



April 16, 2024

Chair Port and Members, Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to comment on provisions in SF 4158 – Port, the Housing Finance omnibus bill.

Metro Cities supports the capital appropriation for Housing Infrastructure Bonds included of \$50 million. Housing Infrastructure Bonds leverage local, federal, and private investments and spur development in our communities. These are used to develop and preserve permanent and supportive housing, preserve federally assisted rental housing, provide affordable housing for our seniors, finance housing with rents affordable to households with incomes at or below 50% AMI, and support the acquisition and rehabilitation of foreclosed or abandoned property.

Metro Cities supports state housing programs that assist housing development, and the preservation and maintenance of existing housing stock affordable to residents throughout the low-to-moderate income range.

Metro Cities supports increased, sustainable, and adequate state funding for programs that serve a range of housing needs, including funding for the Community Stabilization program to preserve naturally occurring affordable housing, as well as the Housing Infrastructure program.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

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

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist