

3/25/2024

RE: Support for SF 4183

Dear Chair Dziedzic and Members of the Committee:

Our organizations are leaders in the fight for climate justice, environmental sustainability, housing affordability, healthcare, and more. Together, we represent part of a large, diverse, and growing coalition who care about Minnesotans having access to abundant, accessible, and affordable homes.

As part of that work, it is critical that the legislature clarifies that increasing our housing supply on already-developed land is beneficial to the environment. SF 4183 provides assurances that cities acting to increase housing supply in a climate-friendly manner are not hampered by bad-faith attempts to slow that critical progress.

Incentivizing housing supply also helps reduce housing prices and opens more affordable options for people in various levels of the income spectrum. In particular, working-class families are being priced out of housing and rental markets every day. The stability in housing costs that increased housing options brings is absolutely necessary to stem the tide of rising rents and home prices. This is also a racial justice issue, as cities who attempt to rectify decades of exclusionary zoning practices by supporting pro-housing policies must be allowed to implement their comprehensive plans.

Thank you for your support of this bill as one key part of the fight for a more sustainable environment, racial justice, and increased housing options.

Neighbors For More Neighbors

Sustain St. Paul

MoveMN

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