

EMAIL

From: Comfort Dondo (Phumulani Minnesota)

Date: March 17, 2025

Thank you so much for sharing this information. This is truly a **much-needed and long-overdue bill**, and I deeply appreciate the work being done to **ensure Black families, mothers, and communities have access to affordable housing with dignity and respect**.

As a **survivor of homelessness for nearly a decade**, I can personally attest to the **urgent need for policies that protect and uplift our communities**. I am incredibly grateful for this initiative and would love to **support this process in any way possible**. Please let me know how I can contribute.

With kind regards,

Comfort Dondo

Founder, Builder, Healer

Phumulani Minnesota (African Women Against Violence)

Author of Facing The Giants

EMAIL

From: Victoria Karpeh, M.Ed. (Legacy Family Center)

Date: March 17, 2025

Courtney,

Good morning! I hope you're doing well. I'm writing to advocate for the passage of this bill. Minnesota cannot afford to be perceived as a hyphenated state, where discussions of quality of life are always qualified by the lack of homeownership and wealth gap among Black Minnesotans. This bill provides us with the opportunity to change that narrative and create a more equitable future for all Minnesotans.

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In Gratitude,

Victoria Karpeh, MEd

Executive Director, Legacy Family Center

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We are the community that facilitates life's literacy so families can flourish.

EMAIL

From: Nick Zeimet, MSW, LICSW (Dept of Social Work, Bethel University)

Date: March 17, 2025

Good Morning-

I'm writing a letter of support for SF2423, the African American Workforce Affordable Homeownership Bill. I am a licensed social worker in MN and teach in the social work department at Bethel University. We frequently address the economic, education, health, criminal justice disparities that exist amongst racial groups in the state of MN. We will talk about the stark difference of what it is like to live in the state of MN for different racial groups. There is a cognitive dissonance to process as we see headlines like the one recently from US World News and Report that identifies MN as the 4th best state in the country to live and yet we also see headlines from many news stories about the ever increasing gap between white and Black home ownership, like this one from [Habitat from Humanity](#) that cite several other studies.

As a social worker who is aware of disparities, including how government-- national and local, participated in these outcomes with laws, ordinances, and practices that disadvantaged Black MNs, I support a bill like SF2423 that seeks to address those past injustices with present day just and targeted actions. I urge the Senate Housing Committee to consider this bill as a just step towards addressing past injustices.

With thanks and gratitude for your service to our state,
Nick Zeimet, MSW, LICSW

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Nick Zeimet (he/him/his) MSW, LICSW

Director of Field Education and Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work
Bethel University 3900 Bethel Drive | Saint Paul, MN 55112

EMAIL

From: Sister Janell R. Dodd (S.H.i.P Collaborative)

Date: March 17, 2025

I feel it is important to pass the African American Workforce Affordable Homeownership bill to create generational wealth within the African-American Community/Families. It is no secret that the African American communities are very disproportionate when it comes to home ownership. I feel this law should be passed so we can still continue to be on the journey of healing our communities. So we can once again have thriving and wealthy community amongst us.

Hotep! 🕊️👉💜

Sister Janelle R. Dodd

S.H.i.P Collaborative

"The present time is always the right time to do what is right."

— Dr. Martin Luther King

EMAIL

From: Carl Crawford (CMAH Board, St. Louis County)

Date: March 17, 2025

I am writing a letter to support Black Homeownership and generational wealth. Home ownership for African Americans in Minnesota is crucial to building communities that are vibrant and safe. It creates economic stability for many families and a sense of pride knowing that you have a place to call home. This is an opportunity to stand behind the Fair Housing Act that was signed in 1968, For many African Americans that needle has not moved much for us toward home ownership. Today, Minnesota can move pass being one of the worst in the nation for Black Home Ownership to a state that gets it right. Please join me in supporting SF2423.

Sincerely,

Carl Crawford

CMAH Vice President

Equity & Inclusion Specialist St Louis County

EMAIL

From: Modoh Wanda (African Fashion Week Minnesota)

Date: March 17, 2025

Hello Ms. Courtney Schaff,

This organization urges the Senate Housing Committee to pass the African American Workforce Affordable Homeownership Bill SF2423. It is disheartening that more than 70% of Minnesota households own their home, but less than 30% of Black Minnesotans are homeowners. We as an organization are in favor of this bill passing to promote economic growth and self-sufficiency through targeted investing. There is not a Black Minnesotan that we know that does not want to own a home, but high costs, predatory practices, and wealth inequities create barriers to homeownership. We urge you to bridge the gap.

Best Regards,

Modoh Wanda, Chief Executive Officer

The AFWMN Team

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