



March 22, 2023

Senator Lindsey Port
Chair, Senate Housing and Homeless Prevention Committee
Housing and Homeless Prevention Committee Members

Re: Support for SF 2624

Dear Chair Port and Committee Members:

As leaders of the Saint Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and the Minneapolis Regional Chamber and on behalf of our thousands of members throughout the Greater MSP Region, we write to urge your favorable consideration of SF 2624 as a critical to addressing the housing crisis which this region confronts.

Preserving our current affordable housing and providing new housing is a top policy priority of our organizations for the 2023 legislative session. We know that safe, decent, affordable housing is important to the economic and social well-being of the entire region and contributes to other important aspects of the business climate such as public safety, transit, economic security, health, and education.

In particular, it is important to stabilize the state's nonprofit housing organizations which provide homes and stability to our most vulnerable and low-income residents. Many of our members have invested in public/private partnerships with these organizations to produce and sustain the homes these organizations provide, and SF 2624 is needed to maintain the value—economic and social—of these public and private investments. Just as important, much of the new housing that must be built, particularly for those with very low incomes, will not be built and maintained unless these organizations are strong and stable so that they can take on the risk and responsibility of developing additional housing.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brenda L. Kyle".

B Kyle
President/CEO St. Paul Area Chamber
Chamber

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonathan Weinhagen".

Jonathan Weinhagen
President & CEO Minneapolis Regional
Chamber