

February 23, 2021

Chair Aisha Gomez
Members of the Preventing Homelessness Division
Via Electronic Delivery

Re: Support of Micro Unit Dwellings (HF1484)

Dear Chair Gomez and Members of the Preventing Homelessness Division,

The mission of the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless is to generate policies, community support and local resources for housing and services to end homelessness in Minnesota. The Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless works to ensure statewide housing stability and economic security. With about 100 member organizations across Minnesota, we work to advance solutions that result in housing stability for all Minnesotans.

We urge you to act now to support the regulatory change in the building code to allow for faith organizations across the state to be partners in the battle against homelessness. These tiny homes would be a creative solution to providing permanent housing for people experiencing chronic homelessness in Minnesota.

Solutions to homelessness will require partners from all sectors of Minnesota, and that includes our faith communities. For those wishing to open their doors to safe, accessible, and dignified housing solutions, we need to work together to ensure that flexible options such as the faith-based micro-dwellings are possible.

Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless supports this initiative as it provides a creative, safe, accessible, and dignified path to obtain permanent housing.

We fully support innovative solutions for permanent housing in communities across the state. A major strength of this creative solution is this policy change requires no additional funding from the State. Please join the Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless in supporting this bill and the initiative of our faith communities in our shared goal of ending homelessness in Minnesota.

Sincerely,



Rhonda Otteson
Executive Director