

January 23, 2023

Senator Lindsey Port
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3213
St. Paul, MN 55155
via email



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RE: Jennifer Ho for Commissioner of Minnesota Housing Finance Agency

Chair Port and Senate Housing and Homeless Prevention Committee members,

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) supports the confirmation of Jennifer Ho as Commissioner of Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA). We respectfully urge you to move her confirmation forward.

Commissioner Ho is committed to advancing solutions across the continuum. Her passion for ending homelessness, building more housing for Minnesota's lowest-income households, and reducing disparities is a testimony to her dedication to tackling urgent crises. Minnesota needs a commissioner with knowledge of multiple, complex crises.

For several years, Commissioner Ho has overseen the largest housing investments in state history. In 2019 she oversaw the allocation of the largest base appropriation increase to the agency's budget. In 2020, she quickly designed and implemented one of the nation's largest state COVID-19 emergency housing programs. In 2021, Commissioner Ho and her staff operated an even larger emergency rental assistance and homeowner assistance program. Under the leadership of Commissioner Ho, MHFA has expanded the agency's internal infrastructure to allocate unprecedented levels of state and federal emergency housing resources. MHP applauds Minnesota Housing for leadership in such difficult and pressing circumstances.

Commissioner Ho has created a vision for the Agency to "Go Big, so we can all Go Home". MHP shares a vision that housing solutions need to scale to the need we see across Minnesota, and is looking forward to working with Commissioner Ho to ensure that Minnesota is the best place to raise children who can thrive and succeed.

MHP is a housing non-profit that strengthens development capacity and promotes public policy change to expand opportunity, especially for those with the greatest need. MHP provides public policy advocacy, capacity building for rural and Native communities throughout the United States and produces original research.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Mavity".

Anne Mavity
Executive Director