

May 8, 2025

To Chairs Port, Igo, and Howard, and the Housing Conferees,

The Builders Association of Minnesota (BAM), is a statewide organization serving the residential construction community for 50 years. BAM represents a diverse membership of home builders, remodelers, developers, and a wide network of related professionals, including subcontractors, suppliers, realtors, and financial institutions.

BAM appreciates the strong commitment to housing demonstrated by both the House and Senate Housing committees. We particularly favor the following provisions:

- \$20 million for the Greater Minnesota Housing Infrastructure Grant Program. (House provision)
- \$12 million in additional one-time funding for the Greater Minnesota Workforce Development Program. (House provision)
- \$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds (HIBs). HIBs are crucial for supporting various housing development and preservation projects. Minnesota faces a shortage of nearly 101,000 available and affordable homes. (House provision)

In addition to these investments, BAM supports the inclusion of policies to:

- Streamline the process for developers to combine the State Housing Tax Credit (SHTC) with the Greater Minnesota Workforce Development Grant Program. (House Provision)
- Integrate state housing subsidies with effective land use policies. This proposed incentive would encourage local governments, which control land use, to utilize state resources more efficiently. (House provision)
- Establish a Task Force on Homeowners and Commercial Property Insurance. This task force, focused on the affordability of insurance for single-family and multifamily rental housing, is critically important to both home builders and homeowners. (Senate provision)

BAM recognizes the hard work of the committees and the different budget targets. We are confident that the conferees will advocate for the highest possible budget allocation and these crucial policies.

Sincerely,

Grace Keliher Executive Vice President BAM