



February 26, 2025

RE: HF 1143 (Howard)

Dear Chair Igo, DFL Caucus Lead Howard and Members of the Committee,

The Greater Minnesota Housing Fund (GMHF) is a non-profit housing intermediary and Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) with a mission to support the creation of strong communities and affordable homes through strategic investments and effective partnerships. GMHF has a 28-year history of supporting research, evaluation, analysis, demonstration projects, and the creation of new and innovative programs to address Minnesota's housing needs. In addition, we raise low-cost capital to directly invest in the production and preservation of affordable housing across Minnesota. GMHF works with Minnesota communities, including cities, towns, rural areas, and Tribal nations to support their local housing needs.

GMHF works directly with Minnesota communities to support their local housing needs, which is why we support HF 1143 (Howard). This bill represents an important investment in the State's capacity to support the infrastructure necessary to build affordable housing in Greater Minnesota. This funding for critical infrastructure will help ensure that more affordable housing projects are shovel ready for development.

These resources are particularly important in Greater Minnesota where the lack of workforce and affordable housing continues to limit many communities' ability to grow and thrive. We ask for your support on this important piece of legislation and welcome the opportunity to work with you to continue to support housing across the State of Minnesota.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrea Brennan", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrea Brennan
President and CEO