



CATHOLIC CHARITIES
Twin Cities

Catholic Charities at Elliot Park
1007 East 14th Street, Minneapolis, MN 55404
612-204-8500 | cctwincities.org

March 27, 2025

Senator Lindsey Port
Chair, Senate Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee

Re: Support for SF 2742

Chair Port and Members of the Committee:

I am writing on behalf of Catholic Charities to express my support for SF 2742, which offers a policy package to help stabilize the troubled affordable housing market.

Operating and maintaining affordable housing units is becoming increasingly more difficult due to factors such as skyrocketing insurance costs, security needs and declining revenues. A recent report by O'Neil Consulting estimated that the affordable housing sector lost over \$50M between 2018-2023 and that the financial situation did not improve in 2024.

Catholic Charities was recently faced with the difficult decision to close St Christopher Place, which provided affordable housing and supportive services for adults exiting homelessness. It became unsustainable to subsidize the cost to maintain the building and provide critical services to help residents remain housed at \$500,000 annually. This closure resulted in the loss of 71 affordable housing units.

SF 2742 would provide regulatory relief, cut red tape, and better align funding streams, providing necessary relief to affordable housing providers – ultimately preserving the availability of affordable housing for our most vulnerable neighbors.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to ensuring all Minnesotans have a place to call home.

Sincerely,

Jamie Verbrugge
President and CEO