



The Association of Minnesota Building Officials

"Safe Homes – Resilient Communities"



Honorable Minnesota Representatives
Labor & Industry Policy Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

March 17, 2020

RE: Concerns with House File 1402

Honorable Committee Members,

The Association of MN Building Officials (AMBO) is sympathetic to the specific needs of border cities, but writes to express concern with HF1402 as relating to design, construction and licensing implications:

1. Administration of the state codes are more efficient, equitable, and reasonably enforceable when the state codes are uniform.
2. Minnesota has worked hard to create uniform code administration across the state and lack of uniformity in code administration has the potential to increase confusion and frustration for citizens.
3. These border cities will have separate standards requiring licensed tradesmen/women to learn and apply a second standard when building in neighboring jurisdictions creating confusion/frustration. This separate standard may also impact a builder's licensure requirements.
4. **We ask that this underlying concern be addressed through the State Building Code process and suggest that if this standard is believed to be safe and durable, that the state assess whether a uniform change across the state should be made relating to frost footing depths.**

Thank you for your consideration.

Jerry Backlund
President, AMBO