

March 23, 2025

The Honorable Aisha Gomez Co-Chair, Taxes Committee Minnesota House of Representatives 5<sup>th</sup> Floor, Centennial Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155 The Greg Davids Co-Chair, Taxes Committee Minnesota House of Representatives 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Centennial Office Building St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: HF 2499 (Renters' Credit)

Dear Co-Chairs Gomez and Davids and Members of the Taxes Committee:

The Legal Services Advocacy Project (LSAP) writes in support of HF 2499, which would provide the beneficial Renters' Credit to more Minnesotans and create parity with Minnesota's Homestead Credit. LSAP is a statewide division of Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid, providing policy, legislative, and administrative advocacy on behalf of Legal Aid statewide. Legal Aid's clients include Minnesotans who have low incomes, elderly Minnesotans and Minnesotan with disabilities.

The Renter's Credit is targeted to people with lower incomes and it is self-adjusting. Nearly onethird of this needed credit is distributed to households that include senior citizens or people living with disabilities, or both. Moreover, the share of participating households that include seniors or people living with disabilities tends to be higher in Greater Minnesota.

Further, the Renters' Credit Program provides an economic boost for local communities. It is wellsettled that those receiving the credit turn around and spend those dollars locally, for basic needs like diapers, school supplies, and health care needs.

In sum, LSAP appreciates the committee's consideration of this bill and urges its passage and inclusion in the final Tax Bill the committee puts together. Thank you for the opportunity to share our perspective on this important program.

Sincerely,

Ron Elward

Ron Elwood Supervising Attorney