

Chair and Members
House Housing Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House
St. Paul, Minnesota

Re: Support for specific provisions related to HF1141

Dear Chair and Members,

On behalf of the undersigned healthcare organizations, we write to express our strong support for provisions in HF1141 that would fund the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP).

As healthcare organizations, we are deeply committed to caring for and healing our patients. However, the effectiveness of our care is strongly influenced by whether our patients have access to safe, stable housing. For many of the patients we serve—particularly those experiencing homelessness or severe housing instability—housing is one of the most important factors affecting their health and recovery. This extends across both metro and rural Minnesota and across all coverage types – Medicaid, Medicare and commercial insurance – demonstrating that housing stability is a statewide health priority.

Our care coordination teams frequently work with patients who are experiencing housing instability or are at risk of losing their homes due to short-term financial hardship. Patients without stable housing face significant barriers to managing chronic conditions, recovering from illness or surgery, adhering to medications, and maintaining mental health. The absence of stable housing often leads to repeated emergency department visits, hospitalizations, and worsening health outcomes.

Across Minnesota, healthcare providers rely on FHPAP, permanent supportive housing and the Continuum of Care system to connect patients experiencing homelessness to housing resources and supportive services. These partnerships are critical to improving health outcomes and ensuring patients can successfully follow care plans after leaving hospitals and clinics. Stable housing allows patients to focus on recovery, maintain treatment, and avoid preventable medical crises.

We appreciate your attention to this issue and your commitment to policies that strengthen Minnesota families and communities.

Sincerely,

Allina Health
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota
Children's Minnesota
Essentia Health
Fairview

Allina Health 

 **BlueCross
BlueShield**
Minnesota

Children's
MINNESOTA
The Kid Experts®

 **Essentia Health**

 **Fairview**



Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) *Serving the Industry. Building the Future.*

April 15, 2024

Dear Chairs Howard and Igo, and Honorable Members of the Housing Finance and Policy Committee:

On behalf of the Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM) and the thousands of small business owners, contractors, and housing professionals we represent across the state, I am writing to express our strong support for the housing provisions and appropriations currently under consideration.

As the state continues to face a significant shortage of entry-level and workforce housing, the measures outlined in this legislation represent a vital step toward stabilizing the market and increasing inventory. Specifically, BAM would like to highlight the following provisions that are critical for the single-family home building industry:

1. Expansion of Housing Infrastructure Bonds (\$100 Million) The authorization of an additional \$100 million in housing infrastructure bonds is perhaps the most impactful tool in this package. High infrastructure costs—including water, sewer, and road development—are often the primary barrier to keeping new home prices attainable. These bonds allow for the "horizontal" development necessary to create new neighborhoods and bring more single-family homes to market.

2. Workforce Housing Development Allocations (\$22 Million) Our members are eager to build for Minnesota's workforce, but the rising cost of labor and materials often creates a "gap" between construction costs and what a family can afford. The long-term commitment of \$22 million for workforce housing provides the predictability our builders need to plan multi-year projects that serve the 60% to 120% AMI demographic.

3. Enhanced Agency Transparency and Accountability BAM specifically applauds the new reporting and administrative requirements imposed on Minnesota Housing Finance. The mandate for annual reporting on operating costs, fund balances, and investment earnings—along with the requirement to notify legislative committees before transferring unencumbered balances—is a significant win for the building community. Greater transparency ensures that public funds are being deployed effectively and allows our members to better track available resources, ensuring that state investments are reaching the projects where they are needed most.

4. Homeownership Education and Counseling (\$1 Million) Building a home is only half the battle; we need qualified buyers. Increasing funding for homeownership education ensures that Minnesota families are mortgage-ready. This reduces the risk of project stagnation and helps build stable, thriving communities.

5. Administrative Flexibility and the 40% Project Basis Limit BAM supports the modification of the bond supportable debt limit to 40% of the project basis. Providing clear, statutory limits on project financing creates a more predictable environment for developers and builders to interact with state agencies, ultimately speeding up the delivery of housing units.

We thank the Committee for its dedication to addressing the housing crisis. We believe these provisions will empower the private sector to build the homes Minnesotans need. We look forward to working with you to ensure these funds are deployed efficiently and effectively.

