



Monday, February 24, 2025

Will Delaney  
Co-Executive Director, Hope Community, Inc.  
611 E. Franklin Avenue  
Minneapolis, MN 55404

Chair Port and members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Committee,

Dear Chair Port,

I write on behalf of Hope Community, Inc. to express our organization's support of the recommendations put forward from the Task Force on Long-Term Sustainability of Affordable Housing. Hope was very supportive of the Task Force coming together, and after seeing the report, we continue to support these efforts to help stabilize affordable housing in our region.

The report highlights the need for long-term, sustainable solutions to ensure that all Minnesotans have access to safe, stable, and affordable housing. As the report outlines, the affordability gap continues to widen, putting many at risk of displacement and homelessness. The recommendations provided, including increased funding for affordable housing preservation and policy changes to alleviate barriers to affordable housing preservation, are essential to tackling this issue.

Hope, as an organization who unfortunately had to close a 25 unit supportive housing building in the last couple of years, knows from experience that some of these task force recommendations could have a very positive impact on the affordable housing system in Minnesota – especially the recommendations around strengthening stabilization resources and tools as well as the recommendation to better align service dollars with capital dollars for supportive housing.

I strongly urge you to consider and support the implementation of the taskforce's recommendations, specifically those that aim to preserve the state's existing affordable and supportive housing stock. By doing so, we are ensuring the long-term stewardship of Minnesota taxpayer investments and safeguarding the affordable homes that many Minnesotans rely on.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to addressing this pressing issue. I look forward to seeing the positive changes that will come from this important work.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Will Delaney".

Will Delaney