



April 7, 2025

Chairs and Members of the House Housing Finance and Policy Committee:

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area, appreciates the opportunity to support HF 2445 - Igo, as amended by the DE2 amendment.

State funding is a major and necessary component for the provision of housing. Metro Cities policies support increased, sustainable, and adequate state funding for new and existing housing programs that support life cycle, workforce and affordable housing, address homeownership disparities, and address foreclosure mitigation, among others.

Metro Cities appreciates and supports resources in the bill that provide funding for vital state programs for housing across the region and state. Metro Cities supports the \$10 million one-time increase in funding for the Economic Development and Housing Challenge Program, base funding for the Homebuyer Education, Counseling, and Training (HECAT) program, and the creation and funding for a statewide tenant education and hotline service. Metro Cities also supports the resources in the bill to provide for an additional \$100 million in Housing Infrastructure Bonds.

These programs and funding are critical to supporting cities in addressing the need for additional affordable housing across the metropolitan region.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ania McDonnell'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist