

May 8, 2020

Re: HF 3326 (Hausman) Bonding resources for affordable and public housing.

Dear Members of the House Housing Finance and Policy Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities respectfully request that members support efforts to provide capital investment funding for affordable and public housing.

Cities are concerned about the lack of affordable housing opportunities across Minnesota and understand that state and local governments as well as private entities all have a role to play in addressing the affordable housing needs in our communities. Cities across Minnesota are innovating and accomplishing much with the limited tools and resources at their disposal.

However, the need across the state for the creation and preservation of affordable housing opportunities necessitates a substantial increase in Housing Infrastructure Bonds to help finance affordable multifamily development, supportive housing, and senior housing. The historic increase in Housing Infrastructure Bonds outlined in HF 3326 will provide for critically needed new units of affordable housing and the preservation of existing affordable housing.

Increasing state investment in bonding resources for affordable housing along with new tools at the state and local level will be critical to address the affordable housing issues that Minnesota cities face across the state. Additional bonding resources to invest in affordable housing options will help to position Minnesota communities to thrive. Please join us in our support for an increasing state investment in bonding resources for affordable housing to help address the affordable housing issues in cities across the state.

Thank you for your consideration

Sincerely.

Daniel Lightfoot

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