



2 February 2023

Dear Chair Howard and Members of the Housing Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Homes for All coalition, we write in support of HF 11, Bring it Home, Minnesota. Homes for All is a coalition of over 270 endorsing organizations from across the state that advocates for affordable, safer, and more stable housing. Our coalition represents the full continuum of housing, from services for people experiencing homelessness, to permanent supportive housing, to affordable rental options, to homeownership opportunities for Minnesotans.

Bring It Home, Minnesota would create a statewide rental assistance program that would provide vouchers for everyone who qualifies across the state. Passing this bill would be transformational to Minnesota. We would immediately stabilize low-income households who struggle to afford their homes by limiting their housing costs to 30% of their income, freeing up money to provide for their children, their health, and their future. This assistance would directly support many low-income workers across the state, allowing us to have a more productive and prosperous workforce.

We need a solution as big as the problem, and Bring it Home provides that solution and would help all aspects of housing. Consider this:

- Currently, more than 1 in 4 Minnesota households are housing cost-burdened, and have to choose between housing and other necessities such as clothing, food, medicine, and transportation. Since 2000, this number has grown 70%.
- In Minnesota, a minimum wage worker would have to work 70 hours a week to be able to afford the rent of a one-bedroom home.
- 550,000 Minnesotans - from every corner of the state - are at risk of losing their home every month because the rent is too high.

Please support Bring It Home, Minnesota in committee and as a priority with your colleagues. Where we live impacts everything, and this substantial investment will be the foundation of a Minnesota where all can thrive.

Sincerely,

Michael Dahl  
Public Policy Director, HOME Line  
Homes for All Policy Co-Chair

Annie Shapiro  
Advocacy Director, MinnCAP  
Homes for All Policy Co-Chair