



March 4, 2025

Re: Support for SF 1610 – Community-based first-generation homebuyers assistance program modification

Dear Chair Port and members of the Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee:

The League of Minnesota Cities appreciates the opportunity to provide our comments in support of SF 1610 (Oumou Verbeten), which authorizes additional funding for the Community-Based First-Generation Homebuyers Assistance program. The community-based first-generation homebuyers assistance program is a critical resource that provides state grant funding for down payment assistance for qualifying homebuyers and will open up more homeownership opportunities for more Minnesotans in communities across the state.

Cities support resources and programs that seek to assist communities and their residents in their efforts to reduce barriers to housing and reduce racial disparities in homeownership. As cities continue to address racial disparities in homeownership, the \$25 million appropriation for fiscal year 2026 and \$50 million in fiscal year 2027 will allow the program to make more awards and bring important homeownership opportunities for more Minnesotans.

Please join us in our support for SF 1610 and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Lightfoot". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Daniel Lightfoot
Senior Intergovernmental Relations Representative
League of Minnesota Cities