



March 13, 2025

Senator Zaynab Mohamed
2103 Minnesota Senate Building
Minnesota Senate Building
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Representative Brion Curran
5th Floor Centennial Office Building
Minnesota House of Representatives
Saint Paul, MN 55155

Senator Mohamed and Representative Curran,

I write to express Project for Pride In Living's support for SF 2124/HF 1914 (Bridge to Shelter Act), legislation that would provide much needed funding for Minnesota's homelessness response system. This critical piece of legislation takes a new revised statewide approach in helping further build out the system of supports to on the ground providers, counties and Tribal nations by creating separate buckets of funding to utilize as counties, tribes, and providers know one cannot succeed without the other and the need to provide separate sources funding is essential.

The Minnesotans we serve face numerous challenges, most of them structural. Our work involves supporting them as they navigate the social services systems, ensuring that they can meet their basic needs, and secure stable and dignified housing. Services like crisis response, diversion, outreach, low barrier shelter, and housing-focused case management are vital to the program success, all eligible under the Bridge to Shelter Act.

It is noteworthy that the unprecedented funding in rental and housing assistance that accompanied the COVID-19 pandemic era played a significant role in supporting the homelessness response system. With that assistance gone, we collectively will be unable to sustain our efforts and services we provide in ending homelessness. SF 2124/HF 1914 would mitigate that gap of funding and resources and would help advance our efforts in taking care of some of our most vulnerable residents in our state.

Thank you for advancing this legislation and your work to help ensure that homelessness is rare, brief, and non-reoccurring in the state of Minnesota

Sincerely,

Janayah Bagurusi
Senior Director of Resident Services
Project for Pride in Living