



The Association of Minnesota Building Officials

"Safe Homes – Resilient Communities"



Honorable Housing & Homelessness Committee
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
Saint Paul, MN 55155

3/11/25

RE: SF2286 - Significant Safety & Workability Concerns

Honorable Committee Members,

The Association of MN Building Officials (AMBO) applauds the legislature's effort to increase affordable housing opportunities across the state. However, at this time, AMBO writes to express serious safety & workability concerns with SF2286, Subd. 4.

Concerns – Automatic building permit approval after 60 days (Subd.4):

- 1. This bill could result in the automatic approval of a building permit that is NOT in compliance with the minimum requirements of the Minnesota State Building Code.**
 - i. This a serious life-safety concern.
- 2. Adds time, cost, and complexity to building permits, tracking, and to stakeholders.**
 - i. The "toll" & "resume" provisions apply to all building permits identified in the SF2286, but also to the sub-permits (boiler, electrical, etc.). To implement this approach, there would have to be a tracking mechanism for thousands of permits a year for many cities.
 - ii. The submittal of building permits that are not initially code compliant is common. If passed this bill will lead to denial of such permits instead of building departments working through the permit with applicants.

AMBO is here as a resource for legislators, and we recommend the deletion automatic approval of building permits for the reasons stated. We hope the legislature will consider this request to ensure safety and flexibility for building permit applicants.

Thank you for your consideration,

Dennis Schilling,
AMBO President