



03/25/2024

Chair Dziedzic, Ranking Minority Member Anderson, and Vice Chair Mitchell,

The Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) supports SF 4183, the City of Minneapolis' "2040 Fix Bill" being heard by the Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Committee.

MACV identifies that one of the key challenges to housing Veterans experiencing homelessness is a lack of affordable housing. We applaud the City of Minneapolis, and the State government, for understanding the importance of lack of affordable housing, and taking steps to address it through legislation. These efforts, however, have met an administrative hurdle that will slow the process of creating housing options and add additional costs in staff time and development delays.

While MACV understands the need for environmental reviews, we concur with the City of Minneapolis that additional review requirements will be duplicative of the community environmental reviews and findings in the 2040 Report, and will therefore lead only to administrative burden without providing new or critical information for plan implementation and environmental well-being.

As a housing developer working to bring units to the community to serve Veterans experiencing homelessness, MACV is concerned that this added administrative burden will cause delays. Delays will cause Veterans to experience homelessness for longer periods of time than they otherwise would.

We ask that the Senate State and Local Government and Veterans Committee recognize the fix within SF 4183 as a good policy to reduce administrative burden, reduce cost, and reduce delays to bringing on critically needed affordable housing units.

Respectfully,

Nathaniel Saltz
Chief Program Officer
Minnesota Assistance Council for Veterans