



MINNESOTA **RECOVERY CONNECTION**
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February 1st, 2023
Chair Wiklund
Members of the Health & Human Services Committee

Dear Chair Wiklund and members of the Health & Human Services Committee,

Hello my name is Stacey and I am 14 months sober from a 20 year addiction. I now work for Minnesota Recovery Connection in the housing department. I have personal experience with being homeless while in addiction and also as a child.

I've seen how not having a safe place to live affects every aspect of my life. How you go against your morals and turn into something you are so ashamed of. When all you were doing was trying to service. With my lived experience I'm passionate about what I do for a living. I've seen how these programs have helped people get stable housing. To where they can start their healing.

Still though I can't seem to get my own mother housed. My mother is currently living on the streets in this cold weather due to no room in shelters. Even if she did get into a shelter she won't last long because of her addiction and mental health she struggles with. Can someone tell me why my mothers life doesn't mean as much as the next person? I worry every day that I might get a phone call saying that they have found her on the street frozen.

I am so excited to see this bill pass in hopes that we can build more properties to house the mothers, fathers and children that chance their life every day with being on the streets.

Sincerely,
Stacey Blunt
Housing Navigator