



# Association of Minnesota Counties

March 14, 2022

Senator Rich Draheim  
Chair, Senate Housing Finance and Policy Committee  
3227 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Re: HF3259 (Draheim) Legalizing Affordable Housing Act**

Dear Chair Draheim and Committee Members:

The Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), a membership-based organization representing all 87 Minnesota counties, appreciates the opportunity to offer comments on SF3259: Legalizing Affordable Housing Act; local land use and building permit provision modified.

AMC met with Senator Draheim on his proposals addressing local land use and building permits last and have followed changes to this proposal as it has evolved over the last year. We appreciated his willingness to hear our concerns and include some of the changes we discussed. We are still reviewing the changes included in A-2 amendment and gathering feedback from our members.

We are concerned about adding building permits to the deadlines for agency action in M.S. 15.99, Article 4, lines 7.1 – 8.12 (A-2). **Review and decisions on building permits are not akin to the other actions in this section of statute.** This issue has been before the courts and building permits have been specifically excluded. Building permits cross a large spectrum of size and complexity, it would be difficult to complete all building permit work within these deadlines.

**Once again, we appreciate the opportunity to share our thoughts on the proposal and will share additional comments and recommendations with the author as work on this legislation continues.** If you have any questions regarding AMC's position, please feel free to contact me at [bmartinson@mncounties.org](mailto:bmartinson@mncounties.org) or 651-246-4156.

Sincerely,



Brian Martinson, Policy Analyst  
Association of Minnesota Counties