



Building homes, community, and hope.

11 March 2025

Re: HF2140 Increasing Housing Options Act & HF2018 Transforming Downtowns Act

To: Chair Igo and Members of the Housing Finance & Policy Committee

Dear Chair Igo and Members of the Committee,

Thank you for the opportunity to share Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota's (Habitat Minnesota) support of HF2140 and HF2018. Habitat Minnesota is a statewide support organization for the 24 local Habitat affiliates, working in 59 counties across the state. We are deeply invested in homeownership production and preservation and know that the stability of a family's living situation is closely tied to their wealth, health, and education. Habitat Minnesota is also a part of *Yes to Homes*, a large and diverse coalition united around the common goal of creating statewide housing policy focused on meaningfully expanding development to increase the variety and supply of housing options.

Safe and stable homes are essential for strong communities, yet too many Minnesotans struggle to find housing that fits their needs. By updating zoning policies and expanding the types of homes that can be built, we can increase access, address affordability, support economic growth, and ensure families can find homes that meet their needs at every stage of life. Habitat Minnesota supports the following legislation that advances these goals:

- ❖ **HF2140 Increasing Housing Options Act** will allow more home choices, such as duplexes, triplexes, fourplexes, and townhomes, near important commercial corridors with community amenities. It allows cities to choose where to direct more homes to be built to encourage more housing in places where people live, work, and play.
- ❖ **HF2018 Transforming Downtowns Act** permits condos, apartments, and mixed-use developments in commercial zones through administrative approval, following a set timeframe. Allowing more homes near jobs will help revitalize Main Streets across the state while enabling more people to live close to jobs.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our support of HF2140 and HF2018 which will reduce barriers to building more homes and ensure more families can afford to rent or own a place to call home. Please reach out to me or Jeru Gobeze (jeru.gobeze@habitatminnesota.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Cristen Incitti".

Cristen Incitti, President & CEO
Habitat for Humanity of Minnesota
cristen.incitti@habitatminnesota.org