

Subject Housing Mediation

Authors Agbaje and others

Analyst Justin Cope

Date March 7, 2022

Summary

This bill establishes a grant program through the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to fund mediation facilities certified by the state court administrator.

Allowable uses of the funding include:

- providing mediation services to renters, property owners, households, utility providers, and homeowners;
- promoting awareness of the availability of mediation services;
- providing training and assistance to culturally specific dispute resolution programs;
- increasing diversity among housing mediators;
- integrating mediation services with legal assistance and court services; and
- developing tools to evaluate and to improve the outcomes of housing mediation.

This bill would appropriate \$425,000 in fiscal year 2023 from the general fund to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to fund this grant program. This is a onetime appropriation available until June 30, 2024.