Sincerely,

Grace Keliher

Executive Vice President Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM)



Housing Justice Center
Dedicated to expanding
and preserving the supply
of affordable housing in
Minnesota and nationwide.

275 E. 4th Street, #590
Saint Paul, MN 55101

(612) 807-1139
info@hjcmmn.org
www.hjcmmn.org

April 14, 2026

Housing Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House of Representatives
Capitol G3
75 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for H.F. 1141 FHPAP Rental Assistance Appropriation

Chair Howard, Chair Igo, Vice Chairs Dotseth and Kozlowski, and Members of the Committee:

I am a policy attorney with the Housing Justice Center, a nonprofit legal organization that is focused on ensuring access to safe, affordable, and fair housing. Housing Justice Center strongly supports the \$40 million appropriation to Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) in H.F. 1141 that will support housing stability for Minnesotans.

Tenants in Minnesota Need Rental Assistance through FHPAP

As you have heard in previous hearings before this Committee, Minnesota does not have sufficient affordable housing, and there are a significant number of renters who experience cost burden. There are more than 670,000 renter households across the state of Minnesota. More than 300,000 renters, 48% of all renters, are cost burdened, which means they pay more than 30% of their income in rent. More than 75,000 senior renters, or 63% of all senior renters, are cost burdened. And more than 144,000 or 23% of all renters are severely cost burdened, which means they pay more than 50% of their income in rent.¹

A significant proportion of tenants in Minnesota cannot afford a missed paycheck, a family emergency, or a reduction in hours. Yet communities across Minnesota have experienced

¹ Minnesota Housing Partnership, [2026 State Housing Profile: Minnesota](#) (2026).

negative economic impacts in early 2026. Businesses and restaurants temporarily closed, peoples' lives have been disrupted, and there have been widespread economic impacts.

This need is evident given the dramatic increase in calls from individuals seeking rental assistance: "Calls to 211 requesting rent assistance more than tripled in mid-January compared to the weekly average the previous quarter."² HOME Line reports that compared to January last year, this year saw a 116% increase in renters seeking financial assistance.³

Rental assistance prevents homelessness by ensuring that renters stay housed rather than becoming displaced through eviction. Evictions destabilize households and communities. Rental assistance provides long-term impact by preventing evictions, and stabilizing households, communities, and affordable housing properties. This appropriation of emergency rental assistance will demonstrate that the state of Minnesota is ready to meet the needs of our community in crisis. The appropriations to FHPAP in H.F. 1141 will ensure that the most vulnerable amongst us will remain housed and prevent further harm.

Thank you for your consideration of this essential emergency aid.

Sincerely,



Jessica Szuminski
Policy Attorney

² Cari Spencer, [*Hotline Operators Report Flood of Calls for Rental Assistance as Residents Hide During ICE Surge*](#), MPR NEWS (Jan. 26, 2026).

³ Caroline Cummings, [*Calls for Rent Help, Financial Assistance Have Spiked During ICE Surge in Minnesota*](#), CBS NEWS (Feb. 13, 2026).



DATE: April 14, 2026

RE: Support for HF1141 to increase funding for the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)

TO: Committee Members of House Finance and Policy Committee

Homes for All is a statewide coalition dedicated to creating policies and resources to prevent and end homelessness and to ensure every Minnesotan has a dignified home. We promote safe, decent, stable, and accessible homes that are affordable at 30% of household income or less, with services meeting residents' needs, in the community of their choice. As such, our coalition of 200 members has a 2026 legislative agenda that supports homelessness services and prevention efforts, as well as champions safe, affordable housing to work toward achieving our mission. As part of that agenda, ***Homes for All supports an increase of \$75 million to the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP)***

The Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program promotes housing stability and prevents Minnesotan families, youth, singles and couples from being evicted and losing their homes.

Recent Minnesota Housing reports estimate we need \$350 million per year to address the prevention needs in our state.

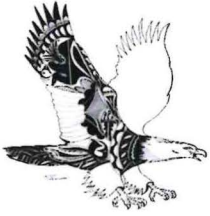
FHPAP as a cost-effective program that prevents homelessness and supports housing stability across the state.

