



January 25, 2023

Dear Chair Port and Members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee,

Metro Cities, representing the collective interests of cities in the metropolitan area, supports SF 22 (Oumou Verbeten), which creates a first-generation homebuyers down payment assistance fund. The creation of a first-generation homebuyers down payment assistance fund would support our local efforts to promote affordable homeownership opportunities and work to reduce the racial disparities in homeownership.

Metro Cities supports increased, sustainable, and adequate state funding for housing programs that support life cycle, workforce and affordable housing. Metro Cities supports programs that improve homeownership rates and reduce racial disparities through homeownership assistance programs and down payment assistance. This program would be a much-welcomed resource to support our communities in their efforts to support first time homebuyers in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ania McDonnell'.

Ania McDonnell  
Government Relations Specialist  
Metro Cities