

Legal Services Advocacy Project

February 24, 2024

The Honorable Michael Howard Chair, Housing Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives 473 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

The Honorable Brian Johnson Republican Lead, Housing Finance and Policy Committee Minnesota House of Representatives 243 State Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 3843 – Housing Provider Acceptance of ITINs

Dear Chair Howard, Lead Johnson and Members of the Housing Finance and Policy Committee:

Legal Aid writes in support of HF 3843, which would amend Chapter 504B – the Landlord-Tenant Law – to provide the option for a tenant to provide either a social security number or individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN) on a rental application and prohibit denial of a tenancy based solely on the provision on an ITIN.

Legal Aid provides civil legal services to low-income Minnesotans, Minnesotans with disabilities, and elder Minnesotans, statewide, to help them meet their basic needs. Legal Aid's Legal Services Advocacy Project provides legislative and administrative advocacy on behalf of our clients and all low-income Minnesotans. Housing matters are one of Legal Aid's central areas of focus

Enactment of this bill would be another building block to support two critical goals: creating a welcoming and nondiscriminatory environment for all to further a fundamental Minnesota value; and helping everyone access housing and avoid homelessness and housing instability.

Thank you for allowing Legal Aid to share its views and offer its support for HF 3843.

Sincerely,

Ron Elwood

Ron Elward

Supervising Attorney

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