

March 13, 2023



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

Subject: Support SF11

I write to urge you to support Bring it Home, Minnesota, (SF11). This bill would create a statewide rental assistance program that would provide vouchers for everyone who qualifies across the state.

Passing this bill would be transformational to Minnesota. We would immediately stabilize low-income households who struggle to afford their homes by limiting their housing costs to 30% of their income and freeing up money to provide for their children, their health and their future. This assistance would directly support many low-income workers across the state, allowing us to have a more productive and prosperous workforce.

We need a solution as big as the problem, and Bring it Home provides that solution and would help all aspects of housing.

This bill would impact my organization and the people we serve. After research on reasons for failed residency, more than any other indicator, amount of income was the greatest indicator if a nonprofit affordable resident would successfully maintain their housing or not. Those with a subsidy are significantly more likely to maintain stability and thus have the space to thrive in other aspects of their lives.

Please support this bill in committee today and as a priority for your caucus. Everything starts with home and this substantial investment will be the foundation of a Minnesota where all can thrive.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric A. Johnson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

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