

Dear Minnesota Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee Members:

As a physician, I appreciate the evidence that having a home is a requirement for health. I have therefore worked to help reduce homelessness in Minnesota. I am writing to urge that you support SF 2792.

I am Thomas Kottke. I live at 571 Otis Avenue in Saint Paul, District 64A, and have practiced cardiology for 40 years at the University of Minnesota, Mayo Clinic Rochester, and HealthPartners until I retired in December 2024. During that time, I have also advocated for measures that improve community health because it is in this space that the greatest gains in health and well-being can be made, and a prosperous Minnesota depends on a healthy Minnesota.

One of the issues that I've worked on is the impact of homelessness. I have researched and written about this, both for the popular press such as MinnPost and for medical research journals.

I am impressed by the program at the GAP contract alternative school in St Paul. Further information about the excellent program at the GAP Contract Alternative School is found in this excellent [KSTP TV story](#). I think it simultaneously helps young people who might, without intervention become homeless, and helps produce more affordable housing.

Thank you to Senator Mohamed for leading the way on this bill. I urge you to support it.

Tom Kottke, M.D.