Chair Marty and Members
Finance Committee
Minnesota Senate

Re: Support for SF 3596

Dear Chair Marty and Members of the Committee:

We, the undersigned organizations, write to express our strong support for **SF 3596**, which provides urgently needed emergency rental assistance to Minnesota households at risk of homelessness.

SF 3596 makes a one-time investment of **$40 million** in emergency rental assistance that will be distributed to counties and tribal governments to help stabilize Minnesotans facing acute housing crises. The bill appropriately targets assistance to households with incomes at or below **200 percent of the federal poverty level** who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.

Across Minnesota, communities continue to see elevated housing instability driven by rising rents, cost burdens, and the expiration of earlier pandemic-era supports. Local providers report ongoing demand for short-term rental assistance that can prevent evictions, reduce shelter entries, and keep families safely housed. SF 3596 responds to this reality with a focused, time-limited tool that leverages existing county and Tribal infrastructure.

We particularly appreciate that the bill:

- **Moves resources quickly**, requiring payments within 15 business days of enactment.
- **Targets households with the greatest need**, prioritizing those experiencing or at imminent risk of homelessness.
- **Uses proven delivery systems**, allowing funds to be administered through entities already operating family homeless prevention and assistance programs.
- **Includes accountability measures**, requiring reporting on households served and assistance levels.

Emergency rental assistance is one of the most cost-effective tools available to prevent homelessness and reduce downstream public costs associated with shelter use, health care, and family instability. By acting quickly to stabilize households, SF 3596 helps preserve housing, protect community wellbeing, and support local economic stability.

For these reasons, we respectfully urge the committee to advance SF 3596.

Thank you for your leadership and consideration.

Sincerely,

Unite Here 17
UFCW663

CTUL Action Fund
SEIU - MN
ISAIAH
FAITH IN MN
Minneapolis Federation of Educators
OutFront Minnesota
Reviving the Islamic Sisterhood for Empowerment
Alliance for Metropolitan Stability
100% Campaign
Minnesota Nurses Association
Inquilinxs Unidxs Por Justicia
SEIU MN State Council
The Saint Paul Federation of Educators Local 28
UNIDOS