

Benson, Colvin Roy, Niziolek, Zimmerman, Biernat

Petitioning the Minnesota Congressional delegation to support the National Housing Trust Fund.

Whereas, 5.4 million households in the United States are in worst case housing or are paying more than 30% of their income according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; and

Whereas, 3.5 million people will experience homelessness in the United States this year and 1.35 million of those people will be children according to the Urban Institute; and

Whereas, in the Minneapolis/St.Paul metro area, an extremely low income household (earning \$22,620, 30% of the area median income of \$75,400) can afford a monthly rent of no more than \$566, while the Fair Market Rent for a two bedroom is \$862/month; and

Whereas, a worker in Minneapolis/St.Paul metro area must earn \$16.58 per hour working 40 hours per week to afford a two bedroom unit. This is 322% of the present \$5.15 minimum wage. A worker at minimum wage would have to work 129 hours/week to afford a two bedroom unit; and

Whereas, a recipient of Supplemental Security Income (SSI) (receiving \$593/month) can afford monthly rent no more than \$178, while the Fair Market Rent for a one-bedroom unit is \$674; and

Whereas, the Minneapolis Consolidated Plan and Continuum of Care recognizes the need for more affordable housing units and the need for additional funding resources;

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by The City Council of The City of Minneapolis:

That the Minneapolis City Council reaffirms the importance and need for affordable housing and hereby petitions the Minnesota Congressional delegation to support the National Housing Trust Fund Act of 2001 (S1248 and HR 2349).

Be It Further Resolved that the Intergovernmental Relations Department is directed to lobby the City's United States Congressional delegation for passage of this proposed legislation.