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April 21, 2026

Chair John Marty
Senate Finance Committee
Room 1200 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
95 University Ave W.
St Paul, MN 55103

RE: MFU support for Manufactured Home Residents Bill of Rights

Dear Chair Marty and committee members:

On behalf of Minnesota Farmers Union (MFU), I write to share our support for the provisions of the Housing Omnibus Bill (SF203) establishing a Manufactured Home Residents Bill of Rights (MHBOR). These provisions will help address the increasing ownership of manufactured housing communities by private equity and out-of-state corporations.

MFU is a grassroots organization that has represented Minnesota's family farmers, ranchers and rural communities since 1918. Cooperation is one of MFU's core principles and our organization is committed to cooperative education and cooperative business development. The MHBOR includes provisions that will support more cooperative ownership of manufactured housing.

While residents have been able to form cooperatives for decades, they have not always received proper notice that the owner intends to sell or any information about the terms of the sale. The MHBOR establishes a "resident opportunity to purchase." This ensures that homeowners are provided an opportunity to purchase the land beneath their homes when their communities are for sale. This language can help unlock cooperative ownership for more manufactured housing residents across Minnesota.

MFU appreciates Sen. Boldon's leadership on this issue. If you have any questions, please contact our Antimonopoly Director, Justin Stofferahn, at justin@mfu.org or (612) 594-1252 (C). Thank you for considering the needs and perspectives of Minnesota's farm families.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Wertish". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Gary Wertish
President, Minnesota Farmers Union