



April 9, 2024

Human Services Finance Committee
379 State Office Building
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 5200 Simplify State-Funded Supportive Housing Resources

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

Today, conflicting eligibility criteria, administrative complexities, staff shortages, limited access to resources, and misaligned funding distribution jeopardize the sustainability of state-funded supportive housing projects, putting long term solutions to homelessness and housing stability for thousands of Minnesotans at risk.

I write to express strong support for HF 5200, which aims to streamline access, eligibility, and administration of multiple state-funded supportive housing resources for individuals experiencing homelessness in Minnesota.

Center City Housing Corp. develops, owns, manages, and provides services to 22 supportive housing properties in Greater Minnesota. This includes **Rochester, Bemidji, Duluth, St. Cloud and Inver Grove Heights**. We are greatly impacted by the complexity of state resources we must combine in order to effectively serve people in supportive housing. With decades of experience administering multiple supportive housing resources from DHS and MN Housing, we can attest to the critical need to streamline and align these programs to better support people with long histories of homelessness.

I urge you to support HF5200 to help simplify Minnesota's complex array of state-funded supportive housing resources. The proposed workgroup, comprised of representatives from various agencies and organizations across the state, including people with lived experience, will play a pivotal role in shaping effective policies and guide us toward practical long-term solutions to homelessness.

Thank you for your public service and consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,

Nancy Cashman
Executive Director
Center City Housing Corp.

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