



February 16, 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 1380 (Mohamed), which provides funding to the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency for homeownership education, counseling, and training programs.

Metro Cities' policies support programs that improve homeownership rates and reduce racial disparities through homeownership assistance programs and counseling services, including down payment assistance and pre-purchasing counseling. These programs work to improve financial wellness and inform homeowners and potential homeowners of their rights, options, and costs associated with owning a home.

Providing additional funding to this program will support our cities in their efforts to increase homeownership opportunities in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ania McDonnell". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist
Metro Cities