METRO CITIES
Association of Metropolitan Municipalities

April 8, 2026

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

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan region at the Legislature and Executive Branch, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 3279 - Howard, which would propose seeking an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution for the purposes of increasing the state sales and use tax rate by three-eighths of one percent for the purposes of funding housing programs.

Metro Cities strongly supports increased, sustainable, and adequate state funding for new and existing programs that support life cycle, workforce and affordable housing, address homeownership disparities, address foreclosure mitigation, address housing for families with children, and support senior, transitional and emergency housing for the metropolitan region. However, Metro Cities supports the principle of representative democracy, and as such opposes funding state programs through constitutional amendments, as these limit flexibility by the Legislature as well as the state's local governments, to respond to unanticipated needs or fluctuating economic conditions.

We look forward to continuing to work with the committee in addressing housing needs across the metropolitan region.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist

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