



March 17, 2025

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

Metro Cities, representing the shared interests of cities across the metropolitan area at the Legislature and Executive Branch, appreciates the opportunity to comment on HF 1385 - Kozlowski.

HF 1385 would provide funding for a statewide tenant education and hotline service, where Minnesota renters could access free and confidential legal advice.

Metro Cities' policies support state tenant protection policies to support access to affordable housing and housing stability for tenants. Metro Cities supports housing stability for renters through policies that mitigate the impact of or reduce the number of evictions filed. This bill would provide support to tenants to ensure increased housing stability across the metropolitan region.

Thank you for your consideration of this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Ania McDonnell'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ania McDonnell
Government Relations Specialist

Tenant Hotline: 2024

HOME Line provides free legal, organizing, educational and advocacy services so tenants throughout Minnesota can solve rental housing problems. The primary program, a statewide tenant hotline, provides renters with free, confidential, and convenient legal information about their tenant rights. The hotline began advising renters in 1992, expanding to cover the entire state in 2014.



In 2024, **19,932 Minnesota renter households** across the state – or approximately **43,489 total residents** – contacted HOME Line for Tenant Hotline Services.



HOME Line helped these households **recover or save an estimated \$2,032,981**



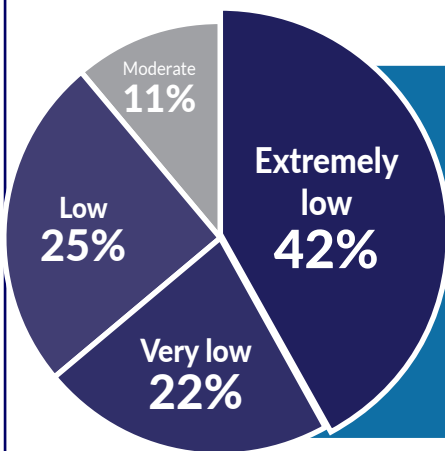
HOME Line helped to **prevent an estimated 2,258 evictions**



Renters with repair issues who followed our advice were **37% more likely to get their problem fixed.**

Top 10 Reasons for Calls

1. Repairs	5341
2. Evictions	4782
3. Security Deposit	2103
4. Break Lease	1789
5. Landlord Notice	1362
6. Lease Questions	1263
7. Privacy / Intrusion	849
8. Financial Aid	816
9. Fees	783
10. Neighbors	687



89% of callers are low income: **42% extremely low income.** These income categories are those used by the U.S. Department of H.U.D.

66% of callers were female, **31%** were male, **3%** were non-binary or preferred to self describe.

7% Other, 7 Hispanic, 3% Asian, 2% Native American





Speak to a Tenant Advocate:

Metro: 612-728-5767

Toll-Free in Greater MN: 1-866-866-3546

E-mail a Housing Attorney:

homelinemn.org/email

HOME Line ofrece servicios en español.

Para Español, llame al 612-255-8870.

HOME Line waxay bixisaa adeeg ku baxa Afka-Soomaaliga.

Af- Soomaali wac 612-255-8860.

Peb lub koom haum HOME Line muaj neeg txhais lus Hmoob.

Hais lus Hmoob, Hu 612-255-7104.