank you in bringing this legislation forward.

Sincerely yours,

John Poupart,

President American Indian Policy Center (Ret.)

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