## Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless

## Shelter saves lives. Housing ends homelessness.

February 10, 2025

Senator Lindsay Port
Chair, Committee on Housing and Homelessness Prevention
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 3213
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Dedicated Revenue for housing via a constitutional amendment for housing

Dear Senator Port and members of the Committee on Housing and Homelessness Prevention:

The MN Coalition for the Homeless (MCH) is a Statewide organization dedicated to advocating for policies and resources to end homelessness. We are writing in support of dedicated revenue for housing and homelessness through Our Future Starts at Home amendment.

MCH was founded in 1984 and the need for dedicated revenue to end homelessness through the development of housing and to invest into housing/homelessness programs even before we were founded. This proposal creates a mechanism that does just this.

We are thankful for past investments but we will never be able to end homelessness by addressing the funding needs on a year to year basis. Organizations are unable to create sustainable long term solutions if there is not sustainable funding. This has a direct impact on the people who rely on these organizations to help them get a home of their own.

We strongly encourage you to support the amendment from Our Future Starts at Home so we can truly address the cost of housing while ending homelessness.

Thank you for your consideration and leadership,

Matt Traynor

Interim Executive Director & Director of Advocacy
MN Coalition for the Homeless