



March 8, 2023

Chair Lindsey Port  
Housing and Homelessness Prevention  
3213 Minnesota Senate Building  
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

RE: S.F. 1298

Dear Chair Port and Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee members:

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) appreciates the opportunity to comment on S.F. 1298 A-2 Amendment.

Evictions cause irreparable harm. MHP supports enacting a pre-eviction notice period of fourteen days. Transparent and clear communication between landlord and tenant are imperative. The bill ensures this best practice, already exercised by many housing providers, creates a single, uniform industry standard.

An eviction filing on a tenant's record is a scarlet letter that can cause households to experience homelessness and can lock individuals and families in poverty. S.F. 1298 is critical to improving housing security for thousands of Minnesotans, especially the most vulnerable and marginalized households. Easing eviction record expungement improves access to safe and affordable housing.

Numerous barriers to safe, healthy, and affordable housing exist statewide, including legal discrimination against renters paying a portion of their rent with public assistance. Amending Minnesota's Human Rights Act will improve Minnesotans' access to safe and stable homes. When households are discriminated against by property owners who refuse to accept rental assistance as payment, they are denied the opportunity to find a safe, stable, and affordable place to call home.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "LIBBY MURPHY". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Libby Murphy  
Director of Policy