

March 31, 2025 Chair Lindsey Port Housing and Homelessness Prevention Committee

Chair and Committee Members:

The work of the African American Leadership Forum ('The Forum') is rooted in shifting systems and the people that lead them towards a more just future. We partner with communities, nonprofit organizations, foundations, and governments to co-create solutions focused on many social and economic concerns. For nearly twenty years, The Forum has harnessed the collective power of Black communities to solve complex social problems. Our goal is to build a just and healthy society that works equally well for everyone.

We write in support of Senate File 2423, which uses targeted investing to create pathways for generational wealth building through affordable homeownership. This bill uniquely evokes two of The Forum's Impact Areas--Generational Wealth Building and Economic Prosperity--by empowering Black Minnesotans as consumers and producers in the housing economy. Through expanding the production workforce to increase housing supply, and intentionally investing in the Black labor workforce to do so, there will be a deeper attachment to building flourishing community ecosystems that invest in children, families, and adults. This proposal aligns with existing initiatives in the region to address the housing shortage and boost workforce participation in this vastly-shifting economy.

We urge members to support Senate File 2423. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Amber Jones
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Policy Entrepreneur Fellow | Generational Wealth Building

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