



Legal Services Advocacy Project

February 28, 2024

The Honorable Nick Frentz
Chair, Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate
Minnesota Senate
3109 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Andrew Mathews
Ranking Minority Member, Committee on Energy, Utilities, Environment, and Climate
Minnesota Senate
2233 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: SF 4159 – Landlord Acceptance of ITINs

Dear Chair Port, Ranking Minority Member Lucero and Members of the Committee:

Legal Aid writes in support of SF 4159, which would amend Chapter 216B – the Public Utilities Act – to enable an applicant to provide an individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) in lieu of a Social Security number on an application for utility service. Legal Aid provides civil legal services to low-income Minnesotans, Minnesotans with disabilities, and elder Minnesotans, statewide, to help them meet their basic needs. Legal Aid's Legal Services Advocacy Project provides legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of our clients and all low-income Minnesotans.

Enactment of this bill would be another building block to support two critical goals: creating a welcoming and nondiscriminatory environment for all to further a fundamental Minnesota value; and helping everyone access essential utility services. We urge passage of SF 3769.

Sincerely,

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

Ron Elwood
Supervising Attorney

This document has been formatted for accessibility.