

MN Housing Stability Coalition and MN Supportive Housing Coalition and Homes For All Coalition and MN Coalition for the Homeless

Housing and service non-profits across Minnesota with shared goals to prevent and end homelessness and housing instability.

April 3, 2025

Re: HF 2704 Housing Stabilization Service application processing times modified, and Housing Support supplemental service rates modified.

Dear Chair Noor, Chair Schomacker, and Members of the Human Services Finance and Policy Committee:

Stakeholders across Minnesota support HF 2704 to address urgent long-term solutions to homelessness.

For nearly 20 years, the state's Housing Support program has funded critical services in supportive housing. However, a 2020 implementation of state law cut this funding by 50% for those eligible for Medical Assistance Housing Stabilization Services (HSS), even when they do not actually receive those services or have months of delay to be approved. As a result, providers found the rate reduction unsustainable, and many have reduced or stopped providing services, limiting housing opportunities for those exiting homelessness. **HF 2704 would temporarily restore the full Housing Support rate for one year while DHS rate studies are conducted and reviewed and ensure reductions only apply to those actually receiving HSS.**

It would also **require the Department of Human Services to process HSS applications within two weeks** instead of sometimes four months or more, improving timely access and housing stability and reducing months of uncompensated care.

We urge your support of HF 2704 to sustain essential services and reduce disruptions to supportive housing opportunities for Minnesotans in need.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

*MN Supportive Housing Coalition
MN Affordable Housing Stability Coalition
Homes for All Coalition
MN Coalition for the Homeless*

Aeon

Agate Housing and Services

Alliance Housing Inc

Ally Supportive Services

American Indian Community Development Corporation

Amherst Wilder Foundation

Anishinaabe Endaad

Avivo

Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative

Catholic Charities Twin Cities

Center City Housing Corp.

Clare Housing

Clay County Housing and Redevelopment Authority

CommonBond Communities

Corporation for Supportive Housing

Divine Konnections Inc.

Elatecare Inc.

Emma Norton Services

Family Rise Together

Frontier Living LLC

Greater Twin Cities United Way

Guild

Handy Help LLC

Hearth Connection

Hennepin County

Homes for All Coalition

Housing Matters

HumanKind Services

ICWA Law Center

Institute for Community Alliances

Link Up

Live Learn Hope Services

Mental Health Resources

MN Assistance Council for Veterans

MN Care Counseling Services

MN Coalition for the Homeless

MN Engagement on Shelter and Housing

MN Housing Partnership

MN Housing Stability Coalition

MySkye Care



Anishinaabe Endaad
Providing hope, growth and opportunity
for Native American men seeking recovery



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Twin Cities



Beacon
INTERFAITH HOUSING COLLABORATIVE



ALLY
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

Minnesota
Coalition for the
Homeless



CommonBond
COMMUNITIES



Greater Twin Cities
UNITED WAY

NAMI Minnesota
 Office of Indian Ministry
 Open Your Heart to the Hungry and Homeless
 Otter Tail Health Care Services
 Our Saviour's Community Services
 Person Centered Housing Consultants
 Phoenix Service Corporation
 Project for Pride in Living, Inc.
 RADIAS Health
 Range Transitional Housing, Inc.
 Red Lake Homeless Shelter, Inc.
 Rise, Inc.
 River Valley Housing Connection
 RS EDEN
 Secure Housing Assistance LLC
 Simpson Housing Services
 Spero
 Start Today Hennepin
 Steady Homes LLC
 Supportive Housing Coalition
 Supportive Living Solutions
 The Aliveness Project
 The Experience of Neshama
 The Link
 Touchstone Mental Health
 Truwell LLC
 Zumbro Valley Health Center



**Hearth
Connection**

**RS
EDEN**





April 3rd, 2025

RE: HF2704 Housing Stabilization/Housing Support Modifications

Chair Noor, Chair Schomacker, and members of the Human Services Finance and Policy Committee,

I am writing on behalf of the Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative to express our strong support for Rep. Curran's bill, HF2704, which modifies Housing Stabilization Services and the Housing Support program to work more efficiently. These two programs form the foundation of service funding for supportive housing, providing life-changing services to Minnesotans across the state.

Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative is a nonprofit housing provider and developer with 24 buildings that offer affordable homes to over 1,200 people. We primarily operate supportive housing, which provides safe, affordable, and stable housing with on-site services for the most vulnerable Minnesotans who have experienced homelessness.

Housing Stabilization Services is a powerful tool that allows service providers to bill Medicaid for essential services in supportive housing. Yet, the administrative requirements have made it difficult or impossible to implement in many settings. One difficulty has been the length of time it takes to process someone's enrollment. Requiring the agency to process applications within two weeks would enable efficient and timely services for Minnesotans who need them.

Another difficulty has been that individuals who are eligible for Housing Stabilization Services are having their Housing Support Service dollars reduced, even if they never enroll in the program. While we understand that the original directive intended to incentivize enrollment, due to the difficulty in achieving this goal, many individuals are going without essential services. It is much more common sense and person-centered to allow someone to remain using Housing Support Services until they actually enroll in Housing Stabilization Services.

Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative urges the committee to support HF 2704 and pass these two common-sense reforms to help Minnesotans in need of these services.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Benjamin Helvick Anderson".

Benjamin Helvick Anderson
VP of Policy and Organizing
Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative