



March 3, 2025

RE: S.F. 1913 Locally controlled housing fund establishment

Chair Port and members of the Housing and Homeless Prevention committee,

Minnesota Housing Partnership (MHP) writes in support of S.F. 1913. Locally controlled housing is a vital component of a comprehensive housing strategy. The proposed fund will provide resources for local communities to increase the availability of homes affordable in perpetuity. The bill ensures that public entities, residents, and/or mission-driven nonprofits create housing that is permanently affordable and collectively owned.

S.F. 3647 will support the acquisition, rehabilitation, construction, and operation of community owned housing. By incorporating social housing into the locally controlled housing fund, S.F. 1913 will ensure that funding is dedicated to developing and maintaining high-quality, community-oriented housing. Housing under this model is developed, owned, managed, and operated in a way that is accountable to residents and the broader community.

Minnesota needs transformational strategies like community ownership to preserve homes and give residents more opportunities to own their housing and have a voice in management and decision-making.

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
Director of Policy