



May 2, 2023

**Chair Ron Latz**

3105 Minnesota Senate Bldg.  
St. Paul, MN 55155

**Chair Jamie Becker-Finn**

559 State Office Building  
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chair Latz, Chair Becker-Finn, Chair Moller, and Conference Committee Members:

I write to express my gratitude to both the Senate and House Judiciary Committees for including Minnesota Department of Human Rights' Take Pride Act in their policy omnibus bill.

Thirty years ago, Minnesota state legislators came together to make Minnesota the first state in the country to prohibit sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination; however, Minnesota has changed a lot since 1993, and it is time to update and clarify the Minnesota Human Rights Act.

The Take Pride Act:

- Removes the section that says Minnesota does not condone homosexuality and does not recognize the right of same sex marriage.
- Updates the definition of gender identity and remove outdated language that wrongly prejudices LGBTQIA+ community members by attempting to tie sexual orientation to criminal acts.
- Removes the provision that allows for discrimination based on sexual orientation in duplexes.
- Removes the provisions that allow for discrimination for some nonprofits to discriminate based on sexual orientation.

As the state's civil rights enforcement agency, the Minnesota Department of Human Rights' mission is to help ensure that Minnesotans can lead lives of dignity, free from discrimination. Thank you for prioritizing this opportunity to update and clarify civil rights protections for Minnesotans.

Please feel free to contact me or Nico Bauer ([nico.bauer@state.mn.us](mailto:nico.bauer@state.mn.us)), MDHR's Government Relations Director, with any questions.

Sincerely,

Rebecca Lucero

Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Human Rights