85% Of low-income Minnesota Renters are housing cost burdened. Spending more than 30% of income on rent. Minnesotans are facing additional economic fallout from federal actions; we urge State leaders to make this wise investment and keep people from losing their homes by passing at least your currently proposed additional \$40 Million for FHPAP.

If you have any questions regarding **Homes for All** support for this bill, please contact me at suewatlovp@aol.com

Sincerely,

Sue Watlov Phillips
Co-Lead H4A Legislative Team



AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

1113 East Franklin Avenue Suite 202 • Minneapolis, MN 55404 • Telephone: 612/813-1610 • Fax: 612/813-1612

April 14, 2026

Re: HF1141 Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP)

Dear Representative Howard and House Housing Committee members,

American Indian Community Development Corporation (AICDC) is writing in support of HF1141 – Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) bill.

AICDC was founded more than 30 years ago in response to disproportionately high rates of homelessness and alcoholism amongst the American Indian population in Philips neighborhood of Minneapolis. Since its inception in 1992, AICDC has been developing culturally unique initiatives, housing, healthcare and entrepreneurial programs that strengthen American Indian and broader communities.

At present, Minnesota is facing rising homelessness, increased unsheltered encampments, and a severe shortage of deeply affordable homes. Without emergency assistance families are at severe risk of homelessness and harm to their health, educational outcomes, and work stability. Communities and individuals with low incomes are especially vulnerable to emergencies and unexpected expenses like car repairs, medical expenses, childcare, and more.

The Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) helps people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, by providing financial assistance and supportive services such as rent or housing payments, utility payments, deposits, and other eligible expenses. This program works. It prevents harm to families from housing displacement and homelessness and helps ensure that families remain housed through emergency situations.

More than ever, we need to ensure that all Minnesotans have a safe place to sleep at night and to raise their families. Funding the FHPAP program will go a long way toward making sure families have support during emergencies. We strongly encourage you to support HF1141.

Thank you for your consideration,

Travis Earth-Werner
CEO



333 12th Street South
Minneapolis, MN 55404
info@alignmpls.org

To: Co-Chairs and Members, House Housing Finance and Policy Committee

RE: HF 1141, Housing Finance and Policy Supplemental Budget Bill

Dear Co-Chairs Howard and Igo, and Committee Members,

I am the Director of Align Minneapolis, an interfaith coalition of 19 faith congregations and people with lived experiences of homelessness working to address homelessness in Minneapolis. We know that one of the *most* effective ways to address homelessness is by preventing homelessness from occurring with financial assistance to get households caught up on back-due rent and avoid eviction. We have an Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) program and see many people struggling to make ends meet because of lack of affordable housing and inadequate resources to help them weather even a short-term financial crisis such as job loss or loss of hours at work, health crisis, or unexpected car repair. What we hear from our ERA program applicants is how difficult it is to find help to get caught up on back-due rent and how necessary it is to stabilize and move forward.

The Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) is a critical community resource that needs additional funding to meet the needs of the community. FHPAP helps people at risk of homelessness, and is a critical community resource for people who have fallen behind on rent and are facing housing instability. It is an effective and cost effective program to prevent homelessness and stabilize people in times of crisis, with an average of \$3,500 – \$4,000 resulting in families re-stabilizing and staying housed.

Thank you for your consideration, we strongly encourage funding FHPAP within the Housing Finance and Policy Supplemental Budget Bill to provide funding to prevent more people falling into homelessness.

Sincerely,

Katie Dillon

Director, Align Minneapolis | *Congregations Addressing Homelessness Together*



April 13th, 2026

Chair and Members
House Housing Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota House
St. Paul, Minnesota

Re: Support for specific provisions related to HF1141

Dear Chair and Members,

On behalf of Fairview Health Services, I am writing to express support for continued investment in the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP).

As a health system, we recognize that housing is one of the most important drivers of health. ***Our work in this area is guided by the principle of using the protective power of housing to support patient health and to build thriving communities.***

Many individuals we serve are temporarily staying with friends or family, living in vehicles or tents, or cycling between unstable living arrangements. Our care coordination teams frequently work with patients who are experiencing housing instability or are at risk of losing their homes due to short-term financial hardship and struggle to find permanent supportive housing to stabilize their health and wellbeing. In a past survey of our care coordinators, eviction risk and housing instability were among the most common concerns affecting patients and their families. Our teams are also noting an increase in those struggling with rent and mortgages requesting assistance.

