



Canvassing access to multiple unit buildings by candidates and census workers standards modified.
H.F. 2709, included in HF 1943, as amended

Chairs Torkelson and Stephenson, and Members of the Committee,

The Minnesota Multi Housing Association (MHA) appreciates the opportunity to share our concerns regarding the inclusion of language from **HF 2709** in **HF 1943**. While we are generally supportive of efforts at expanding access for political candidates and census workers in multiple unit buildings, we are concerned that the current proposal would create significant operational and financial burdens for multifamily housing providers and also raise perceived security concerns for residents and staff.

Our primary concerns include:

- **Staffing and scheduling challenges:** Requiring access between 10:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m. with only 24 hours' notice could force property staff to work unanticipated and extended hours, particularly if access is requested on weekends or holidays.
- **Increased operational costs:** Most multifamily properties do not maintain staff on-site during the full proposed access window. Complying with the bill may require hiring additional personnel or incurring overtime costs. These expenses may ultimately contribute to higher housing costs.
- **Disruption of operations:** A flat 24-hour notice requirement does not account for pre-scheduled events, maintenance activities, or holiday closures that could reasonably limit a property's ability to accommodate access on short notice.
- **Security concerns:** Permitting entry to individuals not known to property staff and not guests of residents presents real safety concerns, particularly in secure-access buildings. Without clear vetting or credentialing procedures, the bill could unintentionally create opportunities for unauthorized or malicious entry.

We are confident there is a path forward that honors the goals of this legislation while also respecting the legitimate needs of residents, property staff, and housing providers. We welcome further dialogue on this issue and would appreciate the opportunity to constructively engage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Owen Neubauer', written over a white background.

Owen Neubauer
Director of Public Policy