



Minnesota Department of Human Rights
540 Fairview Ave N, Suite 201
St. Paul, MN 55104

March 10, 2026

Chair Scott, Chair Liebling, and Committee Members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on House File 3540 (HF 3540) which would prohibit discrimination based on “veteran or military status” in the areas of employment, housing, public accommodations, education, and public services. The Minnesota Department of Human Rights (MDHR) is not opposed to this legislation.

Importantly, HF 3540 would add a new protected class to the Minnesota Human Rights Act; the first addition of a new protected class since 1993. Given this, the bill has important operational and fiscal implications for the department. MDHR is grateful for the committee’s attention to the fiscal note associated with this proposed expansion of the MHRA.

MDHR is committed to working collaboratively with the Legislature and stakeholders to ensure that any changes to the MHRA are implemented effectively and in a manner that best serves Minnesotans. Please feel free to contact Nico Bauer (nico.bauer@state.mn.us), MDHR’s Government Relations Director, with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RLucero'.

Rebecca Lucero
Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Rights

Minnesota Department of Human Rights is an Equal Opportunity Employer