Advocacy Call Script

Urge leadership to invest $100 million in bonds for housing

SF 666 | HF 864

Speaker of the House, Rep. Kurt Daudt / 800.710.7642
Senate Majority Leader, Sen. Paul Gazelka / 651.296.4875

INTRO
Name, company
If applicable, include the number of units you’ve developed or manage and how many households you serve. Briefly mention your geographic scope.

ASK
Invest $80 million in Housing Infrastructure bonds (HIB) and $20 million in general obligation bonds (GO).

WHY
Bonds are critical to expanding housing opportunities across the state. Between 2012 and 2015, $120 million in HIB led to the development of 1,873 units and $25.5 million in GO bonds maintained 3,888 units. Without HIB, thousands fewer units will be developed or preserved and without GO, HRAs across the state will not be able to perform necessary maintenance to ensure safe housing for their tenants.

And encourage housing champions to stand strong

House Capital Investment Committee Chair, Rep. Dean Urdahl / 800.920.5861
Senate Capital Investment Committee Chair, Sen. David Senjem / 651.296.3903
Governor Mark Dayton / 800.657.3717

INTRO
Name, company

THANK YOU
Thank the lawmaker for his or her support of affordable housing.

CALL TO ACTION
Explain that the proposed bonding amounts in HF 892 just aren’t enough to meet need across Minnesota. Tell the lawmaker that the final bonding bill should include $100 million in bonds to create and preserve affordable housing.

In each call, be sure to...

Share your unique perspective as a supporter of affordable housing. If you have a development in the pipeline seeking HIB or GO, mention what the project will mean for your community. Or, mention a project you’ve recently completed. If your project leveraged or would leverage significant federal or private funding, please mention.

Emphasize that housing is a smart investment. In 2014, $1 in state funding leveraged $3 in private capital toward housing preservation. In 2016, $80 million in state bonds leveraged more than $300 million in private and local funding. $100 million in bonding would develop or preserve housing for 3,000 households throughout MN.

Explain that projects across MN are ready to break ground. Developers are poised to create housing and local jobs, but the resources aren’t available. Without bonding resources this session, thousands of affordable housing units across MN are in jeopardy. The state agency forecasts that 4 out of every 5 projects that apply for funding won’t get it.

Questions? Contact Jeremy Schroder (Jeremy.Schroeder@mhponline.org / 651.925.5548)