

April 30, 2021

Chair and Members of the Housing Conference Committee:

The Minnesota Multi Housing Association (MHA) is an industry nonprofit representing 1,700 members and 400,000 housing units in the state. I write today to raise our support for the UEH1077-1, the Senate language.

MHA appreciates the inclusion of a reasonable eviction moratorium off-ramp of Executive Order 20-79. This is a high priority for Minnesota's rental market to be able to return to normal. Executive Order 20-79 is among the strictest in the nation and was last updated in August of 2020. The country has seen 35 other states conclude their statewide eviction moratoriums; it is time for Minnesota to begin its process to do the same.

This spring we have seen Executive Orders loosen on other industries while the rental market restrictions continue. The state has permitted 10,000 attendees at Twins games, 3,000 attendees at Wild and Timberwolves games, signaled June weddings will be permitted, and is looking at the possibility of hosting the State Fair. We believe it is past time Minnesota begins to move the rental market back to normal operations through an eviction and lease termination moratorium off-ramp.

In the coming days we will provide to the Chair suggested language for Article 3, Section 4, which will help the off-ramp proposal better align with the capabilities of renthelpmn.org.

Additionally, MHA would like to thank the chair for including his bill, Senate File 912, in amending the rent control statute.

We ask members to support this proposal.

Thank you,

Kyle D. Berndt
Director of Public Policy
Minnesota Multi Housing Association