Providing additional resources to maintain and strengthen homelessness prevention and the permanent supportive housing system is important to the health and wellbeing of our patients. Programs like FHPAP play an essential role in stabilizing households before a crisis escalates. By providing short-term financial assistance and supportive services—such as help with rent payments, security deposits, or utilities—FHPAP helps families remain safely housed and prevents the disruptions that occur when housing is lost.

We appreciate your attention to this issue and your commitment to policies that strengthen Minnesota families and communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Larry Hiscock". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light gray background.

Larry Hiscock
Community Partnership Manager
Housing is Health (HiH)

April 15, 2026

Members of the Housing Housing Finance and Policy Committee

RE: Support for H1141DE2

Dear Chairs Howard and Igo, and members of the MN House Housing Finance and Policy Committee,

The Minnesota Housing Stability Coalition strongly urges your support for the funding and policy provisions in H1141DE2. As a statewide coalition of permanent affordable and supportive housing providers, we know that a stable home is the essential starting point for health, education, and economic opportunity. Without the strategic investments proposed in these bills, thousands of Minnesotans remain at risk of displacement.

We specifically advocate for the following items as the legislature continues its supplemental budget discussions:

- **Expand the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP):** The Coalition strongly supports \$40M in one time FHPAP funding. This program is a critical frontline tool for keeping families in their homes, avoiding evictions, and preventing the trauma of homelessness.
- **Invest via Housing Infrastructure Bonds:** We support the allocation of \$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds to create deeply affordable homes. These bonds are necessary to address Minnesota's current shortage of nearly 40,000 affordable homes.
- **Preservation Framework:** Our coalition worked closely with the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency to provide input as they developed the [Preservation Framework for the Targeted Stabilization of Regulated Affordable Housing](#). We continue to advocate for ongoing investment and implementation of the framework in partnership with the agency and providers. We urge this committee to continue to monitor the implementation and resourcing of the framework. The state must invest in the long-term viability of current properties to ensure that the state's previous investments continue to serve Minnesotans for decades to come.
- **Stabilize Affordable Homes & Supportive Services:** We urge the committee to preserve funding for supportive housing services. This is especially vital given recent changes made by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care program. While H1141DE2 does not include additional funding for permanent supportive housing, we urge the committee to continue working towards additional assistance to bridge the gap for supportive housing providers who are facing funding shortfalls from the federal government.

The Minnesota Housing Stability Coalition believes that these smart investments are essential to maintain housing opportunities for Minnesotans. We thank you for your consideration of these priorities during today's hearing.

Sincerely,

Colleen Ebinger
Minnesota Housing Stability Coalition



April 14, 2026

Re: Support for House File 1141

Dear Co-Chairs: Representative Michael Howard and Representative Spencer Igo; and Members of the House Housing Finance and Committee,

On behalf of the [Minnesota Community Action Partnership](#) network that provides family stabilization services and community support to all 87 Minnesota counties, we express our strong support for provisions in House File 1141 that support the health and well-being of Minnesotans seeking safe and affordable housing throughout our state.

The [Minnesota Community Action Partnership](#) is comprised of 23 Community Action Agencies, delivering a spectrum of services and support to communities statewide to stabilize people experiencing homelessness, assist renters to acquire and maintain safe and stable housing, and accompany families to purchase and protect their homes. In 2025 [Minnesota Community Action Partnership](#) agencies assisted 2,086 families experiencing homelessness with safe housing, helped 7,270 households avoid eviction and 305 prevent foreclosure, supported 6,690 people to secure safe and affordable as renters or homeowners, and documented 3708 people reporting improved health and safety in their homes.

