



Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of HF 900

My name is Sue Watlov Phillips, Executive Director of MICAH- Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing, President of National Coalition For The Homeless (NCH). I have worked with people experiencing homelessness for over 53 years and I experienced homelessness in the early 1970s.

Over ½ of MICAH's Board and staff have experienced homelessness and/or housing crises. 70% of our Board of Directors and Staff are from diverse communities. We work to ensure people who have experienced homelessness, housing crises, and/or housing discrimination are at every decision making table about their lives.

Our faith calls us to be a welcoming community, to love and treat others the way we want to be treated. MICAH members address the immediate needs of people in our community as we work together to change the structural causes of homeless, end homelessness and to realize our mission to ensure everyone, without exception, has safe, decent, accessible home that is affordable to them.



MICAH supports

HF 900 The Shelter Residents Bill of Rights – This bill will develop a critical taskforce to ensure the rights of people experiencing homelessness are protected as they utilize our homeless systems in Minnesota. It will also ensure people experiencing homeless' voice and power will be at decision making tables in the taskforce as well as in organizations that are providing services for people experiencing homelessness.

God's peace,
Sue Watlov Phillips, M.A.
Executive Director MICAH
President, National Coalition For The Homeless