

April 9, 2024

Re: Locally Owned and Controlled Housing Fund (SF3467)

Chair Port and Members of the Committee,

Our organizations represent thousands of Minnesotans all over the state who struggle with housing costs. We are labor leaders, faith-based leaders and organizers, and tenants' rights advocates. Working class people all over our state need housing options. Trapped in a cycle where rent is too high, repairs and conditions are not just, we need investments in housing that can stay affordable and we have a say in. We see the current system failing in so many ways. These are just a few:

- Senior LIHTC housing has increased rents, forcing low income seniors to choose between basic necessities and housing costs.
- Landlords failing to make repairs while rents increase and tenants fight for basic dignified housing conditions.
- Affordable housing developers rescue projects once financed with LIHTC, but don't have the operating costs to keep it sustainable.

Locally Controlled Housing is permanently affordable so that housing remains accessible and does not pass through changes of ownership, targeted to a wide range of incomes to fill the gaps private developers are unable to meet, and intentionally operated as tenant centered to keep people housed in safe and affordable homes.

Thank you for your consideration.

Inquilinxs Unidxs por Justicia
Centro de Trabajadores Unidos en Lucha
New Justice Project
SEIU Local 26
ISAIAH
Unidos MN