We strongly support the following elements of this proposal:

- **One-time \$40M increase for the Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP).** 17 Community Action Agencies deliver the Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) in rural, suburban, and Metro communities statewide. We view this resource as a cost-effective means to prevent homelessness and support housing stability.
- **\$150,000 for Homeownership Education, Counseling, and Training program (HECAT).** Community Action Agencies employ this effective and impactful tool to assist community members in acquiring a home and protect that important asset for the long-term through personalized coaching and support.
- **\$100M for Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIBs).** Our members access HIBs as a critical element in the multi-layered effort to build affordable homes to address our statewide housing shortage. This tool leverages public and private funding to address a spectrum of housing needs in Minnesota.

We thank and encourage you to support these important housing resources that work together to prevent homelessness, keep Minnesotans stably housed, and enable our neighbors to become homeowners. Safe, stable, and affordable housing is the foundation for health, education, and economic opportunity!

Sincerely,

Lori Schultz

Lori Schultz, Executive Director
Minnesota Community Action Partnership

House Housing Finance and Policy Committee
Minnesota State Capitol
75 Rev Dr Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard.
St Paul, MN 55155



Dear Co-Chairs Howard and Igo and Members of the Committee,

April 15, 2026

The Minnesota Consortium of Community Developers (MCCD) is an association of nonprofit community development organizations and Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFIs) committed to expanding the wealth and resources of communities through housing opportunities and economic development initiatives. We represent nonprofit affordable housing developers and operators working across Minnesota, providing both rental and homeownership opportunities. Our members support the development of housing across our entire state and house our local workforces, seniors, families, and people exiting homelessness in need of supportive services.

MCCD is writing in support of House File 1141, the 2026 Housing Finance Omnibus Bill.

This bill represents a creative approach to addressing a variety of housing needs. We are grateful for investments in new housing development, preservation of our existing affordable housing, and emergency rental assistance.

\$100 Million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds

We are particularly encouraged by the new authorization of \$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIBs). HIBs are our state's most important capital tool to build and preserve homes, and new HIBs will support the development of critically needed affordable housing. Increasing housing supply is essential to ensuring that all communities, especially those historically underserved, have access to safe, stable, and affordable homes.

\$20 Million for Workforce Housing Development

We also support the the \$20 million increase to the Workforce Housing Development Program. This important program increases our state's ability to build workforce rental housing in Greater Minnesota by leveraging local resources and is a vital tool to ensure that we keep pace with the demand for new homes.

HF 1141 is a comprehensive and forward-looking bill that will help address Minnesota's housing challenges while advancing equity and opportunity. We respectfully urge your support for this critical legislation. You can reach me, Kelly Law, at klaw@mccdmn.org or 612-865-3170, should you need any further information now or throughout the legislative session. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kelly Law

Kelly Law, Senior Policy and Field Building Advisor, MCCD



April 15, 2026

Chairs and Members of the House Housing Finance and Policy Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area at the Legislature and Executive Branch, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 1141 - Howard, as amended by the DE2 amendment.

Metro Cities supports Article 1, Section 3 and Article 2 in the DE2 amendment which provide additional state funding for housing programs. Current funding levels for housing are insufficient to meet the spectrum of housing needs in the metropolitan region and across the state.

Article 1, Section 3 Housing Education Counseling and Training Program (HECAT)

Metro Cities supports \$150,000 in additional funding for the HECAT program as it is an important part of supporting the spectrum of housing needs in the region. This program helps avoid foreclosures, improves homeownership rates, and supports the financial wellness of future homeowners so they are aware of their rights, options, and costs associated with owning a home.

Article 2 Housing Infrastructure Bonds

Metro Cities supports the addition of \$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds which would provide a critical source of funding for cities to maintain and increase their supply of affordable housing. These resources are essential to provide additional housing across the metropolitan region.

We look forward to continuing to work with the committee to address affordable housing needs. Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ania McDonnell'.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist

Dear Chair Igo and Chair Howard,

MEMO

TO: Chair Igo and Chair Howard

FROM: Linda Lee Soderstrom

REGARDING: Family Homelessness Prevention Funding Agreements

DATE: April 14, 2026

I am writing as a former Hennepin County foster parent and homeowner, and a current Section 8 voucher holder residing at Washington Crossing in Winona, MN. After experiencing multiple displacements over the last decade, I have finally achieved stability. However, I remain concerned that rising rents and high-end development continue to put vulnerable residents at risk of homelessness.

