



8011 34th Ave S., Suite 126
Bloomington, MN 55425
Office Phone: 612.728.5770
Office Fax: 612.728.5761
www.homelinemn.org

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Senator Port:

Thank you for creating this public opportunity to remember Senator Kari Dziedzic. She positively impacted so many people through the policies she championed and her work for social change. I was fortunate to have worked with her on several campaigns addressing tenants' rights and protections and affordable housing funding efforts.

Through what I witnessed, Senator Dziedzic approached the legislative process with responsible stewardship and a caring spirit. For her, those two traits were intertwined. When she took an issue on, she treated it seriously, whether in a community meeting, talking with a constituent, or working with advocates or colleagues. This approach, which she viewed as a responsibility toward her work, demonstrated how much she cared about the people those policies or resource changes would impact.

Whenever I met with Senator Dziedzic, I knew she was being honest and direct. She always articulated what needed to be done – by me, by advocates as a whole, or by her – to advance a cause. I always left a meeting with her feeling like I knew what needed to happen next. As an advocate, I treasured these qualities even though, after a meeting with her, my to-do list was often extensive!

After a meeting with Sen. Dziedzic, I felt supported and challenged at the same time. If she wanted to champion a cause, she would truly commit to it; she expected the same from you. Policy wins are rarely easy, and she was quite skilled in laying out for you how she saw impactful change required much from those who wanted to be a part of making it happen.

The years Senator Dziedzic played a role in tenants' issues, it would be difficult to

identify a piece of legislation that she did not impact. Minnesota tenants are indebted to her service.

Sincerely,

Michael Dahl
Public Policy Director