



## COUNCIL ON DISABILITY

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### The Honorable Chair Becker-Finn

House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law Committee  
Minnesota House of Representatives  
March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Dear Chair Becker-Finn and members of the House Judiciary Finance & Civil Law Committee:

**The Minnesota Council on Disability would like to express our strong support for House File 4143**, a bill that seeks to ensure that landlords are required to disclose that assistance animals are not subject to pet fees. This is a significant step forward in recognizing and upholding the rights of tenants with disabilities who rely on service or support animals for their daily living and wellbeing.

The requirement for landlords to make clear in lease agreements that additional fees, charges, or deposits for service or support animals are prohibited underlines the importance of transparency and fairness in housing policies. This not only protects tenants from potential financial burdens but also emphasizes the necessity of reasonable accommodations as a fundamental right under the law.

Furthermore, this bill empowers tenants with the ability to recover any unjust fees paid to landlords under pet policies, provided they meet certain conditions. This provision is essential for holding landlords accountable and ensuring that the rights of tenants with disabilities are respected and protected.

At the Minnesota Council on Disability, we believe that access to fair and equitable housing is a cornerstone of inclusivity and equality for all citizens, particularly for those with disabilities. House File 4143 aligns with our mission to advocate for policies that improve the lives of people with disabilities by removing barriers and promoting a more inclusive society.

We urge you and your colleagues in the Minnesota Legislature to support the passage of House File 4143. This bill represents a critical step towards ensuring that individuals with disabilities are afforded the same rights and opportunities as all Minnesotans to live independently and with dignity.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. We look forward to your support and to working together towards a more inclusive and equitable Minnesota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Trevor Turner".

Trevor Turner  
Public Policy Director  
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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Dively".

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