As a volunteer community organizer for fair housing, I want to emphasize that the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) has been life-saving for me. Without the flexible support of Winona County's FHPAP through Southeast Minnesota Community Action, I would not have secured my current accessible unit. FHPAP covered the critical gap for my deposit and initial rent while my voucher was porting—a period during which I otherwise would have lost my housing subsidy and faced instability far from my family and essential amenities.

Stable housing allows seniors, veterans, and individuals with disabilities to remain contributing members of society. At 76 years old, the stability provided by this program ensures I can age in place with dignity.

Thank you for your bipartisan support of the family homelessness prevention bill. While current funding meets only a fraction of the actual need, this program is essential for helping Minnesotans navigate crises and maintain stability. I urge you to support its passage to ensure housing security for all our neighbors.

Respectfully,

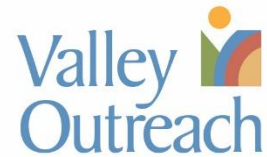
Linda Lee Soderstrom

Winona, MN 55987

507-523-2327

llsod.lindalee@gmail.com

2026 Lorraine Brown Resident Leadership Awardee, National Low Income Housing Coalition



1911 Curve Crest Blvd. West | Stillwater, Minnesota 55082 | 651-430-2739 | www.valleyoutreachmn.org

April 14, 2026

The Honorable Michael Howard

5th floor Centennial Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Spencer Igo

2322 Centennial Office Building

St. Paul, MN 55155

Via email

RE: Omnibus Appropriations – Family Homelessness Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP)

Dear Co-Chairs Howard and Igo and members of the Housing Finance & Policy Committee:

On behalf of Valley Outreach and the community of people we serve, we write in support of homelessness prevention appropriations in the Finance Omnibus Bill to include FHPAP funding for \$40 million. As basic needs nonprofit in Washington County, we see firsthand the continued need to support housing stability for Minnesotans through FHPAP. Minnesotans continue to face historically high evictions, the vast majority of which are for nonpayment of rent.

Without emergency assistance, families are at severe risk of homelessness and harm to their health, educational outcomes, work stability, and more. Communities and individuals with low incomes are especially at risk of housing instability and homelessness; they are vulnerable to emergencies and unexpected expenses like car repairs, medical expenses, childcare, and more.

FHPAP helps people at risk of homelessness, by providing financial assistance and supportive services with rent, utility payments, deposits, and other eligible expenses. **This program works.** It prevents families from housing displacement and homelessness. Since we've begun helping families as a subgrantee of FHPAP in 2023, we've helped 175 households/families in Washington County **stay** in their homes.

Thank you for your consideration. We strongly urge you to support the homelessness prevention appropriations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy Maki". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tracy Maki
Valley Outreach, CEO



www.adycenter.org
admin@adycenter.org



(651) 227-4184

April 14, 2026

Re: Support for HF1141, Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program

To: Members of the Housing Policy and Finance Committee:

I write in support of funding \$40 million for the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) to support housing stability for Minnesotans.

Meaning "Our Home" in Ojibwe, Ain Dah Yung Center provides a healing place within the community for American Indian youth and families to thrive in safety and wholeness. Providing housing stabilization through our emergency shelter, transitional living, and permanent supportive housing programs, we understand the importance of stable housing that supports the long-term success of the young people we serve.

FHPAP helps people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness by providing financial assistance and supportive services such as rent or housing payments, utility payments, deposits, and other eligible expenses. The program prevents harm to families from housing displacement and homelessness. Stable housing is foundational to a child's health, education, and development. A consistent, safe home promotes better physical and mental health, higher educational attainment, and emotional security for the young people we serve.

We urge your support for investment in FHPAP to prevent homelessness and keep Minnesotans stably housed. Thank you for your consideration.

Warm regards,

Sheri Riemers, CEO
White Earth Nation of Ojibwe



April 15, 2026

The Honorable Michael Howard
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Spencer Igo
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for DE2 amendment to the HF1141 Housing Finance Bill

Dear Co-Chair Howard, Co-Chair Igo, and members of the Housing Committee:

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) writes in support of the following provisions found in the DE2 amendment to HF1141.

