



Tuesday, February 21, 2025

Re: Presentation on the Task Force on Long-Term Sustainability of Affordable Housing

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

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) urges lawmakers to support the recommendations put forward from the Task Force on Long-Term Sustainability of Affordable Housing. The report offers targeted interventions to preserve critical, at-risk, and limited affordable housing supply.

With a deficit of more than 114,000 homes available and affordable to extremely low-income households, Minnesota cannot afford to lose any homes. Increasing funding for affordable housing preservation and enacting policies to alleviate barriers to preservation are essential to strengthening Minnesota's affordable housing system. The state must continue its partnership with housing providers to ensure they can provide affordable, safe, healthy, and dignified homes.

A failure to act not only jeopardizes the state's affordable housing system, it also has the potential to endanger Minnesota's renters. Insufficient supportive services can adversely affect residents' mental and physical health. Displacement is a major source of physical, financial, and mental health trauma. It is imperative that homes are maintained, and that operators and residents have adequate resources to ensure housing is safe, healthy, and dignified.

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.

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) expands housing and community development opportunity for those most impacted by economic and racial disparities by leading collaborative work to promote systems change and grow equitable development capacity. For more than 30 years, MHP has accomplished this mission by producing data-informed research, advocating for equitable housing policy, and providing community development services across the US.

Thank you for your attention and your work on behalf of the State of Minnesota.

Sincerely,

Libby Murphy