HF1141 DE2 Article 1 Section 5: Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program

The Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program is a proven program delivered through trusted partners. Financial assistance is flexible to the individual's need and averages about \$3,600 per household for expenses such as utility bills, mortgage or rent payments, and more -- resulting in families remaining stably housed.

We support the commitment as represented in the DE2 to find creative solutions to help address the significant need for financial assistance across the state.

HF1141 DE2 Article 2: Housing Infrastructure Bonds

MHP supports the allocation of \$100 million for Housing Infrastructure Bonds to create deeply affordable homes.

Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIBs) are a flexible source of funding for projects across the state. HIBs are unique in that they can leverage federal resources to build new housing and preserve existing housing for extremely low- and very low-income households.

As Minnesota faces a substantial housing shortage, we need HIBs to create and preserve badly needed affordable homes. Today, there are only 39 rental homes that are affordable and available for every 100 extremely low-income Minnesota household. And, consistently, Minnesota Housing programs are well oversubscribed, as typically only 1 in 3 projects that apply for resources from Minnesota Housing are funded.



HF1141 DE2 Article 3 Section 8: Tax Exempt Bonds

The **Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)** is the nation's most important tool for building and preserving affordable rental homes, helping to finance almost 80,000 homes serving 186,000 low-income households from 1986 to 2004. Updates to LIHTC in the federal H.R. 1, which became law in 2025, are considered the most significant expansion of LIHTC in over two decades.

MHP supports the changes beginning on line 11.12 to **reduce the aggregate bond limitation** applicable to the allocation of private activity bonds for qualifying residential rental projects. This will allow Minnesota to receive the maximum benefit of federal changes to increase affordable homes in Minnesota.

Include Funding for Supportive Housing

We urge lawmakers to include funding for supportive housing in the DE2 amendment. Supportive housing is critical to keeping families housed and preventing homeless, for some of our most vulnerable residents. It provides long-term housing with services for people with disabilities, families, and individuals with histories of homelessness so they can remain stably housed.

HF1141 DE2 Article 1 Section 2: Workforce Housing Development

Our rural communities have significant challenges to financing and building housing, and the Workforce Housing Development Program is uniquely designed to support rental housing development in Greater Minnesota. We support additional investment in this program, which is significantly oversubscribed and often the best fit to serve the needs of rural communities for smaller rental workforce housing projects.

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) expands housing and community development opportunity for those most impacted by economic and racial disparities by leading collaborative work to promote systems change and grow equitable development capacity. For more than 30 years, MHP has accomplished this mission by producing data-informed research, advocating for equitable housing policy, and providing community development services across the US.

Thank you for your attention; we urge your support for HF1141.

Sincerely,

Courtney Schaff
Policy Manager



April 15, 2026

The Honorable Michael Howard
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Spencer Igo
2nd Floor Centennial Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

RE: Support for DE2 amendment to the HF1141 Housing Finance Bill

Dear Co-Chair Howard, Co-Chair Igo, and members of the Housing Committee:

We write in support of the DE2 amendment to the HF1141, and the continued need to support housing stability through FHPAP (Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program).

Minnesotans continue to face historically high housing costs combined with extreme financial challenges. Families with low incomes are especially vulnerable to unexpected expenses like car repairs, medical expenses, childcare needs, and more. In 2025, Minnesota households experienced over 25,000 evictions -- likely the highest amount of eviction filings in a calendar year for Minnesotans. Minnesota Housing estimates the emergency rental assistance needs of Minnesota families with low-incomes to be \$350 million annually.

We support the commitment as represented in the DE2 to find creative solutions to help address the significant need for financial assistance across the state.

The **Minnesota ERASE Campaign** (End Rental Arrears and Stop Evictions) is an effort to eliminate rental indebtedness, prevent evictions, and create support for long term policy changes to end housing instability and homelessness. The co-convenors of the campaign are ACER (African Career Education Resource) and MHP (Minnesota Housing Partnership).

Thank you for your consideration. We strongly urge you to support this increase to FHPAP.

Sincerely,

Nelima Sitati Munene
Executive Director
ACER (African Career Education & Resource, Inc.)
ERASE Minnesota Co-Convener

Elizabeth Glidden
Deputy Executive Director
MHP (Minnesota Housing Partnership)
ERASE Minnesota Co-Convener